

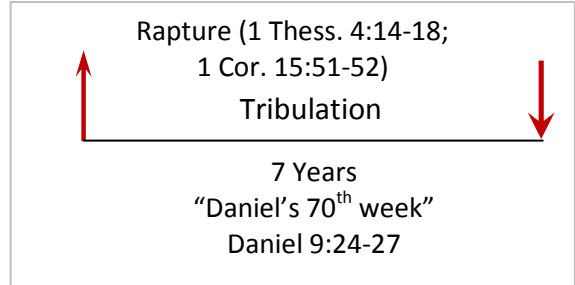
THE LIFE OF CHRIST IN THE GOSPELS
Class #243 – Tuesday PM June 3, 2008

It is important to ensure fellowship with God before the study of the Word.

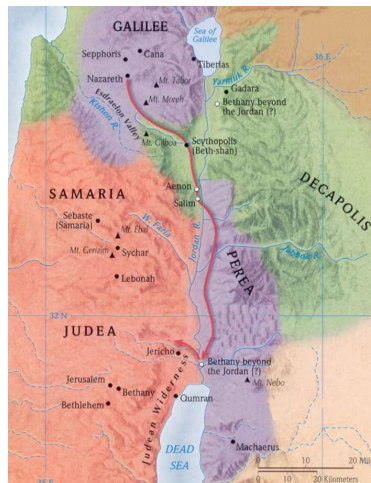
If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (**1 John 1:9**).

Isaiah 55:11 So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; it will not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.

Daniel 9:24-27 "Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy place. ²⁵ So you are to know and discern that from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, with plaza and moat, even in times of distress. ²⁶ Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end will come with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined. ²⁷ And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations will come one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate."



Also: **Daniel 11:31** and **Matt. 24:3-16**



Recommended reading:

Eye to Eye - Facing the Consequences of Dividing Israel, William Koenig

The Trumpet Sounds for Britain, David E. Gardner

Matthew 18:21

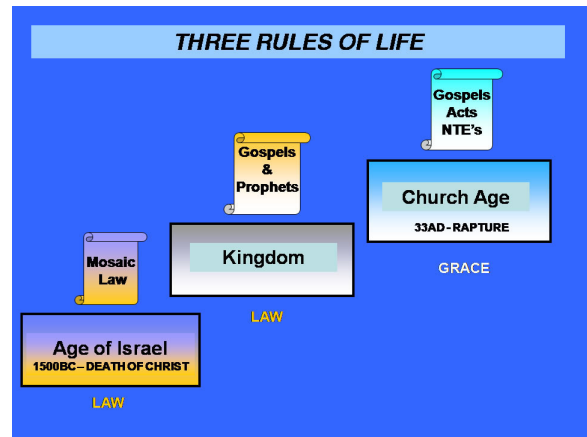
Review

Three Rules of Life that need to be distinguished:

1. Mosaic Law
2. Law of the Kingdom
3. Teachings of Grace

Mosaic Law regulated the life of Old Testament Saint living in the Age of Israel.

(The Mosaic Law will regulate the life of the Tribulational Saint living during Daniel's 70th week.)



The Law of the Kingdom will regulate the life of the Millennial Saint.

- ❖ Found in portions of the Gospels, particularly the Sermon on the Mount (**Matt. 5-7**)
- ❖ Found in portions of the Prophets, particularly Isaiah and Jeremiah

The **Teachings of Grace** regulate our lives as Christians living in the Church Age which is an age of grace.

The *teachings of grace* are for believers in the Lord Jesus Christ ONLY.

The teachings of Grace are addressed to Christians only and they are found in three places:

- ❖ *Portions* of the Gospels.
- ❖ *Portions* of the book of Acts.
- ❖ All the New Testament Epistles.

In the age of grace we do not work to be blessed, we work [*do what God wants us to do*] because we have already been blessed (**Eph. 1:3-14 cf. Eph 2:10**).

We were blessed when we became His workmanship through the Divine Works of Grace.

Under the principle of Law a person obeys or works to be blessed; therefore, blessing is based on merit [what one does].

POD review: The Christian was saved by grace through faith; therefore, he must live by grace through faith (**Eph. 2:8-9; 2 Cor. 5:7; Gal. 5:25** – principle of living by the Spirit).

Definition “Living by Grace through Faith” - To live our lives by faith in the grace that God gave us to live it when we were saved.

You already have everything you need to accomplish what God has “prepared beforehand” to do – the key is learning how to depend upon that grace.

Weakness strips the believer from trusting in himself to live the Christian way of life!

Gal. 4:6 “God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts.”

The Spirit of God has taken up permanent residence in us; He indwells us [1 Cor. 3:16].

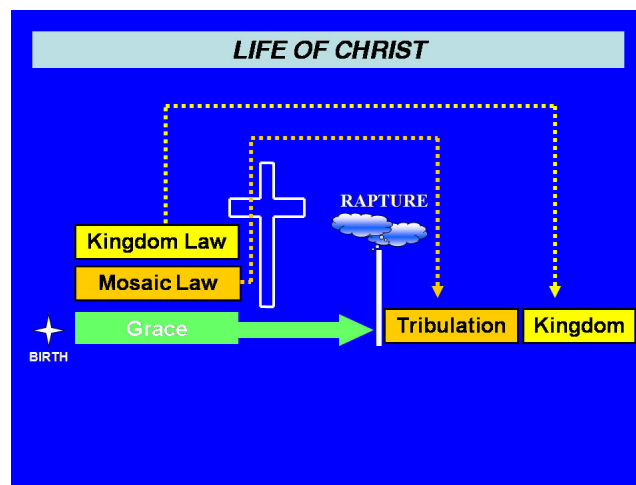
That is why when you sin you grieve the Holy Spirit [Eph. 5:18].

- The grace with which God blessed us with at salvation is truly sufficient for us.
- That grace provides us with all that we need to do what God wants us to do.
- In this Age of Grace, God provides everything in grace.

PODs in review:

1. Grace obligates the believer to live [To do - to be - to obey] because he has already been blessed.
2. The believer lives, not to be blessed by God, but because he has already been blessed by God.
3. When the believer lives or works to be blessed, he has fallen from grace and has turned to a works relationship with God.
4. A works relationship with God is Law not Grace.

We are to do what God wants us to do NOT to **be blessed** but because we have already been blessed!



Matthew 18:21-35 Then Peter came and said to Him, “Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me and I forgive him? Up to seven times?” ²² Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.

- Peter - you are to keep forgiving no matter how many times!

²³ “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves.

Settling accounts is LAW not grace.

Accounts are being settled in this passage and that is Kingdom Law.

²⁴ “When he had begun to settle *them*, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him.

- 10,000 talents, depending upon the type of talent, could be worth more than 15 million dollars.
- Point: The slave could in no way pay his debt even if he worked the rest of his life.

Thanks be to Christ who paid our debt on the cross!

²⁵ “But since he did not have *the means* to repay, his lord commanded him to be sold, along with his wife and children and all that he had, and repayment to be made.

This is law not grace because grace is not the just payment or overpayment of a debt.

²⁶ “So the slave fell *to the ground* and prostrated himself before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me and I will repay you everything.’ ²⁷ And the lord of that slave felt compassion and released him and forgave him the debt.

- His compassionate lord cancelled the slave’s entire debt.
- The cancellation of that debt was Grace!
- LESSON: Law does not prevent the Lord’s grace from ever functioning.

Romans 5:20 The Law came in so that the transgression would increase; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more,

²⁸ “But that slave went out and found one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii;

- A hundred denarii is a day’s wages - a debt that his fellow slave could easily pay!

and he seized him and *began* to choke *him*, saying, ‘Pay back what you owe.’ ²⁹ So his fellow slave fell *to the ground* and *began* to plead with him, saying, ‘Have patience with me and I will repay you.’

- That pleading should have sparked a cord in his soul to the forgiveness he had just received.
- This man was ungrateful!

³⁰ “But he was unwilling and went and threw him in prison until he should pay back what was owed.

- How he treated that slave was horrific and other slaves noted it, too!

³¹ “So when his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were deeply grieved and came and reported to their lord all that had happened. ³² Then summoning him, his lord said to him, ‘You wicked slave, I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not also have had mercy on your fellow slave, in the same way that I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴ And his lord, moved with anger, handed him over to the torturers until he should repay all that was owed him.

That is law not grace!

³⁵ “My heavenly Father will also do the same to you, if each of you does not forgive his brother from your heart.”

- That forgiveness is based on the merit of forgiveness.

- In this Age of Grace, even if you do not forgive, you are forgiven and that is grace.
- Forgiveness, in this passage, is based on the same principle the Lord taught in the Sermon on the Mount [**Matt. 6:14-15**].
- This is the law of the Kingdom - it does not apply to us.

Our focus in life should be on how we treat others in light of how God has forgiven us.

POD: The Christian is called to be tender-hearted, kind, and forgiving to those who have wronged him because he has been forgiven in grace.

Christianity should be attractive to all around you!

- The Christian is not to forgive in order to be blessed by God. Read **Eph. 4:32**.
- The Christian is not to be kind and withhold his wrath to gain God's approval.
- The Christian is to treat those who have wronged him, with grace, because of the way the Lord has treated him.

Do not be like the ungrateful slave.

Treat those who have wronged you in grace because you are a recipient of your Heavenly Father's grace.

Trust in the grace provision of God the Holy Spirit because it is sufficient for you.

All Scriptures quoted are from New American Standard Bible (NASB) unless otherwise noted.