

COMPARING LAW AND GRACE

CORRECTING SCOFIELD - PART VII: LAW AND GRACE

"I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain."

~ Galatians 2:21

1. The Most Obvious Division

- a. Scofield's Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth, chapter 6: "Law and Grace"
- b. The longest chapter (16 pg). "The most obvious and striking division ... law and grace."
- c. 2 principles of the most common division: "Jewish (OT) and Christian (NT)" John 1:17
- d. Righteousness: by law or grace – Deu 6:25, Rom 3:21, 10:3-4, 11:6, Gal 2:21

2. Law and Grace Compared

- a. Law and grace are different ways to get things done – to require or to give.
 - i. Law is a required rule (Deu 10:12-13). Grace is a voluntary gift (Eph 2:8)
 - ii. Law is a system of probation. Grace is a system of favor.
 - iii. Law performed by men. Grace for men who cannot perform (Rom 5:8)
 - iv. Law curses. Grace redeems from that curse (Rom 3:23-24, 4:5)
 - v. Law is what men do (Gal 3:11-12). Grace is what God has done.
 1. Law says do and live. Grace says "believe and live"
 - vi. Law rewards the deserving. Grace gives to the undeserving (Titus 3:3-7)
 - vii. Law looks at deeds (Rom 3:28). Grace looks at needs.
 - viii. Law brings knowledge of sin (Rom 3:20). Grace brings knowledge of God's love.
 - ix. Sin abounds under law. Life abounds under grace (Rom 5:20-21).
 - x. Law: ministry of condemnation (death). Grace: ministry of Spirit (righteousness)
 - xi. The law is a yoke of bondage. Grace is a standing in liberty (Gal 5:1, Rom 5:2).
 - xii. Law is for children to fear. Grace is for grown sons (adoption). Rom 8:15
 - xiii. Law kills. Grace makes alive.
 - xiv. Law shuts every mouth (Rom 3:19). Grace opens every mouth in thanks/praise.
 - xv. Law puts a great distance between man/God. Grace makes man nigh to God.
 - xvi. Law utterly condemns the best man. Grace freely justifies the worst.

3. Correcting Scofield

- a. Scofield's comparisons of law and grace are remarkable (when not inconsistent)
- b. "Scripture never, in any dispensation, mingles these two principles." (except Adam?)
- c. Eph 3:6 - *"In Paul's writings alone we find the doctrine, position, walk..."*, but then ...
 - i. Law "Sinai to Calvary", Grace "begins at Calvary...termination in the rapture"
 - ii. "Grace says, turn the other cheek... love your enemies... go and sin no more"?
 - iii. Matt 5:39, 44 is the same message as 5:17, 20, 22, 28-30, 32
 - iv. Jesus taught the law in Matthew 5, 18, 23:23, and practiced it in John 8:7, 8:10
 - v. Believer's rule of life = John 13:15, 14:21, 15:10-12, Heb 10:16, 1Jhn 2:6, 3:22
- d. Every verse quoted for "What is grace" "God's purpose in grace" is Paul's. (*2x Heb)
- e. It is obvious that law and grace are different. Only a little less obvious is Eph 3:1-2.