

Back in the 60's and 70's, there was a popular Christian book called "Law or Grace" by M R De Haan. I recall my own folks had a copy when I was very young (under 10 years old.) I can recall how much they seemed to enjoy it as it made an impression on me enough to remember the book.

Personally, I have never read the book and cannot say how or if that book contributed to the current state of the church today. But that time period marked the beginning of the movement within the church away from obedience to the Laws of our Creator to the current, pervasive freedom FROM the Laws of YHWH (commonly referred to as "God.")

Today the idea runs rampant through the modern church that the law has been done away with. Some believers say this outright, while others allude to it in saying we're in the "Age of Grace" since the cross, as if in some way our Heavenly Father had a change in opinion or plans.

But we know that is not Biblical for in Malachi 3:6a He tells us, "For I am YHWH, I change not."

Over the years I have witnessed the wreckless behavior of believers who claim they are walking in the "freedom" of grace since we are no longer "under the law." As a young adult Christian, my first marriage came to ruin under this deceptive and heretical teaching. With the undercurrent of "do what you will you can always repent" mentality of this culture, our churches now see divorce rates that often outpace the secular! (The Associated Press performed a survey recently and found the divorce rate to be higher in the Bible Belt than the national average of 50%) And how many Christians are living together rather than marrying, (the ONLY sanctified arrangement recognized by our Heavenly Father)?

Now before you go waving the "we're under grace" flag in front of me, I agree. If Yahushua is your Savior, you *are* under grace. But we are to follow the law out of love and desire to be like our Redeemer, not out of duty or effort to be righteous of our own efforts.

And grace does not negate our need for the law. Nor does it even begin to abolish the law. Quite the opposite. Without the law there IS no grace! They are the completion of each other.

Let's look at what the Messiah Himself said regarding this topic.

"Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven."
Matthew 5:17-19

Most people quit thinking after reading the 'I am come to fulfill' part. "Well, He fulfilled the law, we can put that on the shelf."

Let me repeat. Messiah Yahushua Himself said, "**Till heaven and earth pass**" not even the tiniest part of the law would be done away with! Further, He states that if you break His commandments and teach others the same that person shall be called the LEAST in the kingdom of heaven! "We're no longer under the law, we're in the age of grace"... sound familiar? Is that what you're saying? You know, you don't have to BE a teacher to teach.

Want more proof that the law is VERY relevant to the Christian walk? Consider the Anti-Christ of 2 Thessalonians 2:3,4:

"Let no one in any way deceive you, for it will not come unless the apostasy comes first, and the **man of lawlessness** is revealed, the son of destruction, who opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, displaying himself as being God."

So what spirit do you suppose is behind this rebellion against the Laws of YHWH?

The apostasy (a.k.a. "the falling away") has been underway since Paul's time! Vast volumes are written for those who want to understand and keep their lamps trimmed for the Bridegroom. Search out the matter for yourself. The sacred name of our Creator and His Son have long been obfuscated from the believer. The pagan practices within the church has become the "traditions of man" that YHWH so hates, but the church AT LARGE has embraced!

Indeed, the "spirit of Anti-Christ" has been very busy for nearly 2,000 years now seeking to "exalt himself" above every god. This is clearly seen when you search out the pagan roots of our modern church practices including Christmas, Christmas trees, Santa, elves, Santa's suit, "Ho, Ho, Ho!," wreaths, holly, Christmas Goose, Easter, Easter eggs, Easter Bunnies, Easter Ham, Hot Cross Buns, Sunrise services, New Years Day and even the common names we call YHWH and Yahushua (see my earlier posts: "The Truth about Christmas", "The Truth About Easter", and "What is His Name? And what is His Son's Name, if you know it?").

If you truly care to walk the narrow path that leads to life everlasting, study to show yourself approved and ask our Heavenly Father to lead you and guide you into all truth. Embrace the ways of YHWH as they lead to life everlasting.

Matthew 7:21-23 "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter. "Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; **DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.**'