

## New Covenant Law.....

Under the Old Covenant men reached up with the chains of sin and death in an attempt to embrace and apply the law as a means of justification before God. Of course no one ever was justified [*or ever will be justified*] by or through keeping the law. Instead, properly understood the law helps us understand the utter futility of religion and legalism which, *without Christ*, ultimately seals our doom.

The law is simply **not** a means to justification, but under the New Covenant, it is not discarded. I repeat, the law is certainly **not the means** for our redemption, union, and fellowship with the Father but neither is it thereby discarded.

Faith in Jesus and His completed work on the cross is our means for justification and union with the Father. We enter into kingdom-living through our union with Christ, and having arrived in His kingdom, HE begins HIS work of making us look and act like a King's Kid by manifesting HIS life in and through us.

As He works from within us we begin to change. He said, "*Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill.*" [Mat 5:17] That is exactly what He did; **that is what He still does** in all who will in faith grant Him entrance.

We don't steal; instead we find a great desire to **give** to Him and to others. We don't kill; instead we have a growing desire to **love**. We don't judge or condemn; instead we eagerly express our new-found love and **grant grace and mercy and abundant forgiveness**. We don't lie or commit adultery; instead we faithfully live in truth and speak the truth. We no longer "*live for ourselves but for Him who died and rose again in our behalf.*" [2Cor.5:15] **AS we live in Him and for Him**, every day is a glorious Sabbath Day. **The entire law is fulfilled in Christ and He is living His law-fulfilling life within and through us.**

God has placed us *in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification, and redemption, so that, just as it is written, "Let him who boasts, boast in the Lord."* [1Co 1:30-31] AS He comes into us with all His strength, grace, and truth we enter the Sabbath rest of which Hebrews speaks. [Heb.4:9] The one who is in union with God begins to live the God-life of Christ.

He became the "*son of man*" so that we can be "**sons of God**".

He embraced **human nature** so that we can be "**made partakers of the Divine nature**".

**He was made sin** so that we might be made "**the righteousness of God in Him**". [2C.5:21]

When we turn to Him in faith, **God places us in Him and Him in us.** [1Co 1:30-31]

All that we once were - with all our strengths, weaknesses, sins, and foolish failures come with us through His cross into Him. All that HE has and is become ours. He begins to live His life through the broken, compromised, frail persons which we are; it is a challenge which He embraces with victorious joy and great expectations.

**Because of His presence and righteousness within, a righteous law-keeping flow of life begins spill out of our hearts into our lives resulting in law-keeping that is far deeper than mere external compliance.** Our righteousness and justification are ours as the free gift of God; the internal change and external results is the ongoing work of the Holy One who lives within.

This is basic Christianity which leaves little room for pride or self-glory. [1Co 1:31]

Have a Christ-filled day!

Love,

*George*

*P.S. Pause sometimes today to acknowledge His presence. It just might do you and your world some good! 😊*