

Law and Grace

November 25, 2012

The Ancient Hebrew Priest

God's Legal Minister of Law and Grace

Law

That which sets forth God's eternal decree of "what is perfect behavior, right action, and just consequence." More simply - that which reveals sin. The Schoolmaster.

Grace

God's loving (and legal) response to the failure on man's part to demonstrate perfect behavior, right action and the measures God has taken to rescue us from the just consequences of our error. More simply - that which rescues from sin. Jesus.

Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill. 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.

Matthew 5:17-18

Under the Law

Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.

Romans 3:19

For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continues not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.

Galatians 3:10

The Balloon

The Balloon Law of Cut and Death:

a cut balloon is a dead balloon, no longer able to be a balloon as it should, unable to hold the Breath of God, and worthy only of the garbage dump.

The Balloon Law of Grace:

a perfect balloon, filled with Breath of God, untouched by the Cutter, a balloon as a balloon should be, has made Himself the vehicle in which the cut balloons can now find both Righteousness and Breath.

Jesus, The Great High Priest

The Upholder of the Law and the Giver of Grace

But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.

Galatians 4:4-5

Jesus, the Upholder of the Law

For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.

2 Corinthians 5:21

God Cannot Lie, Steal, or Murder

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that **God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all.**

1 John 1:5

The Blamelessness of Jesus Christ

He knew no sin (2 Corinthians 5:21); In Him was and is no sin (1 John 3:5); He did no violence, neither was any deceit in His mouth (Isaiah 53:9); He was and is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens (Hebrews 7:26); He did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth (1 Peter 2:22); When He was reviled, He reviled not again; when He suffered, He threatened not; but committed Himself to Him that judges righteously (1 Peter 2:23). He was, and ever is, the Lamb of God (John 1:29); Without blemish and without spot (1 Peter 1:19); He did nothing amiss (Luke 23:41); Certainly He was a righteous man (Luke 23:47); The prince of this world had nothing (no legal grounds of condemnation) in Him (John 14:30); He was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. (Hebrews 4:15); He was just (1 Peter 3:18).

The Full Expression of the Father

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me. If ye had known me, ye should have known my Father also: and from henceforth ye know him, and have seen him. Philip saith unto him, Lord, show us the Father,

and it will suffice us. Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Show us the Father? Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwells in me, he does the works.

John 14:6-10

For it pleased the Father that in Him (Jesus) should all fulness dwell . . . For in Him dwells all the fulness of the Godhead bodily.

Colossians 1:19; 2:9

Jesus is the Creator

All things were made by Him (Jesus); and without Him was not any thing made that was made.

John 1:3

Where Does Darkness Come From?

I form the light, and **create darkness**: I make peace, and **create evil**: I the LORD do all these things.

Isaiah 45:7

Bara' - Bā·rā'

to cut, to carve out, to fashion a thing, to give rise to, to separate out a thing through cutting

Thou makes darkness, and it is night: wherein all the beasts of the forest do creep forth.

Psalms 104:20

Shiyth - Shēth

to put, set, or place something. To station, appoint, fix a thing in a designated place with authority. To impose a will over something to insure it is properly set and stays set.

Far be it from God, that He should do wickedness; and from the Almighty, that He should commit iniquity . . . Yea, surely God will not do wickedly, neither will the Almighty pervert judgment . . . Touching the Almighty, we cannot find Him out: He is excellent in power, and in judgment, and in plenty of justice: He will not afflict. Men do therefore fear Him: He respects not any that are wise of heart.

Job 34:10,12; Job 37:23-24

Legal Pillar #1

God is the King of Righteousness

There is no Sin in Him and He did not Create Sin

The Evil Twin Theory

Declaring God the Chief Architect Behind Sin

It is theorized by some, that God, in order to reveal His nature, created the construct of sin, darkness, rebellion, and moral sickness. And He built a powerful character named Lucifer, to do His bidding. This “Evil Twin” could then perpetrate evil but God could claim innocence, because it was His twin that did the deeds and not Him. God made sure that Lucifer was not more powerful than Him, but He didn’t think through the fact that to create an emissary of evil is just the same as perpetrating the evil deeds Himself. It’s like creating a Robot of Death that wreaks havoc on the people of New York city, only to then fly in as a superhero and save the day by destroying the very Robot that you originally programmed and set out to do the destroying. You can claim that

you didn't destroy the people of New York city and that you only sought to rescue them, but in actuality, you were the one that created the problem that you then solved. In this scenario, God is ultimately responsible for Death, for suffering, for disease, for eternal torment, and for every cruel and hateful thing done in the heavens and on earth. The Evil Twin Theory is untenable with both the Law of God, the Nature of God, and the Revelation of God regarding the origin of sin.

Jesus Rebukes this Notion of an Evil Twin

And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand.

Matthew 12:25

Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter? Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh.

James 3:11, 12

The Devil Sins of Himself

You are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father you will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. **When he speaks a lie, he speaks of his own:** for he is a liar, and the father of it.

John 8:44

The Scissor-Cut Kingdom

The Jurisdiction of Darkness

And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness.

Genesis 1:4

God created the dominion of darkness in order to separate that which is dark from that which is light. He separated that which is righteous from that which is unrighteous. He gave parameters, measurements, jurisdiction to the realm of darkness. But He didn't Sin. He didn't author Sin. He never violated His moral law in setting forth the dominion. Moreover, He actually preserved His perfection, His holiness, and His righteousness in dividing out this realm and making it separate. Therefore, in creating Darkness (or the realm of Darkness), He reinforced His altogether otherness from it.

Legal Territory

God established Law - He enunciated His perfect righteousness (as He is, as one ought to be) and stipulated consequence. Law is Light (clear, without blur, without shadow) and to violate and rebel against the Law (to be a lawbreaker) is to choose the consequence and judgment of the righteous law - Death (separation from God). It means to choose darkness forever, to separate from Light eternally. Darkness is the realm of the lawbreaker. It is the jurisdiction prepared for the eternal beings receiving the just punishment of their disobedience.

Legal Pillar #2

Sin is Legal Forfeiture of Life

*He who sins is legal property of
the Scissor-Cut Kingdom*

The Rights and Power of the Devil

Understanding How the Jurisdiction of the Devil Works

Sin Crouching as a Lion

If you do well, will you not be accepted? **And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire *is* for you,** but you should rule over it.

Genesis 4:7

The Legal Position of Sin

Sin is both a personality known as Satan as well as a Legal Disposition of Body and Soul (a child adopted by the Father of Darkness and now bearing the spirit of their “Evil Father” and sharing in the his awful destiny)

Your Father, the Devil

Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever commits sin is the servant of sin . . . you do that which you have seen with your father . . . you do the deeds of your father . . . If God were your Father, you would love me: for I proceeded forth and came from God; neither came I of myself, but He sent me . . . You are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father you will do.

Legal Pillar #3

Sin is a Legal Decree of Adoption unto Satan
*The Devil has Paternal (fatherly) authority
over all who sin*

He that commits sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.

1 John 3:8

Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy **him that had the power of death**, that is, the devil;

Hebrews 2:14

I send thee, to open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and **from the power of Satan** unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.

Acts 26:15-18

And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins; **Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience.**

Ephesians 2:1-3

Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more;
death hath no more dominion over him.

Romans 6:9

Legal Pillar #4

A Singular Sin Equates to Eternal Judgment

*All who sin are dead even while they live, for they
are under the Law of Sin and Death, and thusly,
are daily reminded of their pending
Condemnation. The Law of Sin and Death
stipulates that if a man sins, then death reigns.*

For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 6:23

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free
from the law of sin and death.

Romans 8:2

The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law.

1 Corinthians 15:56

Legal Pillar #5

God will not violate sub-jurisdictions

A Priest is required to mediate in this matter of legal right. A man amongst the human race, an Adam, must stand in the gap and provide legal representation.

(Adam) who is the figure of him that was to come.

Romans 5:14

And so it is written, The first man Adam was made a living soul; the last Adam was made a quickening spirit.

1 Corinthians 15:45

If therefore perfection were by the Levitical priesthood, (for under it the people received the law,) what further need [was there] that another priest should rise after the order of Melchisedec, and not be called after the order of Aaron?

Hebrews 7:11

And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law;

1 Corinthians 9:20

Legal Pillar #6

Man must prove perfectly righteous to access the
Holy Presence of God

This “Adam” must be without Sin. Wholly and completely without spot or blemish. He mustn’t ever have transgressed the Heavenly Law. He must be as a pure and spotless lamb, unblemished and innocent of any guilt.

He knew no sin (2 Corinthians 5:21); In Him was and is no sin (1 John 3:5); He did no violence, neither was any deceit in His mouth (Isaiah 53:9); He did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth (1 Peter 2:22); He was, and ever is, the Lamb of God (John 1:29); Without blemish and without spot (1 Peter 1:19); He did nothing amiss (Luke 23:41); Certainly He was a righteous man (Luke 23:47); The prince of this world had nothing (no legal grounds of condemnation) in Him (John 14:30); He was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. (Hebrews 4:15); He was just (1 Peter 3:18).

Legal Pillar #7

A Legal Representative Must Pass Heaven’s Test

This “Adam” must perfectly match, in every regard, the legal description of the Messianic Rescuer, as detailed in the Holy Scriptures.

My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? . . . They gaped upon me with their mouths, as a ravening and a roaring lion. I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint: my heart is like wax; it is melted in the midst of my bowels. My strength is dried up like a potsherd; and my tongue cleaves to my jaws; and thou hast brought me into the dust of death. For dogs have compassed me: the assembly of the wicked have inclosed me: they pierced my hands and my feet. I may tell all my bones: they look and stare upon me. They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture.

Psalm 22:1,13-18

Legal Pillar #8

God WILL NOT Violate His Own Law to Rescue
the Lawbreakers

A just, satisfying, and equitable payment must be made by this "Adam" in order to legally redeem the lost race. The Law stipulates eye for eye and tooth for tooth. And in this case the Law will not be satisfied but with the blood of the criminal - the criminal's entire life, the criminal's eternal life. Therefore, this "Adam" must give up his entire life, his eternal life in exchange.

God cannot steal. And thus, God cannot override the jurisdiction of the Devil and steal from him those children that are condemned under the Law of Sin and Death. Heavenly Justice demands due payment, equitable compensation, appropriate satisfaction of punishment. It's eye for eye, tooth for tooth, blood for blood - it's slave for slave - body for body. God satisfied the Legal demands of His own Law by giving up His own eye for our eye, His own tooth for our tooth, His own blood for our blood, His own body for our body. He became obedient unto death, and thus gave up His life for our life, He took on himself the equitable compensation, the due payment for our sin, the just and satisfying punishment for

our disobedience. He paid it with His own Body and Blood. The Perfect Body and Blood for all those in legal bondage.

Legal Pillar #9

The Way to the Father Must Be in the Shelter of a
Perfectly Righteous Life Lived

The human priest of the race of Adam that provides this payment and satisfies these legal and just demands, is authorized by Heavenly Law to become the legal representative for all in Adam's lineage who come to Him for help.

For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive.

1 Corinthians 15:22

But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.

Hebrews 2:9

Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned . . . For if by the one man's offense many died, much more the grace of God and the gift by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many. And the gift is not like that which came through the one who sinned. For the judgment which came from one offense resulted in condemnation, but the free gift which came from many offenses resulted in justification.

Romans 5:12,15-16

My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not.
And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus
Christ the righteous.

1 John 2:1

The Mission Impossible

The Seven Legal Mountains That Had to Be Climbed by the Extraordinary Man

1. He must use a man, a priest, a legal human representative (an Adam)
2. This extraordinary man must perfectly match the Messiah test, without the slightest flaw
3. This extraordinary man must perfectly match the most precise measurements of moral righteousness, without the slightest flaw
4. This extraordinary man must satisfy the Law's just punishment for criminal behavior of all those who have sinned, the world over
5. This extraordinary man must redeem all from the evil clutches of the Devil. But he cannot steal in order to do it. Therefore, he must be able to pay proper, just remuneration for the redemption of all sinners
6. This extraordinary man must covenant with this redeemed congregation. But he cannot commit adultery. First, he must somehow break their covenant with Death, which is only accomplished through death, in order to free them to enter into a new covenant with him
7. This man must sever these sinners from their root problem with sin. To do this, he must somehow get rid of their old man. But he cannot murder. But, the old man must go.
8. This extraordinary man must bring us to the Father. But to do this, He must first justify us and make us righteous. But without God inside of us, this is an impossibility. And God cannot be inside of us if we are not righteous. This man must make a way.
9. This extraordinary man must pull all of this off, this was his assignment. And he must do this without violating even one jot or tittle of God's Holy Law. He must do this with Satan and the rest of the children of darkness seeking to kill him. And He must do it perfectly, in the one life that he has in which to do it.

The Law is a Schoolmaster

Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.

Galatians 3:24-25

Law

That which sets forth God's eternal decree of "what is perfect behavior, right action, and just consequence." More simply - that which reveals sin. The Schoolmaster.

Grace

God's loving (and legal) response to the failure on man's part to demonstrate perfect behavior, right action and the measures God has taken to rescue us from the just consequences of our error. More simply - that which rescues from sin. Jesus.

Under Grace

For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

Romans 6:14

But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.

Galatians 5:18

But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.

Galatians 4:4-5

Repent and Believe

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye,
and believe the gospel.

Mark 1:15