

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. The shapes are angular and layered, creating a sense of depth and movement. The text is centered on a white background that is partially framed by these green shapes.

LAW:
The Letter & the Spirit
Romans 8:1-4

What Paul says about the Law

- ▶ Gives knowledge of sin (3:20)
- ▶ Holy, righteous, good (7:12)
- ▶ Spiritual (7:14)
- ▶ Righteous requirement (8:4)
- ▶ Doers of law are justified (2:13)
- ▶ Brings wrath (4:15)

What Paul says about the Law

- ▶ “Agree with the law that it is good” (7:16)
- ▶ Delight in law of God (7:22)
- ▶ “With the mind I . . . serve the law of God” (7:25)

What Paul says about the Law

- ▶ But now we have been released from the Law, having died to that by which we were bound, so that we serve in newness of the Spirit and not in oldness of the letter (7:6)
- ▶ You are not under law but under grace (6:14)
- ▶ If you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law (Gal. 5:18)

What Paul says about the Law

- ▶ By the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law *comes* the knowledge of sin (3:20)

Romans 8:1-4

- ▶ The Law could not condemn sin in flesh because it does not provide the power for flesh to be righteous along with the command to be righteous (8:3)
- ▶ “by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight for by the law is the knowledge of sin” (3:20)

Is the Law done away with?

- ▶ Does faith abolish the law? Make it inoperative? (3:31)

NO

- ▶ Faith upholds the law (3:31)

Matthew 5:17-18

“Do not think that I came to destroy [overthrow] the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill [fill to capacity].

For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass [perish, render void] from the law till all is fulfilled [until the whole comes into being].”

Romans 8:3-4

For what the law could not do
in that it was weak through the flesh,
God *did* by sending His own Son . . .

He condemned sin in the flesh,
that the righteous requirement of the law
might be fulfilled [filled to capacity; God's will be obeyed]
in us who do not walk according to the flesh
but according to the Spirit.

What is the Righteous Requirement of Law?

Which *is* the great commandment in the law?

Jesus said:

“‘You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is *the* first and great commandment.

And *the* second *is* like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

Matthew 22:37-40

What is the Righteous Requirement of Law?

- ▶ Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled *the* law (13:8)
- ▶ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of *the* law (13:10)

Two Aspects of Law

Law as Spiritual (Ro. 7:14)

- ▶ Inner (Matt. 23:25-28)
- ▶ Described by Jesus in Sermon on Mount
- ▶ Fruit of Spirit exhibited
- ▶ Faith in Jesus Christ (Ro. 3:22)

Law as Letter (Ro. 7:6)

- ▶ Outward (Matt. 23:25-28)
- ▶ Pharisees followed law but it did not touch heart
- ▶ No fruits - neglects weightier matters (Matt 23:23)
- ▶ Deeds (Ro 3:20)

Two Aspects of Law

Law as Spiritual (Ro. 7:14)

- ▶ Mind set on things of Spirit (spiritual mind, Ro. 8:5, 6)
- ▶ Fulfills righteous requirement of Law (Ro 8:4)
- ▶ Is life and peace (Ro. 8:6)

Law as Letter (Ro. 7:6)

- ▶ Mind set on flesh (carnal, Ro. 8:5)
- ▶ Cannot please God (Ro. 8:8)
- ▶ Is death (Ro. 8:6)

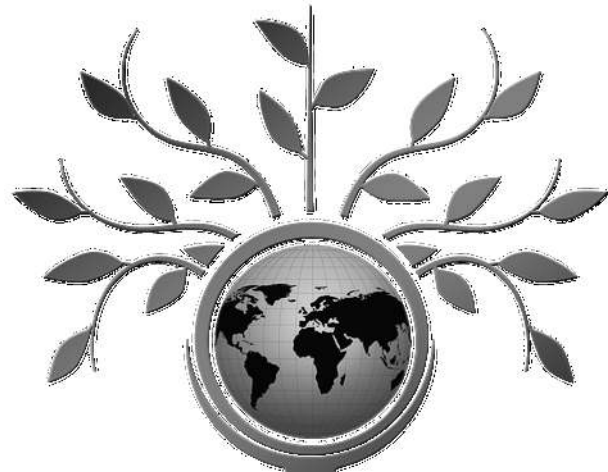
Hebrews 10:1

- ▶ The Law - *only* a shadow of the good things to come *and* not the very form of things

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