

Law and Gospel

Lesson 2 - Law and Gospel in the Scriptures

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a workman who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth - 2 Tim 2:15

Where Do We See This Distinction in Scripture?

1. Gen 3:15
 - a. Note God's gift before, and grace after, the transgression.
2. Ex 20:1-17
 - a. Note that God saved his people *first* before giving them his law.
3. Leviticus 18 (esp. v5)
 - a. Note the repeated phrase: "I am the Lord"
4. Dt. 7:7-8, 11
 - a. Gospel indicative, then lawful imperative. By God's design, one leads to the other!
5. Psalm 19:7ff
6. Habakkuk 2:4
 - a. Note the difference between performance and faith.
7. Mt 5:17-9:13
 - a. Look at the broad movements of the passage, moving from crushing law, to pointing to Jesus as the answer.
8. Mt 19
9. Lk 10
10. Acts 13:38-43
 - a. Note the contrast between "the law" and "grace" (gospel)
11. Titus 3:1-8
 - a. Why must we "insist on these things (the gospel)"?
12. Rev 1:17-18, 3:1-3.
 - a. Why is John moved to obey?

How Does This Distinction Work According to Scripture?

1. Is this distinction really central to the Christian faith?
 - a. 1 Cor 15:3-4; Gal 1:8-9
2. If the law is good and true, why can't I just follow it and be a good person?
 - a. Gal 3:1-5
3. Should we then do away with the law?
 - a. Rom 3:31 "Do we then overthrow the law by this faith? By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the law."
4. Is the law able to condemn Christians now?
 - a. Rom 8:1-4
5. What is the Christians relationship to sin now, if we do not relate to the law in the old way?
 - a. If Christ reigns in you, how can sin have dominion? Rom 6:12-14
6. If the law is still good, then how do Christians begin to obey it now, when they couldn't before?
 - a. Gal 3:10-14; Rom 8:12-15, 10:17, 1:17