

## THE LAW'S PURPOSE

**Romans 7:7-8** Well then, am I suggesting that the law of God is sinful? Of course not! In fact, it was the law that showed me my sin. I would never have known that coveting is wrong if the law had not said, “You must not covet.”  
8 But sin used this command to arouse all kinds of covetous desires within me! If there were no law, sin would not have that power.

**Romans 7:9-10** At one time I lived without understanding the law. But when I learned the command not to covet, for instance, the power of sin came to life, 10 and I died. So I discovered that the law's commands, which were supposed to bring life, brought spiritual death instead.

**Galatians 3:19** Why, then, was the law given? It was given alongside the promise to show people their sins. But the law was designed to last only until the coming of the child who was promised. God gave his law through angels to Moses, who was the mediator between God and the people.

**Galatians 3:21b** If the law could give us new life, we could be made right with God by obeying it.

**Galatians 3:22** But the Scriptures declare that we are all prisoners of sin, so we receive God's promise of freedom only by believing in Jesus Christ.

**Romans 7:11-12** Sin took advantage of those commands and deceived me; it used the commands to kill me.

12 But still, the law itself is holy, and its commands are holy and right and good.

**Romans 7:13** But how can that be? Did the law, which is good, cause my death? Of course not! Sin used what was good to bring about my condemnation to death. So we can see how terrible sin really is. It uses God's good commands for its own evil purposes.

**James 2:10** The person who keeps all of the laws except one is as guilty as a person who has broken all of God's laws.