Sunday, May 7, 2023 LAW OF THE SPIRIT PART 4: FULFILLING THE LAW

We have been discussing what the Bible describes as the "law of the Spirit of life". When a person is born again, they move from the dominion of the law of sin and death to living under the law of the Spirit of life. When using the term "law", we are referring to:

The force and influence of an entity.

When we speak of the law of the Spirit of life, we are speaking about the force and influence of the Spirit which brings life. Recently, we talked about the importance of the renewing of the mind to a biblical mindset. It is an important factor in transformation and freedom. So that we don't fall into the trap of thinking that Christianity is another philosophy of life – we must remember that the words of God are accompanied by spiritual power to transform.

For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power. /// 1 Corinthians 4:20 (Berean Study Bible)

The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus empowers me to live the reality of the kingdom of God as revealed in the Word of God.

Are you speaking of obedience to the Word? Yes. The Word reveals sin. The Word reveals the ways and heart of God thus manifesting kingdom reality. Living the Word is done through the Spirit of God rather than the failed efforts of a life dominated by the law of sin and death.

Matthew 5:17 (NKJV)

Many people have an aversion to the Law of Moses because of grace. But, remember this scripture:

John 1:17 (NKJV)

The law of Moses was given to a people living before the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus – before the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

The law contained within it the knowledge of sin, the list of sacrifices necessary for God to commune with His people, and elements that

revealed the awesome nature of God and the uniqueness of His relationship with His people.

The law of Moses is not an enemy to those who are in Christ. It is still useful in knowing what sin is, in knowing the price it took to purchase our liberty in Christ, and in revealing the nature of God and His unique relationship with His people.

Jesus became the sin offering and the fellowship offering for us. We don't offer bulls and goats for sin because Jesus shed His own blood. We don't have to offer sacrifices to fellowship with God because Jesus offered His own life for that and raised from the dead to make it real. Many people don't tithe because they say it is part of the law of Moses. Tithing is a part of the law which reveals the unique nature of God and the uniqueness of His relationship with His people. It is not a sacrifice for sin – it is a recognition of who God is! Now that you are not under law can you commit adultery? Steal? Lie? The revelation of sin is still necessary. The awesome nature of God is still real. The unique relationship He has with His people is still active. Jesus didn't destroy the law but fulfilled it:

plēróō (from plērēs, "be full," see /plḗthō) – properly, fill to individual capacity, i.e. to the extent it is "meet" (appropriate).

To make a way for the law to be met in its fullness in us! Grace and truth came through Jesus – grace to live the truth as it is intended to be lived in behavior, attitude, and motive.

1 Corinthians 6:9-11; v. 20

Today's Scriptures:

- 1 Corinthians 4:20 (Berean Study Bible)
- Matthew 5:17 (NKJV)
- John 1:17 (NKJV)
- 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; v. 20