

**Law & Grace: An Overview**  
Jim McGowan, Th.D.  
Sugar Land Bible Church  
10-28-2018



*For the Law was given through Moses...*

*...but grace & truth were realized through Jesus Christ - John 1:17*

Special thanks to Dr. Vern Poythorn for access to his insights and resources.

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**Session 13 Outline**

- I. Review
  - A. Purpose, Aim, and Objective
  - B. Session 12
- II. The Big 'IF' (Deuteronomy 28)
  - A. General Information
  - B. Comments & Commentary
- III. Concluding Observations

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Law & Grace

**OUR PURPOSE, AIM AND OBJECTIVE**



...is to Compare and Contrast **Law** and **Grace** so as to properly understand these two important themes and *how they are related to the life of the New Testament Believer.*

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**C. I. SCOFIELD, D. D.**  
*The Grace of God, The Fundamentals Vol. 3, Chapter VII, p. 98*

We have, most of us, been reared and now live under the influence of **Galatianism**. Protestant theology, alas, is for the most part, thoroughly **Galatianized**, in that neither law nor grace are given their **distinct** and **separated** places, as in the counsels of God, but are mingled together in one incoherent system.

*The law is no longer, as in the Divine intent, a ministration of death (2 Cor. 3:7), of cursing (Gal. 3:10), of conviction (Rom. 3:19), because we are taught that we must try to keep it, and that by Divine help we may.*

Nor, on the other hand, does grace bring us blessed deliverance from the dominion of sin, for *we are kept under the law as a rule of life despite the plain declaration, "Sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace" (Rom. 6:14).* (emphasis mine)

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**William R. Newell**  
*Romans Verse-by-Verse* (p. 274).  
Grand Rapids, MI: Christian Classics Ethereal Library.



It is because Reformed theology has kept us Gentiles under the Law,—if not as a means of righteousness, then as “a rule of life,” that all the trouble has arisen. **The Law is no more a rule of life than it is a means of righteousness. Walking in the Spirit has now taken the place of walking by ordinances.** God has another principle under which He has put his saints: “Ye are not under law, but, under grace!” (italics mine)

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Law & Grace: Session 12 Review

**Key insights from The New Testament**  
**Galatians 5:2-4; James 2:14**

- The New Testament not only supports what we have seen already in the Law of Moses, but it also provides astounding perspectives on the nature of the Law of Moses.



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Law & Grace: Session 12 Review

**Key insights from The New Testament**  
**Galatians 5:2-4; James 2:14**



- In addition to the direct and repeated exhortation of the Old Testament to follow **all the laws**, the New Testament makes the Law of Moses a completely inseparable, indivisible, whole.

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Law & Grace: Session 12 Review

**Galatians 5:2-4 is not a 'loss of salvation' passage**



You've fallen!  
Let's get you back  
into grace!

- Galatians 5:2-4 only addresses **the daily condition** of one who is already saved.
- Paul calls his readers, "brethren" nine times in the letter to the Galatians, both before and after this passage.
- See Gal. 1:11; 2:4; 3:15; 4:12, 28, 31; 5:11, 13; 6:1, 18

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Law & Grace: Session 12 Review

**The Law of Moses offers no 'partial credit'**  
Galatians 5:2-4; James 2:14



- The apostle Paul makes it clear for us that a person cannot sign up to follow just one of or some select part of the Law of Moses. **If we choose any part to follow, we are obligated to all.**
- This is principle #1**

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Law & Grace: Session 12 Review

**All perfection all the time**  
James 2:10-11

- James spells out **principle # 2** in verse 10 - that those who wish to follow the Law of Moses must follow every single part of it - **perfectly**.
- The Law of Moses requires **absolute perfection on every point of the Law all the time to the end of one's time**.



All 613 laws

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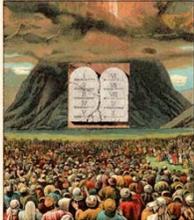
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Law & Grace: Session 12 Review

**The Law doesn't have a problem – we do!**



- The Law of Moses, which is good and righteous and holy, requires total compliance...but **mankind is not up to the task of living it out.**
- Trying to live out the Law of Moses is **a commitment to guaranteed failure.**

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Law & Grace: Session 12 Review

**The law written on their hearts!**  
Jeremiah 31:33-34

- God has solved the question of man's inability to live out the good, and righteous, and holy law, by addressing it **uniquely with reference to national Israel during the millennium**, by enabling and empowering national Israel to know and live out Kingdom law.



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Law & Grace: Session 12 Review

**But for us in the body of Christ...**



- God has solved the question of man's inability to live out the good, and righteous, and holy law, by addressing it **uniquely with reference to the Church.**
- Christ's sacrifice of Himself on the Cross satisfied **all** the divine requirements of the Law of Moses and Christ's imputed righteousness fulfilled **all** the divine requirements of the Law of Moses, and it did so **without** placing us under the Law of Moses!
- We also **died to the law** through our identification with Christ in His death!

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Law & Grace: Session 12 Review

**But for us in the body of Christ...**

- It is *by Christ's life and His righteousness* that we are to live out the life that God desires...not by seeking in our own sufficiency, to live out any part of the Law of Moses. *It's all by grace.*



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Law & Grace: Session 12 Review



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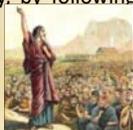
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**Deuteronomy 11:26-28**

<sup>26</sup> "See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse: <sup>27</sup> the blessing, **if** you listen to the commandments of the LORD your God, which I am commanding you today; <sup>28</sup> and the curse, **if** you do not listen to the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside from the way which I am commanding you today, by following other gods which you have not known.



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**Deuteronomy 28:1-6**

<sup>1</sup> "Now it shall be, **if** you diligently obey the Lord your God, being careful to do **all His commandments** which I command you today, the Lord your God will set you high above all the nations of the earth. <sup>2</sup> **All these blessings** will come upon you and overtake you if you obey the Lord your God: <sup>3</sup> **Blessed** shall you be in the city, and **blessed** shall you be in the country. <sup>4</sup> **Blessed** shall be the offspring of your body and the produce of your ground and the offspring of your beasts, the increase of your herd and the young of your flock. <sup>5</sup> **Blessed** shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. <sup>6</sup> **Blessed** shall you be when you come in, and **blessed** shall you be when you go out. - **Blessings through verse 14**



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**Deuteronomy 28:15-19**

<sup>15</sup> "But it shall come about, **if** you do not obey the Lord your God, to observe to do **all His commandments and His statutes** with which I charge you today, that all these **curses** will come upon you and overtake you: <sup>16</sup> **Cursed** shall you be in the city, and **cursed** shall you be in the country. <sup>17</sup> **Cursed** shall be your basket and your kneading bowl. <sup>18</sup> **Cursed** shall be the offspring of your body and the produce of your ground, the increase of your herd and the young of your flock. <sup>19</sup> **Cursed** shall you be when you come in, and **cursed** shall you be when you go out..." - **Curses through verse 68**



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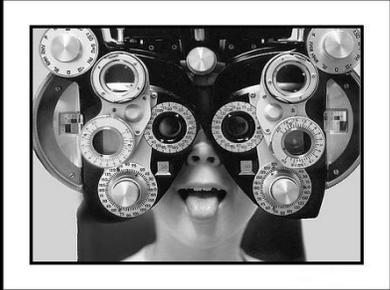
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Law & Grace: Session 13: The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**The Law of Moses: Which is Better?**



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Law & Grace: Session 13: The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**The Law of Moses: Blessing?**



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Law & Grace: Session 13: The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**The Law of Moses: Cursing?**



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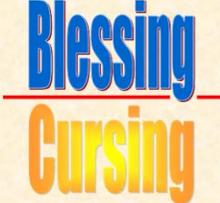
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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**The Law of Moses: Blessing & Cursing**  
Deuteronomy 28

- **The Law of Moses** was about staying alive and doing well if you obeyed *it all* or dying if you broke some of the laws, and punishment for breaking others.



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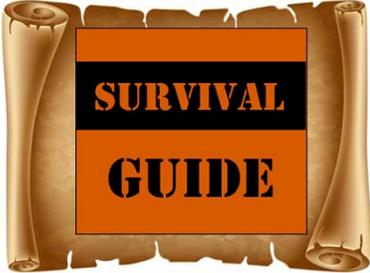
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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**The Law of Moses: Blessing & Cursing**  
Deuteronomy 28

- **The Law provided** the rules of survival.



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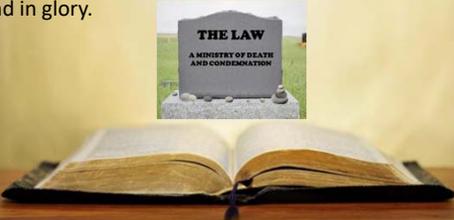
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**2 Corinthians 3:7-9**

<sup>7</sup> But if **the ministry of death, in letters engraved on stones**, came with glory, so that the sons of Israel could not look intently at the face of Moses because of the glory of his face, fading *as it was*, <sup>8</sup> how will the ministry of the Spirit fail to be even more with glory? <sup>9</sup> For if **the ministry of condemnation** has glory, much more does the ministry of righteousness abound in glory.



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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

Law & Grace: Contrast and Comparison		
Steward	<b>MOSES</b>	CHRIST
Governing Principle	<b>Law</b>	Grace
Who's Works are you depending on?	<b>Self</b>	Christ
People Group	<b>ISRAEL</b>	CHURCH
Baptism	<b>Into Moses</b>	Into Christ
<b>MINISTRY CHARACTERISTIC</b>	<b>DEATH / CONDEMNATION</b>	SPIRIT / RIGHTEOUSNESS
Nature of Blessings	<b>Conditional (if) / Earthly</b>	Unconditional / Heavenly
Earthly Difficulties	<b>Curses for disobedience</b>	Growth or discipline

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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**The Law of Moses: Blessing & Cursing**  
 Deuteronomy 28



The Law of Moses was all about  **blessing for obedience and cursing for disobedience**, but it is an *impossible* standard.

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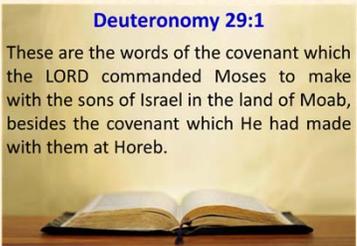
Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**The Law of Moses: Blessing & Cursing**  
 Deuteronomy 28

- Deuteronomy 28 does not mention the name of Israel even once, but immediately after:

**Deuteronomy 29:1**

These are the words of the covenant which the LORD commanded Moses to make with the sons of Israel in the land of Moab, besides the covenant which He had made with them at Horeb.




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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**The Law of Moses: Blessing & Cursing**  
Deuteronomy 28

- In Hebrew (Jewish) Bibles this verse is the last verse in chapter 28.

**Deuteronomy 28:69**  
(BHS/WHM 4.2)

אֱלֹהִים דְּבָרֵי הַבְּרִית אֲשֶׁר־צִוָּה יְהוָה  
אֶת־מֹשֶׁה לְכַתֹּב אֶת־בְּרֵית יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּאֶרֶץ מוֹאָב  
מִלִּבְד הַבְּרִית אֲשֶׁר־כָּרַת אִתָּם בְּחָרֵב: פ



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**Deuteronomy 29:1 (HB 28:69)**

These are the words of **the covenant** which the LORD commanded Moses to make with the sons of Israel **in the land of Moab, besides** the covenant which He had made with them **at Horeb**.



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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**The Law of Moses: Blessing & Cursing**  
Deuteronomy 28

The **1<sup>st</sup> covenant 'at Horeb'** (Deu. 5:2) was the **Law covenant** and the **foundation** for the entire Law of Moses **starting** in Exo. 20:1 and **ending** in Deu. 28:68 (v.69 Heb).



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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**The Law of Moses: Blessing & Cursing**  
 Deuteronomy 28

The 2<sup>nd</sup> covenant '*in Moab*', introduced here as they are about to enter the land, establishes the Law as **the one basis** for the blessing and cursing of the Children of Israel **in the land** of Israel. These are the rules for how to continue to live in, and enjoy, the land!




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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**Covenant at Horeb, Covenant at Moab**  
 Deuteronomy 28



Both the Law covenant and **the provision for the enjoyment of the land** aspects of the Abrahamic covenant enumerated here, **were conditional and solely with Israel!**

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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**Abrahamic Covenant**

ABRAHAMIC Genesis 15		
LAND	SEED	BLESSING
LAND Deuteronomy 29-30	DAVIDIC 2 Samuel 7:12-16	NEW Jeremiah 31:31-34
		

*Unconditional* covenant with a conditional blessing (Deut. 28; Lev. 26)

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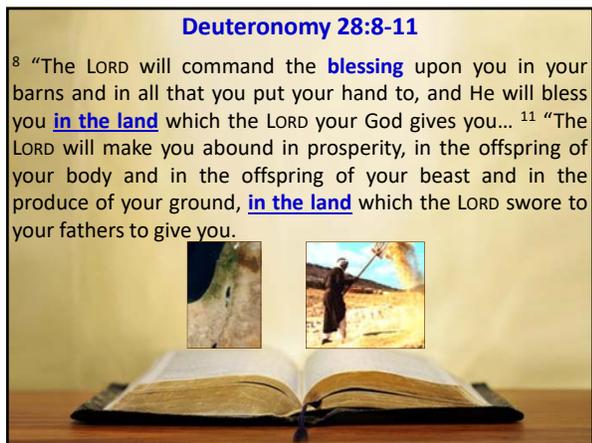
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**Deuteronomy 28:8-11**

<sup>8</sup> “The LORD will command the **blessing** upon you in your barns and in all that you put your hand to, and He will bless you **in the land** which the LORD your God gives you... <sup>11</sup> “The LORD will make you abound in prosperity, in the offspring of your body and in the offspring of your beast and in the produce of your ground, **in the land** which the LORD swore to your fathers to give you.



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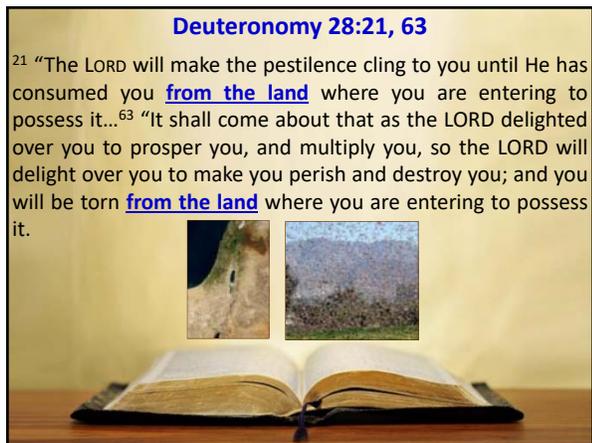
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**Deuteronomy 28:21, 63**

<sup>21</sup> “The LORD will make the pestilence cling to you until He has consumed you **from the land** where you are entering to possess it...<sup>63</sup> “It shall come about that as the LORD delighted over you to prosper you, and multiply you, so the LORD will delight over you to make you perish and destroy you; and you will be torn **from the land** where you are entering to possess it.



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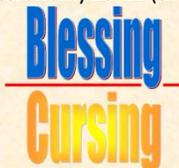
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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**Chapter 28 isn't the only place**

- There are other passages that give blessings and curses:
  - blessings... Deuteronomy 7:12-16; 14:28-15:6, 18; 16:15; 23:19-20; 24:19; 26:15, et al, are all.
  - curses... Deuteronomy 29:21 (there are more)



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**Deuteronomy 29:21**  
“Then the Lord will single him out for adversity from all the tribes of Israel, according to all the curses of the covenant which are written in this book of the law.”



The image shows a hand pointing towards a group of people in a desert landscape. In the foreground, an open book is visible, suggesting a connection to the text of Deuteronomy.

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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**Where are the blessings and curses?**  
Deuteronomy 28

- The entire Law of Moses and this specific chapter say that the **blessings and curses** are “in the land” or are “from the land”.



The image shows a scroll of parchment with a quill pen, symbolizing the Law of Moses.

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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**Where are the blessings & curses?**  
Deuteronomy 28



The image shows a satellite view of the land of Israel, highlighting the geographical context of the Law.

- In other words, the people of Israel are told that, **depending on what they do, they will have earthly blessings, or curses.**
- The Law of Moses is spiritual since it is from God and based on His holiness, **but the blessings and curses are earthly.**

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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**The Big 'IF'**  
Deuteronomy 28



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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**The Big 'IF'**  
Deuteronomy 28

- The rather small word 'if' occurs 5 times in the 'blessings verses' of Deuteronomy 28.

**Deuteronomy 28:1**

"Now it shall be, **if** you diligently obey the Lord your God, being careful to do **all His commandments** which I command you today..."



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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**The Big 'IF'**  
Deuteronomy 28

- That small word 'if' also occurs 2 times in the 'curses verses' of Deuteronomy 28.

**Deuteronomy 28:15**

"But it shall come about, **if** you do not obey the Lord your God, to observe to do **all His commandments and His statutes** with which I charge you today, that all these curses will come upon you..."



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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**The Big 'IF'**  
Deuteronomy 28

- So, the word 'if' becomes really big in **determining the kind of outcome one will have on earth – even to the point of whether one will live or die!**



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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**Important Question**

Did **God expect** that the Israelites would keep the Law of Moses?



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**Deuteronomy 31:16-17b**

<sup>16</sup> The LORD said to Moses, "Behold, you are about to lie down with your fathers; and this people will arise and play the harlot with the strange gods of **the land**, into the midst of which they are going, and will forsake Me and **break My covenant** which I have made with them. <sup>17</sup> "Then My anger will be kindled against them in that day, and I will forsake them and hide My face from them, and they will be consumed, and many evils and troubles will come upon them..."




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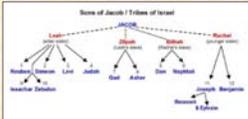
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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**What if someone wants to be under the Law?**  
**Deuteronomy 28**

- You can tell the person that they have missed the ideal 'window of opportunity' to be under the Law **by about 3400 years.**
- They might also be of the wrong family tree – one ought to be from one of the 12 tribes of Israel, **which is hard to fix after the fact.**

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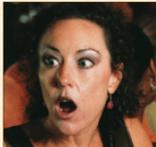
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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**What if someone wants to be under the Law?**  
**Deuteronomy 28**

- Say that **God won't be happy with them** for trying to live under the Law of Moses!

- Then take them to Galatians 3:10-14**

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**Galatians 3:10-14**

<sup>10</sup> For as many as are of the works of the Law are **under a curse**...<sup>11</sup> Now that **no one is justified by the Law** before God is evident...<sup>12</sup> However, **the Law is not of faith**...<sup>13</sup> **Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law**, having become a curse for us...

**Why would Christ do that?**



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**Galatians 3:10-14**

<sup>14</sup> **in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham** might come to the Gentiles, **so that** we would receive the promise of the Spirit **through faith**.

**That's Why He did that!**



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**Romans 7:4-6**

<sup>4</sup> Therefore, my brethren, **you also were made to die to the Law** through the body of Christ, **so that you might be joined to another**, to Him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might **bear fruit for God**. <sup>5</sup> For while we were in the flesh, the **sinful passions, which were aroused by the Law**, were at work in the members of our body to **bear fruit for death**. <sup>6</sup> **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.



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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**The Law makes the sin issue worse!**

Sinful passions aroused by the Law - Rom. 7:5

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**Romans 7:4-6**

<sup>4</sup> Therefore, my brethren, you also were made to die to the Law through the body of Christ, so that you might be joined to another, to Him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might **bear fruit for God**. <sup>5</sup> For while we were in the flesh, the **sinful passions, which were aroused by the Law**, were at work in the members of our body to **bear fruit for death**. <sup>6</sup> **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.

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**Galatians 2:19-20**

<sup>19</sup> "For through the Law **I died to the Law, so that I might live to God**. <sup>20</sup> I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me."

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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**What if someone wants to be under the Law?**

Deuteronomy 28

- **There are those who will say that if we are not under Law, then we are lawless.** But it was God's intent that we die in relationship to the Law so that we might be alive to God. God intends for us to be alive to Him!



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**Ephesians 1:3**

Blessed be **the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ...**



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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**What if someone wants to be under the Law?**

Deuteronomy 28

- For anyone who has been saved by grace through faith, to rely on all or any part of the Law of Moses for justification and/or blessing, is **to be ignorant of, or to deny**, the shared, personal, history that believer has in Christ!



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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**Our Shared, Personal, History in Jesus Christ**

- Died with Christ..... 
- Buried with Christ..... 
- Arose with Christ..... 
- Ascended with Christ..... 

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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**Our Shared, Personal, History in Jesus Christ**

- Seated with Christ..... 
- Positioned in Christ..... 
- New Nature of Righteousness in Christ..... 
- A New Walk of Fruitfulness in Christ..... 

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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**“Faith in the facts, is like the train on the tracks.”**



The image shows a steam locomotive pulling a train on tracks. Three white boxes with black text are overlaid on the image: 'Faith' is on the locomotive, 'Feelings' is on the train cars, and 'Facts' is on the ground near the tracks.

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**Session 13 Outline**

- I. Review
  - A. Purpose, Aim, and Objective
  - B. Session 12
- II. The Big 'IF' (Deuteronomy 28)
  - A. General Information
  - B. Comments & Commentary
- III. Concluding Observations

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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**Motive, Means & Opportunity**




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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**Motive, Means & Opportunity**

PRINCIPLE	MOTIVE	MEANS	OPPORTUNITY
	Blessings on this earth <b>if</b> you do it, but curses <b>if</b> not		
	Blessed in the heavenlies in Christ – <b>now, permanently</b>		

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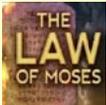
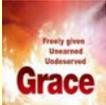
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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**Motive, Means & Opportunity**

PRINCIPLE	MOTIVE	MEANS	OPPORTUNITY
	Blessings on this earth if you do it, but curses if not	<b>You</b> do it, with <b>no help</b> from God – <b>not of faith</b>	
	Blessed in the heavenlies in Christ – now, permanently	Holy Spirit <b>enabled</b> , <b>empowered</b> and <b>energized</b>	

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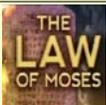
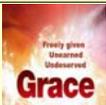
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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**Motive, Means & Opportunity**

PRINCIPLE	MOTIVE	MEANS	OPPORTUNITY
	Blessings on this earth if you do it, but curses if not	You do it, with no help from God – not of faith	<b>Stir up the sin nature</b> as its instrument, curse and death
	Blessed in the heavenlies in Christ – now, permanently	Holy Spirit enabled, empowered and energized	To be <b>God's instrument, blessed</b> , live by <b>Christ's life</b>

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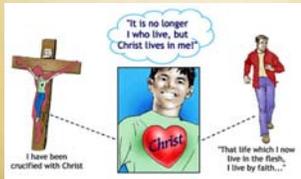
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**Galatians 2:20**

"I have been crucified with Christ; and **it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives** in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.





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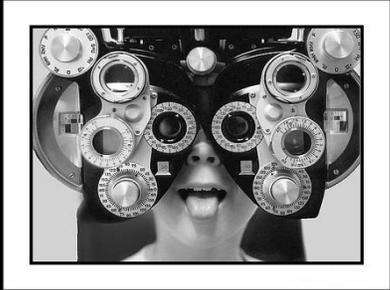
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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**Which is Better?**



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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**The Law of Moses?**



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Law & Grace: Session 13 The Law and Laws – The Big IF

**Grace of God?**



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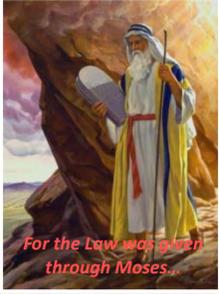
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Jim McGowan, MTS, Th.D.  
Law & Grace Session 13  
10/28/2018

**Law & Grace: An Overview**  
Jim McGowan, Th.D.  
Sugar Land Bible Church  
10-28-2018



*For the Law was given through Moses...*

*...but grace & truth were realized through Jesus Christ - John 1:17*

Special thanks to Dr. Vern Peterman for access to his insights and resources.

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