

The Purpose of the Law

"Everything in life has a purpose. But when purpose is not known, abuse is inevitable."

- Myles Munroe

What do we mean by "the Law?"

"The Law is the complete system of commandments, statutes, ordinances and judgments that were given by God. All of these are contained, **within the compass of four** books of the Bible- Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy."- Derek Prince, *The Spirit-Filled Believer's Handbook*

According to the Bible, the Law has 5 main purposes:

1. To show men what sin is (*Romans 7:8-15*).
2. To show men their sinful condition (*Romans 3:19-20*).
3. To show men that, as sinners, they were unable to make themselves righteous by their own efforts. (*Romans 7:15-21*).
4. To serve to foretell by prophecy and to foreshadow by types the Savior who was to come and through whom alone it would be possible for man to receive true salvation and righteousness. (*Ex. 12:21-23, Lev. 16:15-16, Is. 9:6*).
5. To keep Israel a separate nation throughout the many centuries of their dispersion, so that even now they are still preserved for the special purposes which God is working out for them. (*Lev. 10:10, Numbers 23:9, Romans 11:25-29*).

There are two sections to the Law:

1. The Ceremonial Law
2. The Moral Law (the Ten Commandments- *see Exodus 20:2-17*).

Ques: Are Christians obligated to keep the Ceremonial Law? Why or why not? (*see Romans 10:4*).

Ques: What does Paul mean when he says that "Christ is the end of the Law? Does this mean that the Law is no longer in effect? Have the Ten Commandments been done away with?

(See Derek Prince- *The Spirit-Filled Believer's Handbook*, pg. 151, para. 4; pg. 163, para. 3.) (see also Mt. 5:17).

Ques: Are Christians obligated to keep the Moral Law (Ten Commandments)? Why or why not? (See *Romans 8:1-4*)

Ques: In what ways do we see modern Christians striving to keep the Law? (See *Romans 10:1-3*)

Ques: Why do Christians try to live for God (keep the Law) on their own? (See *Genesis 3:7, Gen. 3:10, Romans 10:1-3*)

How do we know that we are under the Law?

1. Overemphasis on Church Attendance/ Denominationalism
2. Religious spirit
3. Self-righteousness
4. Overemphasis on good works
5. Tiredness, wanting to quit.
6. Bondage to sin, backsliding
7. Critical Spirit
8. Feelings of Inadequacy (“can’t do anything right)
9. Fear of man

What does God say about the keeping of the Law? (See *Romans 4:1-5, Gal.2:16, James 2:10-11*).

How does God say that we are to fulfill (keep) the Law? (See *Romans 10:9-13, Gal 2:20-21, Eph. 2:8-10*).



Question: Do these two scriptures contradict one another? Why or why not?