

# THE WHOLE COUNSEL OF GOD

**A Journey Through the  
Old Testament**

Romans 15:4 For everything that was written in the past was written for our instruction,  
so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we might have hope.

# The New (Old) Covenant

Exodus 20

## The Giving of the Law

Hebrews 12

18 For you have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom, and storm; 19 to a trumpet blast or to a voice that made its hearers beg that no further word be spoken.

# What is our relationship with “The Law”

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**1. The term “law” is used in many different ways in the New Testament.**

- the Ten Commandments
- the covenant of the law (old covenant)
- the first five books of the OT (Pentateuch)
- all of scripture (Psalm 1:2; Ps. 119:97; James 1:25)
- any demand by God for His creation
- a principle or power at work
  - (Rom. 7:23; Rom. 8:2)



# What is our relationship with “The Law”

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## 2. “The Law” is summed up by love.

- God gave the law because He loved them.
- Love fulfills the law.

- (Matt. 22:37-40; Mark 12:29-31; Luke 10:27-28; Rom. 13:8-10; Gal. 5:14)

- The law teaches us what love is.
- Love is law.
  - Love does not save us.
  - Love is a fruit/result of being saved.
  - We love because He first loved us.

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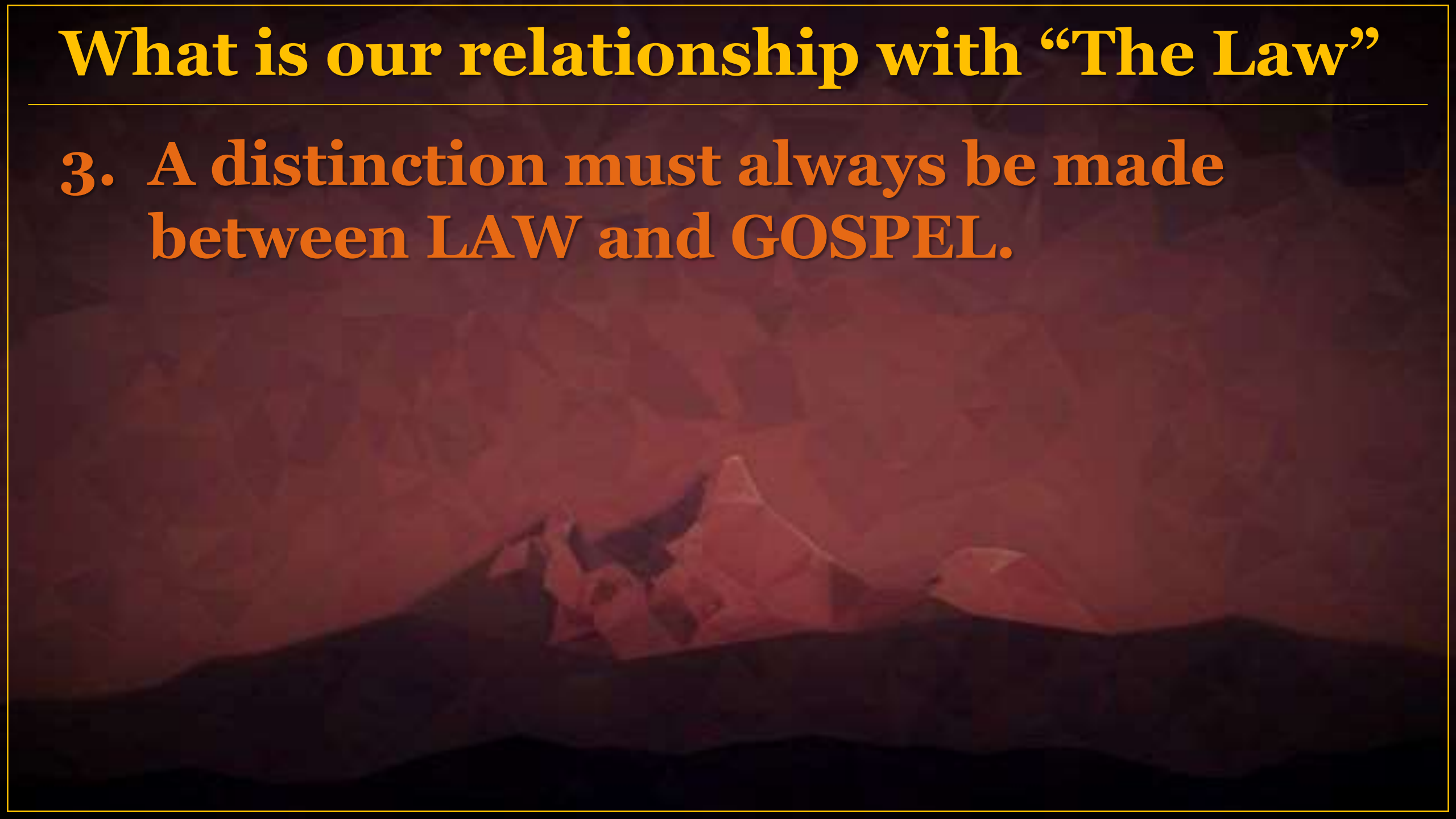
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**3. A distinction must always be made between LAW and GOSPEL.**





## **Romans 3**

**19 Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God.**

**20 Therefore no one will be justified in His sight by works of the law.**

**For the law merely brings awareness of sin.**



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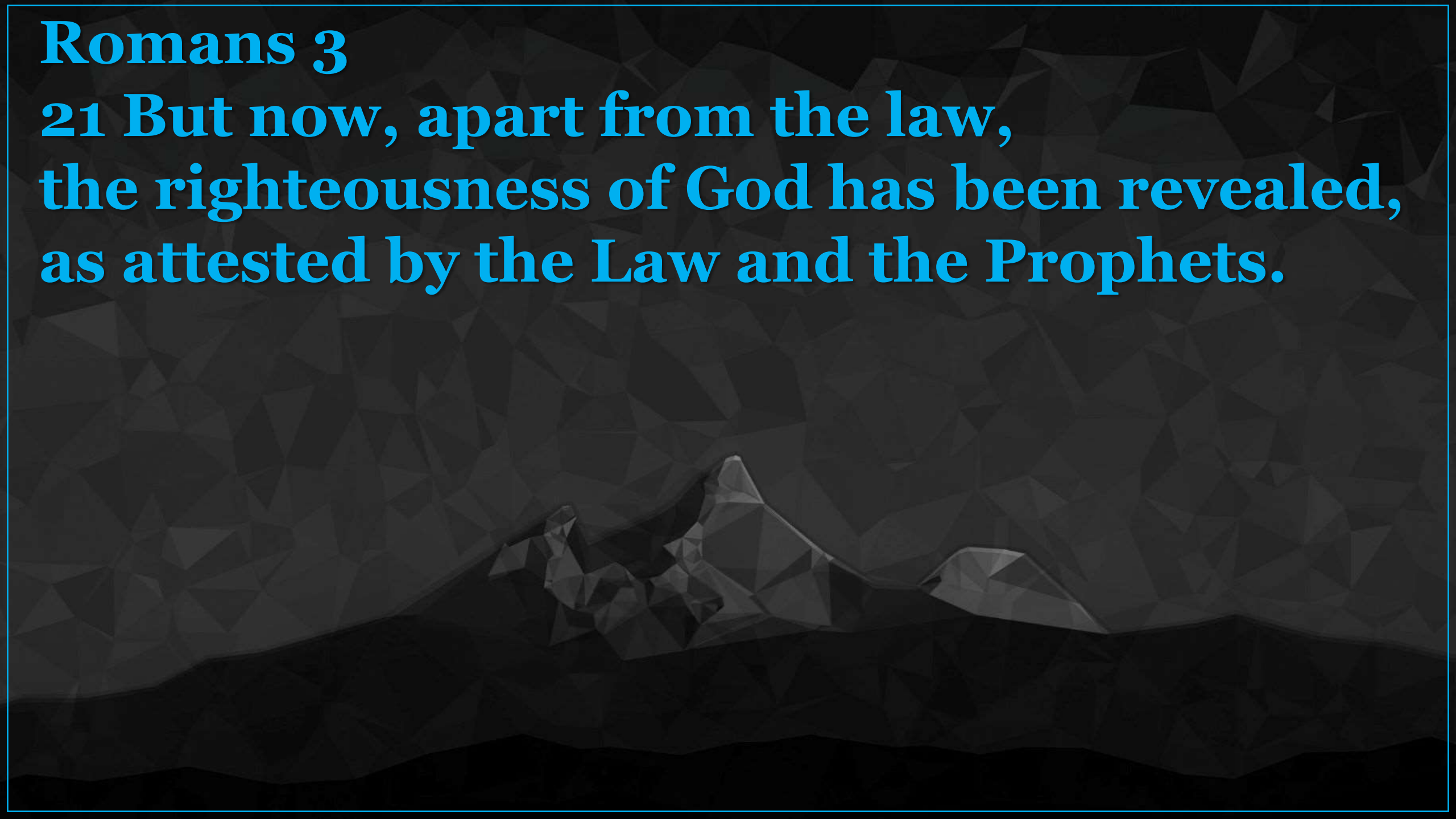
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**- ‘Covenant of LAW’ vs. ‘Covenant of GRACE’.**

**LAW is the work of man.**

**GRACE is the work of God.**



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**LAW is fulfilled in the flesh.**

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**LAW is self-righteousness.**

**GRACE is Christ’s righteousness.**

# What is our relationship with “The Law”

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**3. A distinction must always be made between LAW and GOSPEL.**

**- ‘Covenant of LAW’ vs. ‘Covenant of GRACE’.**

**LAW cannot be subtracted from.**

**- one must obey all of it.**

**GRACE cannot be added to.**

**- it is sufficient to save.**



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**LAW glorifies man.**

**GRACE glorifies God alone.**

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- ‘Covenant of LAW’ vs. ‘Covenant of GRACE’.
- LAW is what we do.  
GOSPEL is what God does.
- The GOSPEL saves us.  
The LAW, we obey because we are saved.
- The GOSPEL makes so no one can boast.
  - because God alone is glorified in it.

## **Romans 3**

**27 Where, then, is boasting?**

**It is excluded.**

**On what principle? On that of works?**

**No, but on that of faith.**

**28 For we maintain that a man is justified by faith apart from works of the law.**

## Ephesians 2

8 For it is by grace you have been saved  
through faith,  
and **this not from yourselves;**  
it is the gift of God,  
9 not by works,  
**so that no one can boast.**



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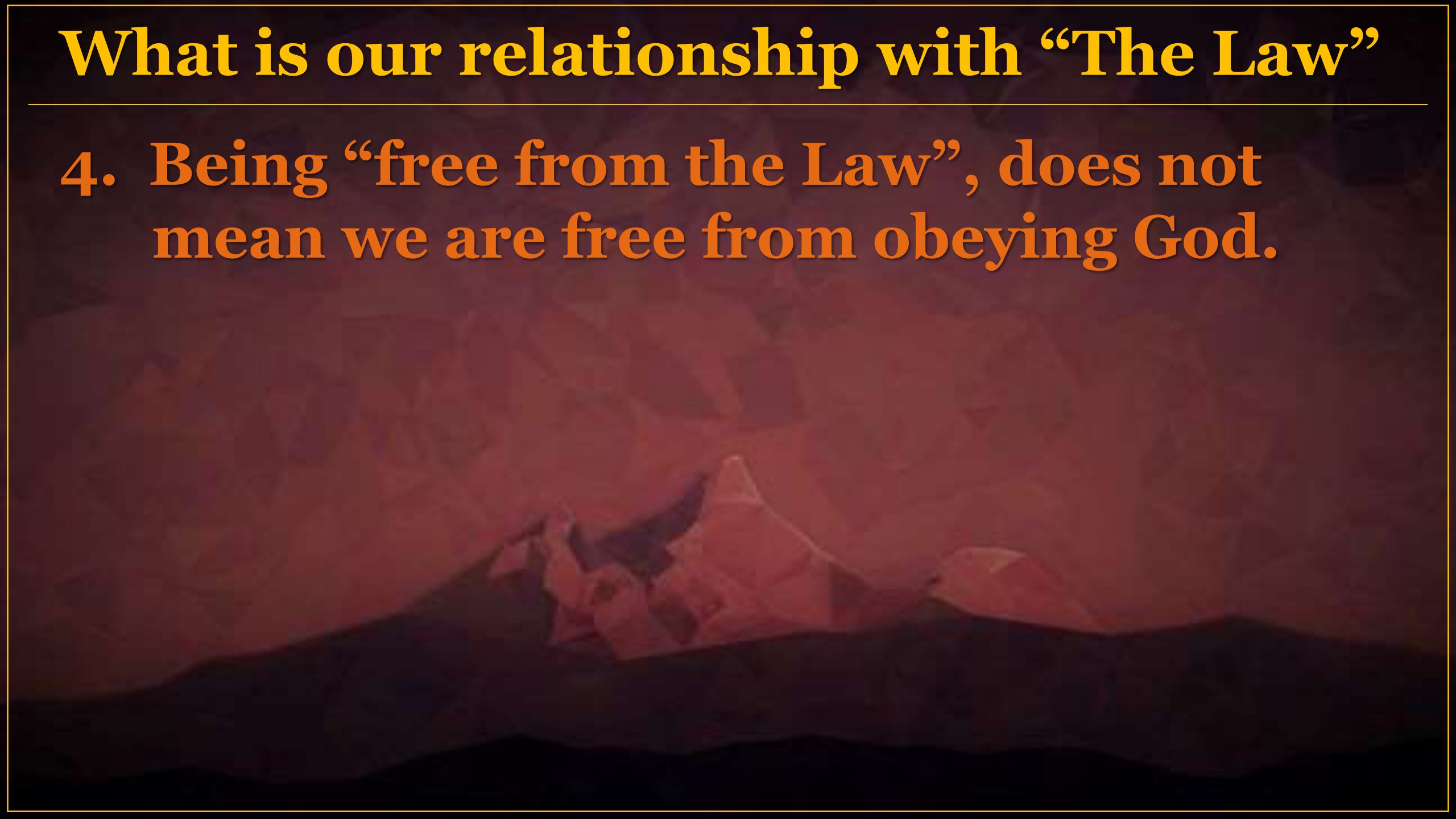
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- The GOSPEL makes so no one can boast.
  - because God alone is glorified in it.
- We will always drift toward the LAW.

# What is our relationship with “The Law”

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4. Being “free from the Law”, does not mean we are free from obeying God.



## **Galatians 3**

**23 Before this faith came, we were held in custody under the law, locked up until faith should be revealed.**

**24 So the law became our guardian to lead us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.**

**25 Now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian.**

## **Galatians 5**

**1 It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not be encumbered once more by a yoke of slavery.**

## **Romans 6**

**14 For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace.**



# What is our relationship with “The Law”

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**4. Being “free from the Law”, does not mean we are free from obeying God.**

**- We are free from the curse of the Law.**

## **Galatians 3**

**10 All who rely on works of the law are under a curse.**

**For it is written: “Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law.” [Deuteronomy 27:26]**

**13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us.**

## Romans 8

**1 Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.**

**2 For in Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set you free from the law of sin and death.**

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4. Being “free from the Law”, does not mean we are free from obeying God.

- We are free from the curse of the Law.
- We are now **FREE TO OBEY.**



## **Romans 6**

**14 For sin shall not be your master, because you are not under law, but under grace.**

**15 What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law, but under grace?**

**Certainly not!**

## **Romans 6**

**16 Do you not know that when you offer yourselves as obedient slaves, you are slaves to the one you obey, whether you are slaves to sin leading to death, or to obedience leading to righteousness?**



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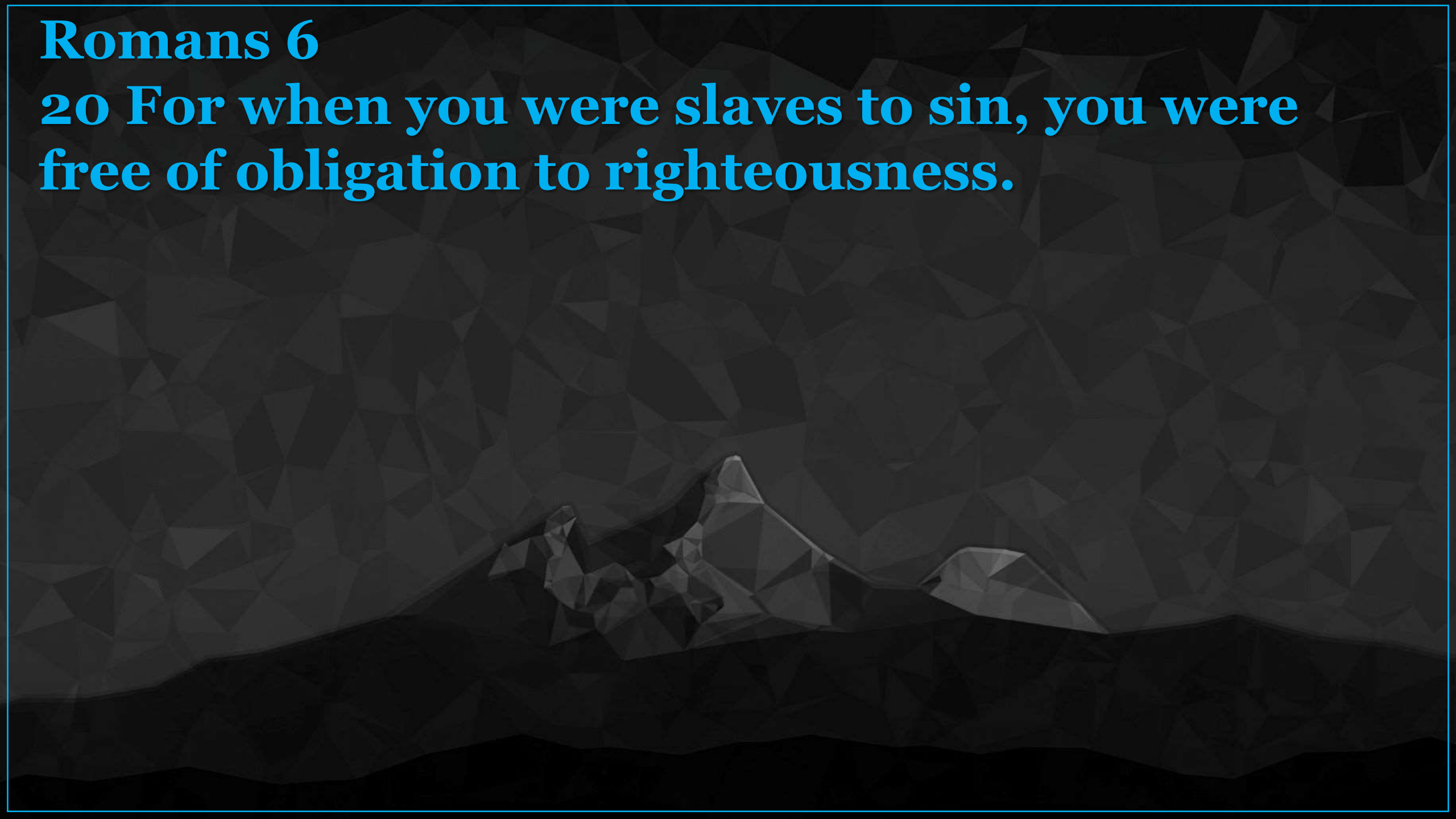
17 But thanks be to God that, though you once were slaves to sin, you wholeheartedly obeyed the form of teaching to which you were committed.

18 You have been **set free from sin** and have become **slaves to righteousness**.



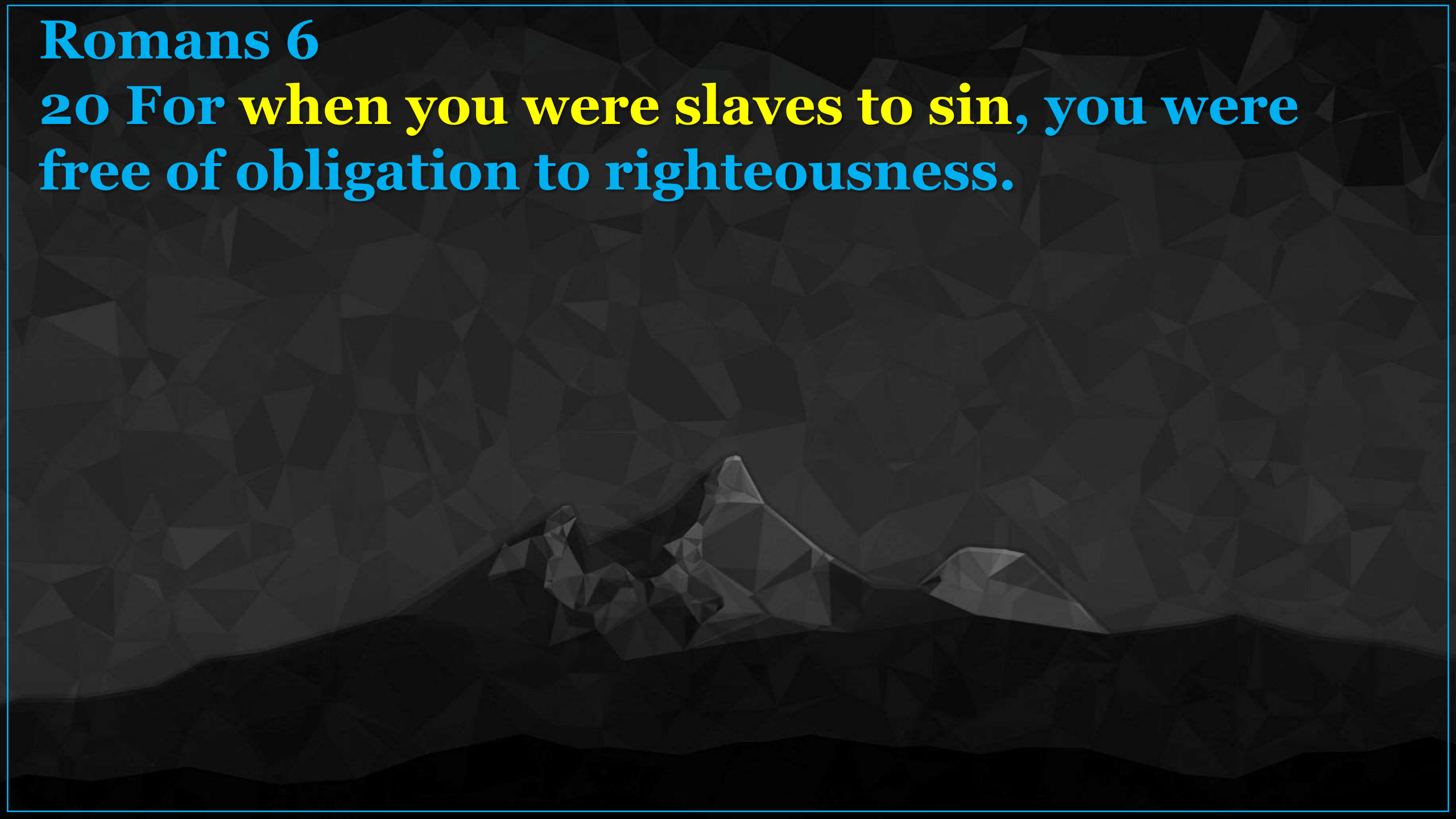
# Romans 6

**20 For when you were slaves to sin, you were free of obligation to righteousness.**



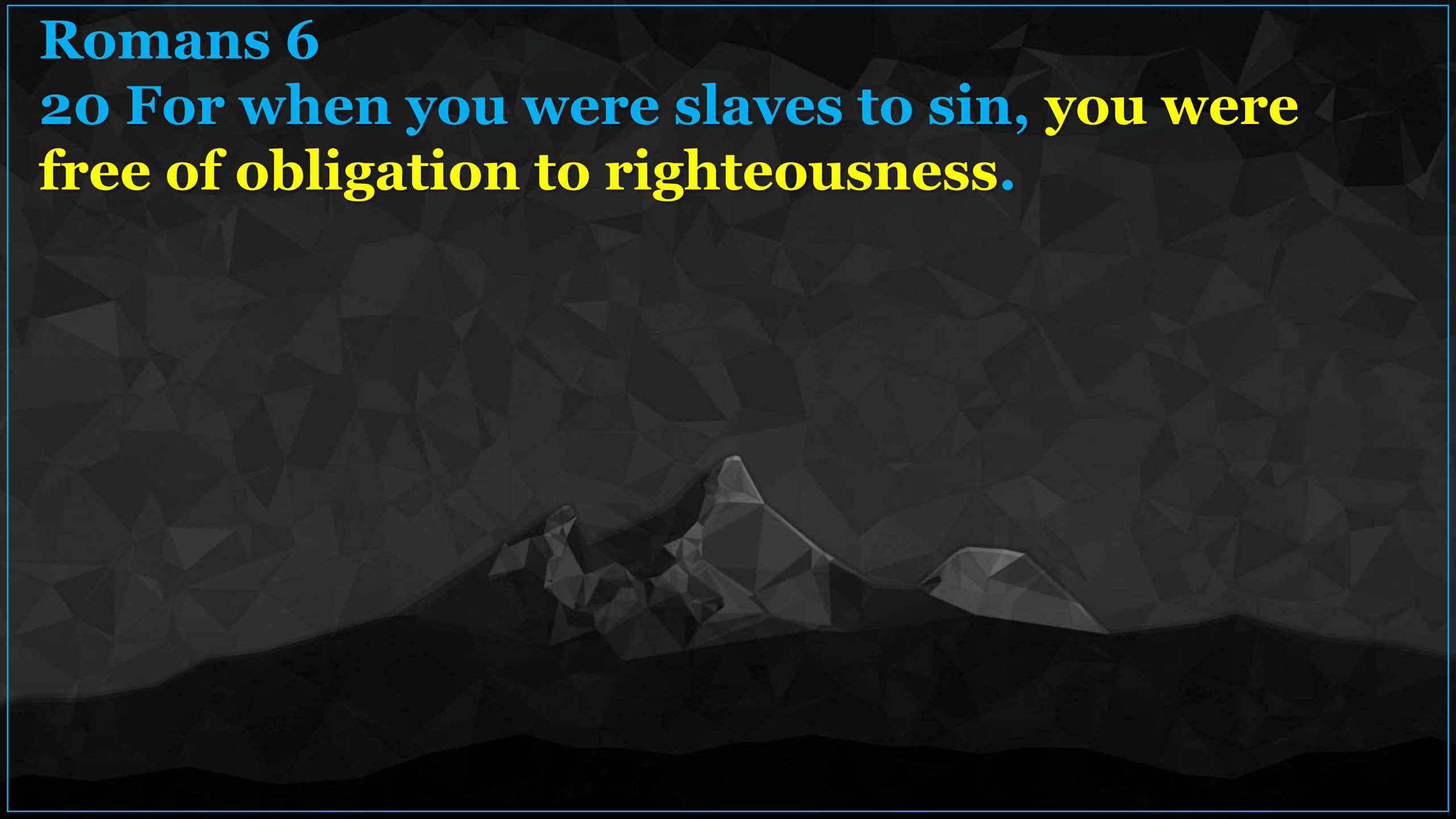
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**22 But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the fruit you reap leads to holiness, and the outcome is eternal life.**



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**23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

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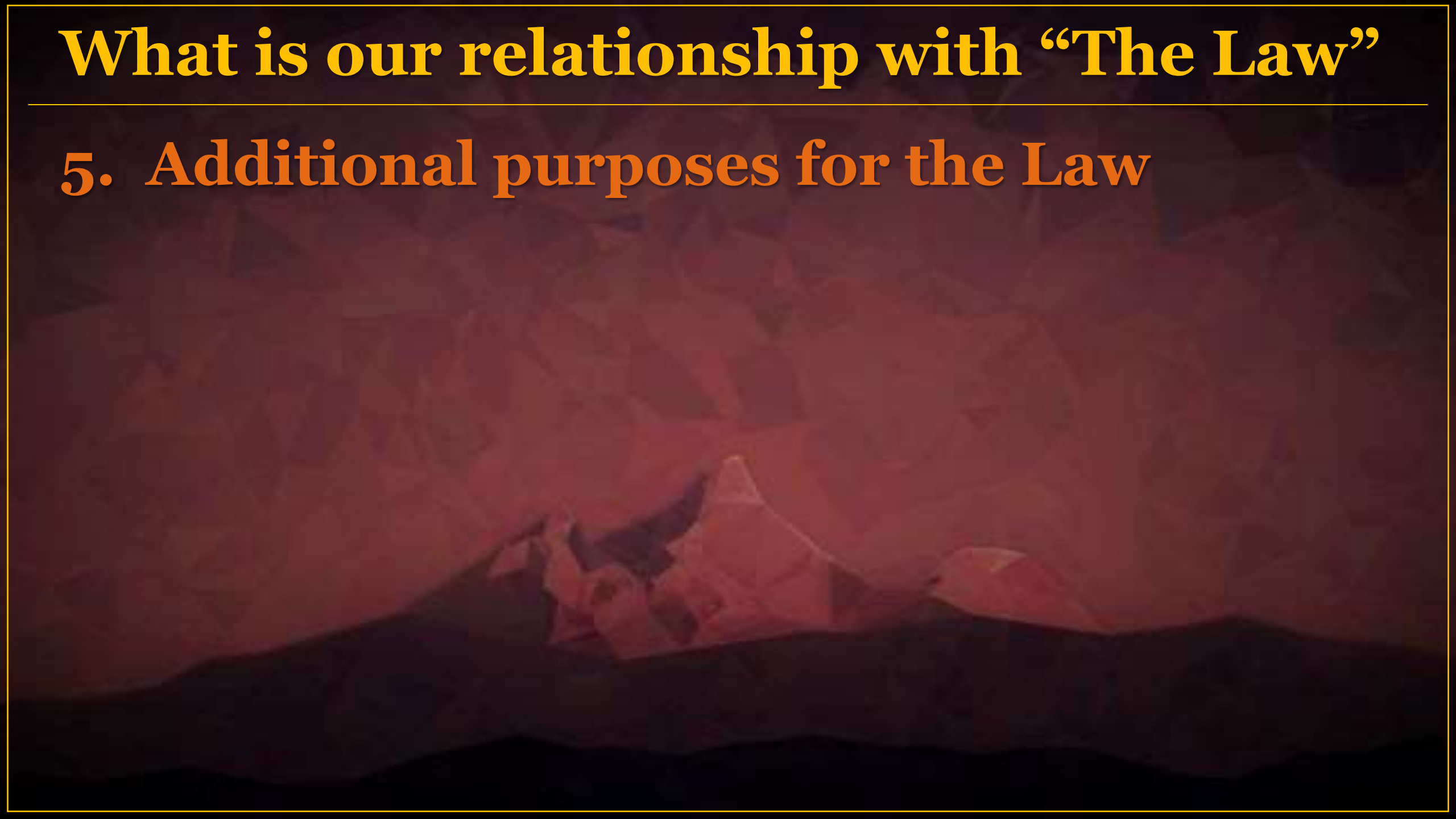
- **We are free from the curse of the Law.**
- **We are now FREE TO OBEY.**
- **We are free because we have the inner “law” of the Spirit.**
- **Our motive for obedience is love for God and gratitude for what He has done.**
- **Obedience is an evidence of salvation.**



# What is our relationship with “The Law”

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## 5. Additional purposes for the Law



# **The Purpose for the Law is:**

- 1. To reveal the glory of God**
- 2. To reveal sin**
- 3. To reveal our need for grace**

# What is our relationship with “The Law”

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## 5. Additional purposes for the Law

1. All men will be judged by the Law.
2. The Law is for unbelievers.

# **1 Timothy 1**

**8 Now we know that the law is good,  
if one uses it lawfully.**

**9 We realize that law is not enacted for the  
righteous, but for the lawless and rebellious,  
for the ungodly and sinful, for the unholy and  
profane, for killers of father or mother,  
for murderers, 10 for the sexually immoral,  
for homosexuals, for slave traders and liars  
and perjurers, and for anyone else who is  
averse to sound teaching**



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1. All men will be judged by the Law.
2. The Law is for unbelievers.
3. The Law awakens a desire to sin.

## **Romans 7**

**7 What then shall we say? Is the law sin?  
Certainly not!**

**Indeed, I would not have been mindful of  
sin if not for the law.**

**For I would not have been aware of coveting  
if the law had not said, “Do not covet.”**

**8 But sin, seizing its opportunity through  
the commandment, produced in me every  
kind of covetous desire.**

**For apart from the law, sin is dead.**

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4. The Law put us to death.

## **Romans 7**

**9 Once I was alive apart from the law; but when the commandment came, sin sprang to life and I died.**

**10 So I discovered that the very commandment that was meant to bring life actually brought death.**

**11 For sin, seizing its opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through the commandment put me to death.**



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A death we died vicariously in Christ;  
which in turn frees us from the  
covenant of the Law.

## **Galatians 2**

**19 For through the Law I died to the Law so that I might live to God.**

**20 I have been crucified with Christ, and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me.**

**The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.**

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