The Perfect Law of Liberty Pt2 of 3

Ken Chapman · James 1:18–25

INTRODUCTION

- Last week's lesson, we focused in upon the word perfect. And we saw that the word of God, this law of liberty, is indeed perfect.
- James himself says that the New Testament, the Word of God, the will of Jesus Christ, is a law.
- There was a law. And you violated that law. And you were caught violating that law. And there's a penalty that comes with violating that law.

1 The New Testament Is the Word of God, Therefore Law

James 1:25; 1 John 3:4; Romans 4:15

- The New Testament is the word of God, therefore it is law.
- When that God says something, can it be anything other than a law that should be obeyed by his subjects?
- Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness.
- If sin is breaking the law, what if there is no law? Then there's no sin.
- So the New Testament is, as James says, as John argues, and as Paul argues, it is a law.

2 It's a Law, but Not a Law System

Romans 3:19–20; Romans 3:23

- The old covenant was a law. The new covenant is a law. But they're a different covenant.
- Although it's a law, it's not a law system, it's a faith system, Paul will argue. Or we could say it's a grace system.
- If it was strictly a law system, law has no place for mercy. You break the law, you pay the penalty.
- It's not possible to break God's law and not be caught.
- Law is perfect because it perfectly points out man's inability to keep it.

3 The Righteousness of God Apart from the Law

Romans 3:21–26

- But now the righteousness of God, apart from the law, is revealed.
- Being justified freely by his grace. Through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.
- It wasn't the law that saved you. The only way the law would have justified you is you hadn't broken the law.
- It was the kindness of that officer. That's what let me go. And that's Paul's argument that's our only hope.

4 The Law Was a Schoolmaster to Bring Us to Christ

Galatians 3:24

- I did no better than they did in keeping it. And so I needed something else.
- The old law was a schoolmaster that brought us to Christ in a lot of different senses. Yes, it prophesied of the Messiah. But didn't it also illustrate the need for a Messiah?
- Maybe it's the blessing that brings us to our knees to recognize that we need a Savior, that we need mercy, we need forgiveness.
- Maybe it was because we needed to see the dire universal need for a Savior.

5 Christ Has Redeemed Us from the Curse of the Law

Galatians 3:8–14

- For as many as are of the works of the law are under a curse.
- If you're under a law system, you're under a curse because it says cursed if you break one of these laws.
- Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us.
- Not the perfect law keeping that we've all failed at miserably. But through faith.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Have you sinned and fallen short of the glory of God? And the second question is, will you come right now and let the grace and the blood of Jesus Christ wash away those sins so you can stand justified before him?**

MY NOTES