



# Power From on High

**Series:** Power From On High

**Text:** Acts 21:15-24

**Title:** The Need for Compromise  
Part 2

**Date:** November 23, 2025

**Lesson:** 116

## Three reasons for the slow transition:

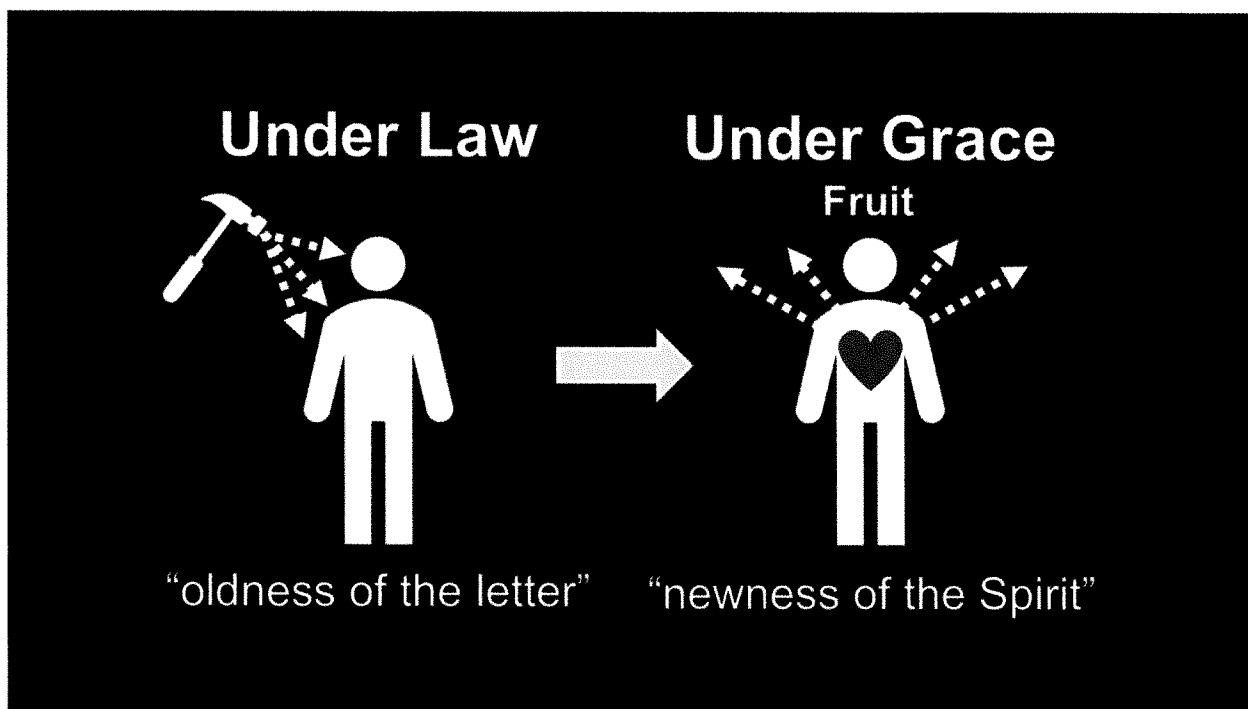
1. It protected their cultural identity.
2. It preserved unity in the early church.
3. It created evangelistic bridges into the Jewish community.

Acts 21:22 “What, then, is to be done? They will certainly hear that you have come. 23 “Therefore do this that we tell you. We have four men who are under a vow; 24 take them and purify yourself along with them, and pay their expenses so that they may shave their heads; and all will know that there is nothing to the things which they have been told about you, but that you yourself also **walk orderly, keeping the Law.**

### What relationship do believers have to the Law?

1. The Law was given to \_\_\_\_\_ sin.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ releases us from the Law.



## **The dangers of misunderstanding the Law:**

1. It leaves believers ignorant to a large portion of the Bible.

The O.T. is 75 % of the Bible and the Law is 20-25 % of the Bible.

2. It leads people to believe that salvation depends on keeping the Law.

3. It leads to legalism as a pattern of living out one's faith.

## **Four foundational truths about the Law:**

1. God demands \_\_\_\_\_ obedience to the Law.

Deuteronomy 27:26 'Cursed is he who does not confirm the words of this law by doing them.' And all the people shall say, 'Amen.'

Galatians 3:10 For as many as are of the works of the Law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who does not abide by **all** things written in the book of the law, to perform them."

James 2:10 For whoever keeps the **whole law** and yet stumbles in **one point**, he has become guilty of all.

## 2. The Law's purpose is to \_\_\_\_\_ us to Christ.

Galatians 3: 22–25 But the Scripture has **shut up everyone under sin**, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. 23 But before faith came, we were **kept in custody under the law**, being **shut up to the faith** which was later to be revealed.

**“shut up”** [sunkleio] - to enclose on all sides with  
no way of escape

24 Therefore the Law has become our **tutor** to lead us to Christ, so that we may be justified by **faith**.

**“tutor”**

**“justified by faith”**

25 But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.

## 3. Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ the Law for us.

Matthew 5:17 – Jesus said, “Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to **fulfill**.”

Romans 10:4 For Christ is the end of the law for **righteousness** to everyone who believes.

**Righteousness is demanded** → **We fail to be righteous** → **Christ provides His righteousness**

Philippians 3:8–9 More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ, 9 and may be found in Him, **not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith,**

4. Believers are under a new covenant called \_\_\_\_\_.

Romans 6:14 “You are not under law but under grace.”

**Is the O.T. Law still relevant today?**

**The Law serves three key functions:**

**1. The \_\_\_\_\_ Law**

**Purpose for Israel**

To establish holiness by revealing God’s moral standards

**Purpose for the church**

To provide timeless ethical guidance to shape our character and conduct.

## 2. The \_\_\_\_\_ Law

### **Purpose for Israel**

To govern Israel's sacrifices, rituals, and festivals that served as types of the Messiah's future work

### **Purpose for the church**

To deepen our understanding of the person and atoning work of Christ

## 3. The \_\_\_\_\_ Law (or Judicial Law)

### **Purpose for Israel**

To govern Israel's society as a theocracy.

### **Purpose for the church**

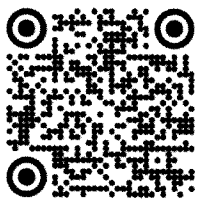
To provide guidance for justice, fairness, and social responsibility

The Law was \_\_\_\_\_ for Israel  
but \_\_\_\_\_ for the church.

Christians have died to the Law's demands and condemnation, and yet it continues serving us as a \_\_\_\_\_, teaching us how to live morally, socially, and spiritually.

## Discussion Guide

1. We started off with the question "What relationship do believers have to the Law? Could you answer that question before? How about now?"
2. We looked at Galatians 3:24, which stated that the Law became our "tutor to lead us to Christ." How does the Law, which demands perfect obedience lead to faith in Jesus Christ?
3. In Matthew 5:17 Jesus said, "I did not come to abolish but to fulfill" the Law. In what two ways did Jesus fulfill the Law and why is this fulfillment essential for a believer's righteousness?
4. How does a correct understanding of the difference between law and grace keep believers from falling into legalism?
5. What do we mean that the Law was "prescriptive" for Israel but is "descriptive" for the church? And why is that so important?



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**ANSWERS:** arouse, Death, perfect, lead, fulfilled, grace, moral, ceremonial, civil, prescriptive, descriptive, guide