

SOTM 11 - Love Is The Fulfilling Of The Law

Mat 5:17 Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

What did Jesus say He came to do? To FULFILL the Law. How did He "fulfill" the Law? First, by perfectly keeping it Himself. Second, by becoming the final sacrifice required by the law. God is love. Jesus is God in the flesh. Jesus is LOVE in the flesh. Notice:

Romans 8:4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Sspirit.

Rom 13:8-10 Owe no man any thing, but to love one another: for he that loveth another hath fulfilled the law. (9) For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if *there be* any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. (10) Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Gal 5:14 For all the law is fulfilled in one word, *even* in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

What is the very first fruit of the reborn human spirit? Remember, the new nature is the nature of Christ in you.

Gal 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Sspirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, (23) Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

God is love. Christ in you is love. The fruit of Christ in you is love. You are a good tree producing love fruit. Love is the spirit we are to be led by. That's why you are no longer under the law of Moses ... you are led by the spirit of love ... which fulfills the law.

Gal 5:18 But if ye be led of the Sspirit, ye are not under the law.

Mat 5:18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

The Law is the righteous standard of God. **Nobody has the right to lower the bar.** Why not? First off ... it is God's law but mainly ... the Law was our schoolmaster to bring us

to Christ. It is IMPOSSIBLE for the unregenerate human to keep it. Say with me "**IMPOSSIBLE!**" That's why nobody is allowed to lower it. If you lower it, you make it POSSIBLE ... at least in men's minds ... and then they think they are safe when they are keeping the lowered standard when, in truth, they are still lost and eternally damned.

Rom 3:19-20 Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth [the whole world, Jew and Gentile] may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. (20) Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

God was saying, *"Look world. Behold the Jew. He could not keep the Law and neither can you. You are all guilty because none of you can keep it."*

The Law is impossibly high for a purpose. No unregenerate person can keep it. Yet, if you do not keep it, you are damned to an eternity in hell. Now you know the agony of the man in Romans seven who had been given the law but had no capacity to keep it:

Rom 7:22-25 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: (23) But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. (24) O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? (25) I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

The new birth is the solution:

Rom 8:1-2 *There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. (2) For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.*

This is why Jesus said,

John 8:12 Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.

Rom 6:17-23 But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. (18) Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness. (19) I speak after

the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness. (20) For when ye were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness. (21) What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things is death. (22) But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life. (23) For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life [THE LIGHT OF LIFE] through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Mat 5:19 Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach *them*, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Again, nobody is allowed to lower the bar. The Pharisees did this all of the time. Here is one example

Mat 15:1-9 Then came to Jesus scribes and Pharisees, which were of Jerusalem, saying, (2) Why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread. (3) But he answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition? (4) For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother: and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death. (5) But ye say, Whosoever shall say to *his* father or *his* mother, *It is a gift*, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; (6) And honour not his father or his mother, *he shall be free.* Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition. [YOU HAVE LOWERED THE BAR] (7) Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying, (8) This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with *their* lips; but their heart is far from me. (9) But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

Mat 5:20 For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed *the righteousness* of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

This had to be a stunning statement for the people to hear, because the scribes and Pharisees were perceived as being the very pinnacle of righteousness. Yet Jesus says, the common man in the kingdom of God would have a higher righteousness than the scribes

and Pharisees.

Notice how Jesus said, **"In vain they do worship me."** Gary's paraphrase of the attitude of the Pharisees, *"I am going to change God's law to my own benefit, so that the money they should be using to support their elderly parents will come to me instead of going to them. Right after that, I am going to worship God and tell Him how much I love Him."* NOT ... there is no LOVE for God in their heart ... their heart is far from loving God. There is no true worship of God without LOVE for God.

Mat 23:14-15 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayer: therefore ye shall receive the greater damnation. (15) Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves.

Hypocrisy is a terrible sin in the eyes of God. To say you love Him, to put on a show of loving Him in front of people, yet to remain a greedy, selfish, person who will steal from people in the name of religion ... you are still a child of hell and your only hope is to receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. Do it TODAY!

The least born-again person in the kingdom of God is greater than all the true prophets of old (including John the Baptist), and most certainly their righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, who were hypocrites.

1 Corinthians 6:9-10 Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, (10) nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God. NKJV

The Amplified Bible ends this passage with: ... will inherit or have any share in the kingdom of God. **"Not any share** ... at all ... in the kingdom of God." This is not talking about "loss of reward." This is talking about heaven or hell.

Gary's (sarcastic but true) counsel to so-called "Christians" living in fornication: *"Love worketh no ill to his neighbor. If you love that girl, for sure don't fornicate with her because you don't want to take her to hell with you! Fornicate with girls you don't like and take them to hell with you. But if you say you love that girl, don't take her to hell with you by fornicating with her."*

Our churches in modern times are filled with preachers who have lowered the bar much worse than the scribes and Pharisees of that day. Even those who would not be classified as Radical Grace preachers have lowered the bar with teachings that make people think they can continue to live in iniquity and still make it to heaven. The grace of God has given you the righteousness of Christ to empower you to live above sin. Here is the true Bible definition of grace:

Titus 2:11-12 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, (12) Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

Make sure Jesus knows you on that day:

2 Timothy 2:19 Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.