

The Law and Faith

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The purpose of this document is to relate the law to faith.

Modeling the Nature of God

As Christians we live by faith, and our lives disclose the nature of God. The law also discloses the nature of God. In other words, if I were to build a business model of God from what I see in the Bible, I would use the Law to get rules for that model. If I were to expand my model beyond the Bible, I would use the lives of Christians, the Church. Since the Bible prophecy goes beyond the Biblical Times, we use the lives of Christians and the Church in our business model of God to this time. The faith of our fathers has disclosed the nature of God. He is building a perfect Church, and he is right on schedule. Knowing his other projects and their success, look at his story and see his nature.

Modeling the Business of God

To live by faith we must know and love the law. I intend to explain that statement using business modeling terminology. The Lord's business is still partly defined by the law. We still do his business within the Law. In other words, we live our calling within the law. We do not live the law, but we live by faith within the law. The law still facilitates our communication with God. We know he does not change and he will never ask us to violate his law. The law still shows us his nature and convicts us when we miss the mark (sin).

The Rules of God's Business

I am writing this document because I read the Psalms every day and am reminded how much the Lord wants us to know and love his law. First, I outlined the law for myself so I could know and quickly review it. Then as I began to know it better, I was amazed how relevant it was to everyday life, the laws against demagoguery for example. Even the sacrificial laws are helpful because they still give us a clear picture of the Gospel. Without the fear of God and the Law, communion has no meaning. In communion there seems to be a distinction between the past and the present, the body and the blood, the bread and the wine. I like to make sure I am right with my Cross in the present Body of Christ before I recognize the past work of Jesus on his Cross. The sacrificial laws help me understand both his finished work and my present work. The purpose of the law is the same now as always, they are the rules of God's business and they convict us of our sin. In other words, they convict us when our purpose misses the mark of his purpose.

By Faith we uphold the law

Romans 3:21-31

21 But now, irrespective of law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God

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through faith in Jesus Christ* for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement* by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.*

27 Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law. ²⁹Or is God the God of Jews only? Is he not the God of Gentiles also? Yes, of Gentiles also, ³⁰since God is one; and he will justify the circumcised on the ground of faith and the uncircumcised through that same faith. ³¹Do we then overthrow the law by this faith? By no means! On the contrary, we uphold the law.

Summary: Living by Faith within God's Rules

The purpose of this document is to relate the law to faith. I like to build business models for understanding. Because business rules represent an understanding of the business, the first step in building a business model is collecting the business rules. God gave us his Law for the same reason. His law still represents him. We can live by faith and still love his law.