

The Paradox of Law & Grace -  
THE BEATITUDES IN THE LAW OF MOSES

An illustration of a pair of blue scales of justice. On the left pan is a wooden gavel. On the right pan is a red heart. The scales are set against a light blue background.

Paradox: a statement or concept that contains conflicting ideas  
From Greek - *paradoxon*: 'contrary to expectations, existing belief or perceived opinion.'

A cartoon illustration of a young child with blonde hair, wearing a red shirt and blue pants, holding a book. The child is standing next to a large, purple-robed figure representing a theologian. The theologian is holding a scroll that says 'THEOLOGY' and is surrounded by gold coins.

God uses  
the simple  
things to  
confound  
the wise  
1 Cor 1:27

God  
doesn't call the  
qualified  
He  
qualifies the  
called

BIBLE PARADOXES

A black and white photograph of a woman in a long coat and hat, carrying two suitcases, walking on a dirt road. In the background, other people are visible on the road.

The greatest among  
you will be your  
servant. Matt 23:11

BIBLE PARADOXES

A black and white photograph of several people, some blindfolded, touching the legs of a large elephant. They are standing in a line, each touching a different part of the elephant's leg.

The blind will see and those  
who see will become blind.  
John 9:39

BIBLE PARADOXES

A black and white photograph of a banquet table with many people seated around it. The table is set with plates, glasses, and candles.

Go out to the roads and  
country lanes and compel  
them to come in, so that my  
house will be full. I tell you,  
not one of those who were  
invited will get a taste of my  
banquet.  
Luke 14:23

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### The Paradox of Law & Grace - THE BEATITUDES IN THE LAW OF MOSES

The **Beatitudes** are eight blessings recounted in the Sermon on the Mount in the Gospel of Matthew

... They present a new set of Christian ideals

Wiki

*"You must destroy them totally. Make no treaty with them, and show them no mercy. Do not intermarry with them. Do not give your daughters to their sons or take their daughters for your sons"* Deut. 7:2-3

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.  
Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.  
Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.  
**Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.**  
Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.  
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.  
Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

### Jesus REVEALED God – He Didn't CHANGE God

No man has seen God at any time, the only begotten Son, has declared him. John 1:18

### Sermon on the Mount Was NOT part of the New Covenant – but how the Law should have always been interpreted.

**Jesus Endorsed the Law During the Sermon**

*"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished."* Matt. 5:17-18

### Bruriah – Sage (Talmud) – 2<sup>nd</sup> Century

Rabbi Meir prayed that an annoying neighbour would die.

Appalled by this, she responded to him by explaining that the verse **"Let the sinners be consumed from the earth, and the wicked shall be no more"** (Psalm 104:35) actually states: **"Let sin be consumed from the earth,"** adding that "the wicked shall be no more" because they have repented.

### The Beatitudes – New Teaching ? Or How the Law Should have Always Been Interpreted ?

You have heard that it was said, (in the Law) an 'Eye for eye and tooth for tooth. But I tell you not to resist an evil person. Matt 5:38

If there is any further injury, then you shall appoint as a penalty life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burn for burn, wound for wound, bruise for bruise Exodus 21:24

### Hierarchy of Commandments

*You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is I like it: 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' **On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.**"* Matt. 22:37-40

### BORN AGAIN Not Born JEW

'You must be **born again**...Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you don't understand these things? John 3



**"The sole purpose of non-Jews is to serve Jews. Goyim were born only to serve us. They have no place in the world - only**



No man has seen God at any time; the only begotten Son... **he has declared him.** John 1:18

#### JESUS

Blessed are the **merciful** for they will be shown mercy Matt 5:7

#### LAW

**NO MERCY OR COVENANTS**  
And when the LORD your God shall deliver them before you; you will smite them, and utterly destroy them; you will **make no covenant** with them, **nor shew mercy** unto them. Deut 7:2

#### Breaking LAW

Covenant to Rahab: **Swear to me by the Lord (covenant)** that you will **show kindness** to my family, because I have shown kindness to you. Josh 2:12 (Mercy/kindness)



### RULES FOR SACRIFICES

#### LAW

The first seven chapters of Leviticus describe the various offerings and how they are to be carried out (burnt, grain, peace, sin, trespass) it doesn't say they weren't required.

#### JESUS

When Christ came into the world, he said: "Sacrifice and offering you did not desire, but a body you prepared for me; with burnt offerings and sin offerings you were not pleased. Heb 10:5

#### PROPHETS

For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings. Hos 6:6



### DEATH FOR ADULTERY

#### LAW

"If a man commits adultery with another man's wife—with the wife of his neighbour—both the adulterer and the adulteress are to be put to death. Lev 20:10 (no ifs or buts – the Law said to kill adulterers)

#### JESUS

This woman was caught in the act of adultery. **5 The law of Moses says to stone her. Now what do you say?** John 8:4  
Neither do I (condemn you). Go and sin no more. John 8:11

#### MISC

**DAVID:** *Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Ps 51*

**JOSEPH**  
*"Joseph her husband, being righteous and not willing to shame her publicly, resolved to divorce her quietly." Matt 1:19*

### Rebellious Son to be Stoned

#### LAW

If someone has a stubborn and rebellious son who does not obey his father and mother ... all the men of his town are to stone him to death. Deut 21:18

#### DAVID

*"More and more people were joining Absalom and supporting his plot. ... "When you hear the sound of the trumpets, you must shout, 'Absalom now rules as king in Hebron!'"* 2 Sam 15:10

#### MISC

He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. Psalm 103:10



### Destruction and Rejection of FOREIGNERS

<p><b>LAW</b></p> <p>You will utterly destroy them; namely, the Hittites, and the Amorites, the Canaanites, and the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites; as the LORD your God has commanded: Deut 20:17</p> <p>No Ammonite or <b>Moabite</b> or any of their descendants may enter the assembly of the LORD, not even in the tenth generation. Deut 23:3</p>	<p><b>JESUS</b></p> <p>"My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations." (and should be now) Mark 11:17</p>	<p><b>MISC</b></p> <p>Ruth the Moabitess - ancestor of Jesus - Rahab was a Canaanite Uriah was a Hittite and Godly man</p> <p>The Jews themselves were descended from Hittites and Amorites - <i>This is what the Sovereign Lord says to Jerusalem: Your ancestry and birth were in the land of the Canaanites; your father was an Amorite and your mother a Hittite.</i> Ezek. 16:3</p>
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### Imprecatory Psalms

Remember, LORD, what the **Edomites** did on the day Jerusalem fell.

"Tear it down," they cried, "tear it down to its foundations!"

**Daughter of Babylon**, doomed to destruction, happy is the one who repays you according to what you have done to us.

Happy is the one destroys your progeny and dashes them against the rocks. Ps 137:7-8



### Amalekites – no improvement after 500 years



### Paradoxes by Design

'Master', he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man... So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. Matt 25:24




Jesus REVEALED God  
He didn't CHANGE God  
He changed the way we saw Him

end

Daniel 7:8 "There before me was another horn, a little one, which came up among them; and three of the first horns were uprooted before it. This horn had eyes like the eyes of a human being and a mouth that spoke boastfully."

Iran, already heavily involved in Syria, is also deeply involved in Lebanon and Iraq ... As a result Israel is, justifiably, feeling surrounded...

Iran is stronger and bolder than ever and building weapons factories in Lebanon and Syria. By reconciling with Hamas, it has the capacity to create what might be a three-front war against the Jewish state whenever it chooses to heat up the conflict.



The Head of the Snake



The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up to prepare the way for the kings from the East. Then I saw three impure spirits that looked like frogs; they came out of the mouth of the dragon (Satan/deception Rev 12), out of the mouth of the beast (10 horns and little horn) and out of the mouth of the false prophet (radical Islam). They are demonic spirits that perform signs, and they go out to the kings of the whole world, to gather them for the battle on the great day of God Almighty, Rev 16:12-14

end

Why are we afraid to interpret the Law ?

All scripture (is) given by inspiration of God  
2 Tim 3:16

I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this scroll: If anyone adds anything to them, God will add to that person the plagues described in this scroll. And if anyone takes words away from this scroll of prophecy, God will take away from that person any share in the tree of life and in the Holy City, which are described in this scroll. Rev 22:18-19

"I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. Jer 31:33

POOR TRANSLATION

"All scripture (is) given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness" (What about the wrong words of Job's friends ?)

The word "is" in 2 Tim 3:16 is added by translators. A more accurate rendering of this passage in context is – "From a child you have known the inspired scriptures which are able to make you wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus – all scripture given by inspiration is profitable for doctrine."

1 Peter 1:19-20 is also often quoted out of context. The intention of Peter was to endorse the words of God's prophets – "We also have the prophetic message as something completely reliable ... No PROPHECY of the scripture (referring to writings of Old Testament prophets) is of private interpretation for it came not by man but from God."

The ISV translates v19 as "Therefore we regard the message of the prophets as confirmed beyond doubt." At the time Peter wrote this the Old Testament was not compiled into 39 books such as we have. It was a collection of individual scrolls –