

LAW GRACE

Date: January 12, 2025

Key Scripture: Deuteronomy 4:1-14

How to think about the Old Testament Law:

- 1) The sacrifice of Jesus is once for all, all laws about sacrifices are fulfilled in Him.**
- 2) All the Jewish festivals find their fulfillment in Jesus Christ.**
- 3) The laws specific to the nation of Israel are not binding on the church as part of a heavenly kingdom.**
- 4) The Holy Spirit guides us to surpass the letter of the law out of abundant love.**

Three consequences of breaking God's law:

- 1) Just punishment.**
- 2) Natural consequences.**
- 3) Loving discipline.**

New City Catechism

Question 19

Is there any way to escape punishment and be brought back into God's favor?

Yes, to satisfy his justice, God himself, out of mere mercy, reconciles us to himself and delivers us from sin and from the punishment for sin, by a Redeemer.

Scripture to Memorize

"Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD! Blessed are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart, who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways!"

- Psalm 119:1-3

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At present, the practice of catechesis, particularly among adults, has been almost completely lost. Modern discipleship programs concentrate on practices such as Bible study, prayer, fellowship, and evangelism and can at times be superficial when it comes to doctrine. In contrast, the classic catechisms take students through the Apostles' Creed, the Ten Commandments, and the Lord's Prayer—a perfect balance of biblical theology, practical ethics, and spiritual experience.

