P.O. BOX 701138 • TULSA, OK 74170

March 2015 The Law Of The Spirit Of Life

Dear Friend,

Thank God for laws. Laws continuously influence our lives, whether they are natural laws, civil laws, or spiritual laws. We want to look at the effects of spiritual laws and better understand how these laws not only govern our spiritual life, but also affect our natural life in this world. We will begin with a quick synopsis of each category of laws.

Natural laws are the unseen forces that are always impacting our lives and are unique to this planet. Take the Law of Gravity for example, without it we would all just float around the earth. Even before the Law of Gravity was discovered the effects of the law were a daily reality. This is just one of many natural laws constantly influencing our existence, by no choice of our own. We don't wake up in the morning and decide whether we going to abide by the Law of Gravity.

Civil laws, unlike natural laws, are obeyed by choice. For instance, when we go to the store in our cars we are told by road signs how fast we can travel. We can choose to exceed those posted limits, but if we are caught by law enforcement we must suffer the consequences.

Finally, we have spiritual laws. The fact that we are spirits living in mortal bodies means we are subject to the laws of the spirit world even more so than natural law. I say that because long after this planet has been destroyed by fire, spiritual law will still be governing our lives. What we need to know is how the laws of the world of the spirit influence our lives right now in this natural world.

It only makes sense that this natural world is directly affected by the world of the spirit, considering the fact that God, who is a Spirit, created the natural world. (John 4:24)

"<u>God is a Spirit</u>: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth." One attribute of law, no matter whether natural, civil or spiritual, is that it's not a tangible substance visible to the naked eye. Law is intangible and therefore can exist without anyone ever appreciating its existence, but nevertheless being affected by it. Man watched apples fall out of trees for centuries, yet it wasn't until Sir Isaac Newton discovered the Law of Gravity that this invisible law was made known to man. After which, the discovery of other invisible laws began to take place, like the Law of Lift.

Think about how long man watched birds fly in the air having no idea that a law existed governing this marvel. The ability of a 747 to fly in the days of Jesus was just as possible then as it is today. But, it wasn't until the discovery of the Law of Lift that man could benefit from it and eventually fly. The discovery of the Law of Lift taught man how to overcome the effects of one law, Gravity, by instituting another law, Lift. All the time that a plane is taking advantage of the Law of Lift, the Law of Gravity is still present, relentlessly pulling the plane back towards the earth.

Let's summarize what we have learned thus far. Laws are invisible forces that are always influencing our lives. Even when man was ignorant of their existence, he was still affected by them. The very nature of the Creator Himself can be seen in the constant unwavering nature of both natural and spiritual laws.

God made man in his own image and likeness to have fellowship with Him and to rule over His newly created earth. God's creation, both man and planet, was filled with life. Death, and everything associated with death, was non-existent. Everything God had made was good. (Genesis 1:31)

"And God saw everything that He had made, and behold, it was very good. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day."

When we look at the world around us today it is very difficult to imagine that it could have ever been "very good". So, how did God's creation in all its beauty and perfection end up in the condition it's in today? The answer to that question will now be easier for us to understand when we apply what we have learned from our study of laws. Here's why; just as God set this natural world into motion subject to natural laws, the spirit world likewise is subject to spiritual laws.

God's creation had no death in it whatsoever. Life was the dominant force in all that God created. A spiritual law existed that transcended both worlds and perpetuated life, both spiritual and natural, and forbade death. Paul identifies the existence of spiritual laws governing life and death in his letter to the church at Rome. (Romans 8:2)

"For the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death."

Here are some questions we need to answer. "When did humanity become ruled by the Law of Sin and Death?" Man became subjected to the Law of Sin and Death the instant Adam committed sin in the Garden. "That being the case, what law governed man's existence prior to becoming dominated by the Law of Sin and Death?" I have found no scripture expressly stating that God's creation was under the influence of the Law of the Spirit of Life prior to the fall, <u>but apparently</u> that was in fact the case.

Spiritual law, like all other law, is invisible to the naked eye and has the ability to affect both worlds, spiritual and natural. We see its affects all around us, but the law itself is unseen. By looking closely at the events of the Garden and man's fall from grace we can see how instantly man stepped out from under the benefits of the Law of the Spirit of Life and into subjection to the domination of the Law of Sin and Death. By breaking the one and only commandment God had given Adam to keep, he was no longer in right standing with God and the consequence was death. (Genesis 2:16-17)

"And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, 'Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: (17) But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die."

The consequence for breaking God's commandment placed man at odds with God. Adam's transgression alienated him from God and immediately subjected Adam to the Law of Sin and Death. Even though this change from being governed by the Law of the Spirit of Life in God to being dominated by the Law of Sin and Death in the devil was not something Adam witnessed with his eyes, he instantly knew the consequence of his actions. It was like crossing a state line and going from one jurisdiction to another. (Genesis 3:7-8)

"And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves aprons. (8) And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the Garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden."

When God asked why they hid themselves the telltale sign of spiritual death was given as the reason. (Genesis 3:10)

"...I was afraid..."

Adam's sin resulted in all of God's creation being ruled by the Law of Sin and Death, man and beast and the earth alike. When we were born into this world we were born spiritually dead into a world dominated by the Law of Sin and Death. Albeit, invisible, as all law is invisible, the effects are very much apparent. Death, lack, sickness, and pain are all the result of being subject to the Law of Sin and Death. The question is; "How can we be free from The Law of Sin and Death and return to right standing with God?"

Referring back to our example of the Law of Lift superseding the Law of Gravity enabling a plane to fly; if only we could subject ourselves to a law that was superior to the Law of Sin and Death we could be free from its affects. That's not to say that the Law of Sin and Death would disappear, just like gravity didn't disappear, but we wouldn't be bound under its dominion any longer. Paul explained this perfectly in the following verse. (Romans 8:2)

"For the Law of the Spirit of Life <u>in Christ Jesus</u> has made me free from the Law of Sin and Death."

Once we are born again we step out of the jurisdiction of the Law of Sin and Death and into the jurisdiction of the Law of the Spirit of Life. As a result, we can enjoy all the benefits of living a life governed by the Law of the Spirit of Life <u>if</u> only we can believe. Jesus said: (Mark 9:23)

"...If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth."

The obvious problem is the fact that we still live in a world dominated by the Law of Sin and Death and in a body susceptible to the effects of death. However, when we believe that as born again children of God we are free from the dominion of the Law of Sin and Death, then we will rule and reign in this life. (Romans 5:17)

"For if by one man's offence death reigned by one; much more they which receive abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness shall <u>reign in life</u> by one, Jesus Christ."

(Romans 5:21)

"That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord."

We have to believe that we are no longer subject to the Law of Sin and Death and <u>refuse</u> to allow it to illegally affect our lives any longer. Believing this truth will impact every area of our lives while on this earth, particularly in the area of sickness and disease. Yes, these bodies will eventually die and we will go to be with Jesus, but we don't have to allow sickness and disease to destroy these bodies before we are done with them.

Paul went on in Romans 8 to tell us how we could keep these mortal bodies alive until our job here on earth was complete. (Romans 8:11)

"But if the Spirit of Him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, He that raised up Christ from the dead shall also <u>quicken</u> your <u>mortal bodies</u> by His Spirit that dwells in you."

When we were born again we received a reborn human spirit in which the Holy Spirit of God now lives. It is through our human spirit, which is alive with the life of God, that our physical bodies are quickened or made alive. The life that originates in God now resides in our reborn human spirit giving life to this mortal body.

Do we truly believe that we are born again children of God who have been redeemed from the curse? Do we believe that as born again children of God the Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus has made us free from the Law of Sin and Death? Do we believe that because we are free from the Law of Sin and Death we have the right to command sickness and disease out of our bodies and it must obey us? It's only when we believe these truths that we are able to walk in all the benefits of the freedom that has been given to us.

Imagine sitting in a plane at the end of a runway ready to taxi down the runway and take off. But, you choose instead to sit there with the motors turning because you doubt whether or not the Law of Lift will work for you this time. All the while the Law of Gravity is holding you firmly on the ground. **By default**, one Law is holding you firmly in its grip while doubt keeps you from enjoying the benefits of another Law.

The Law of Sin and Death will hold you in its grip until you believe you are free and begin to live according to the Law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus.

We must spend time in God's Word until we believe and can stand in faith and command the devil and all his demons to obey what we say and leave our body

alone. Whatever we allow, by default, to stay will stay. Whatever we command to leave must leave so long as we believe. It's time we believe and walk in all that Jesus has accomplished for us.

~ Grace be with you

Mark Jenkins