

The Perfect Law of Liberty

(James 1:21-25)

Introduction: We may call the word of God given through Jesus Christ by various names (i.e. The New Testament, The Gospel). James calls the word of God given through Jesus Christ “the perfect law of liberty” (James 1:25).

I. “Perfect”

- A) In _____.
1. It is the product of God. (1 Cor. 2:9-13)
 2. It reveals all man needs to know (2 Pet. 1:3; 2 Tim. 3:16-17).
- B) In _____.
1. It will do what God intended it to do.
 2. It is sufficient to convict the world of sin. (Heb. 4:12; Acts 2:37)
 3. It not only makes one aware of his sin but also reveals the remedy (John 8:31-32; Rom. 1:16; Jas. 1:21; 1 Pet. 1:22-23).
- C) In _____ how to conduct one’s life.
1. As a Christian, one does not:
 - a. Look to the moral codes of men or conform to the ways of the world (Rom. 12:2).
 - b. Serve sin any longer. (Rom. 6:12)
 2. The Christian is to put off the old man & put on the new (Eph. 4:24).
 - a. He is to walk in “newness of life.” (Rom. 6:4)
 - b. The word of Christ is his guide as to how to do this (Tit. 2:11-12).

II. Law

- A) Some deny obedience to _____ is necessary.
1. They teach salvation is by “faith only.”
 2. Faith apart from all works eliminates _____ (John 6:28-29).
 3. Salvation is by faith, but it is “faith working through love.” (Gal. 5:6)
- B) Webster (7th New Collegiate Dictionary, p. 478) defines “law” as:
1. “Rules of conduct given by one in authority.”
 2. “A rule of conduct or action prescribed or formally recognized as binding or enforced by a controlling authority.”
- C) One is to obey and continue in the law Christ has given (Matthew 7:2; Hebrews 5:8-9; James 1:22; John 8:31; 2 John 9; 2 Thess. 1:7-9).

III. Liberty

- A) Many are confused as to the meaning of liberty (Rom. 6:1-2; Col. 3:17).
- B) Liberty, as expressed in this passage, is:
1. Freedom from bondage to the Law of Moses (Gal. 5:1; Rom. 7:4; Col. 2:14; Heb. 8:6-13)
 2. Freedom from sin. (Rom. 6:18; Heb. 8:12)
 3. Never a license to think, speak or act according to our own righteousness. (2 Cor. 10:5; 1 Pet. 4:11; Col. 3:17)
- C) One is NOT at liberty to:
1. Change the _____ (Gal. 1:6-9).
 2. Change the _____ (Matt. 15:9).
 3. Continue in _____ (Rom. 6:12).

Conclusion: Let us live by the “perfect law of liberty.” Let us be content to be guided by it in all things. Let us recognize its sufficiency and be satisfied to submit

My Notes: