The Commandments for This “Age of Grace”

We are not a part of the Kingdom Gospel, but a part of the Grace Gospel (The once “Mystery”, made known to man, by God, through Paul). Thus, we are not bound by the “Ten Commandments”. These 10 Commandments summarized the basic obligations of man towards God and his fellow men (in that dispensation), given to Moses by God; sometimes referred to as the divine Mosaic Law. While the Law is good, in this “Age of Grace”, we are not so much bound, but are rather directed by a different set of rules. Just as no man could keep the law, we cannot be perfect in what we do in this age; but we can be righteous because He has redeemed us. Our faith comes from His Faithfulness. We can make choices; let’s make the right ones.

I remember as a young lad of 9 years old, attending my third elementary school, and being the new kid again, of having an interesting encounter. Early on at this new school, I got into a fight with another student; fists were thrown, teachers rushed in, and different sides of the story were exchanged. One bystander, a young girl, made the statement regarding me: “Oh, he wouldn’t lie, his dad is a preacher.” Well, the light-bulb went off in my head; thinking to myself, so this is how the game of life works; works for me!

In the Old Testament, the Israelites were under a Law system; today, we are under a Grace system. While the commandments may not be numbered, there are expectations which God has of his children, in this “Age of Grace”. There are commandments for the Church; the Body of Christ. Now, because my earthly father was a preacher, did that give me the right to lie, when others would assume I would be telling the truth? Of course not! What about our daily Christian walk; would we willfully engage in those things which we know grieves our Heavenly Father? God Forbid! (Romans 6:1-2).

So, what does our Lord expect of us? We are to not only “Talk the Talk, but Walk the Walk”. We are to be in charge of our own body; we are expected to make the right choices; we are to love our brethren; and we are to do that which is right in the sight of God (I Thessalonians 4:1-12). We need to keep our moral barometer in line with what God has instructed us to do. Will we trip up sometimes? Sure we will; but we mustn’t be burdened down with negativism and the depression that is brought on by a sense of unworthiness. We must just re-focus and remember, His Grace is Sufficient; Jesus Paid it All!

While I still pray at night, I also pray many times during the day as well. At bedtime I used to spend most of my pre-sleeping time asking, almost begging God to forgive me of my sins; oh the burden I would carry, day in and day out. I carried this burden, this guilt, for most of my life. It wasn’t until recent times that I was able to understand that God had already forgiven me of my sins; he didn’t need any help getting rid of them; I needed help in letting Him take care of them for me. It was just a few years ago that I learned to pray and thank Him for what he had done; a peace and comfort I had never known, until I reached this basic understanding. I am not a ‘touch-feely” person, but I will say that when I take brief moments of my day to think of my Lord, I cannot help but smile, feel a little warm, and experience a relaxing peace in my soul.

God has provided a road-map for us in this “Age of Grace”; there is a model for us to follow. But remember, we are no use to anyone if we let the past wear us down; let go and let God! Embrace the peace that He provides; the peace that surpasses all understanding (Romans 5:1-2; Philippians 4:6-7). Do not try to add to what God has done for you; be thankful and let His will become your will (Colossians 3:15). Thank Him.

Let Him indwell in you that His light may shine through you. Remember, He loved you first!

Joe