

# *the* Informer *newsletter*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF PCAI & PCAI CLERGY ASSOCIATION  
PARAGON CHRISTIAN ALLIANCE INTERNATIONAL  
MARCH 2018 – ISSUE 3

## TEAMWORK

*By Dr. Jan Harbuck /PCAI Vice President & Executive Board*



I've been studying on TEAM WORK which is very important in ministry and all walks of life. Here are some things I learned and thought worth sharing: Sheep and cattle have to be handled differently. Sheep require tending. They need clear boundaries for their own protection, not to mention the shepherd's potential loss if they are devoured by a wolf or fall off a cliff. Cattle do just fine when they're given good grazing land and left alone. What's the point? To fulfill your dream, you must "know" the people you work with. Whether



they're partners or patrons, bosses or colleagues, clients or constituents, customers or critics, people need to be identified and managed according to their talents and their temperament.

John Maxwell writes..."Some people have a dream and are building a team - their dream has potential...Some people have a dream and a great team - their dream is inevitable." Moses needed Joshua; Naomi needed Ruth. All successful people had help along the way. Chris Hodges says, "A dream is a compelling vision you see in your heart, that's too big to accomplish without the help of others." ♥

### Please note the changes for mileage issued by IRS for 2018

- ◆ 54.5 per mile for business purposes
- ◆ 18 cents for medical or moving purposes
- ◆ 14 cents for service of charities (volunteers)



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OFFICE HOURS :  
9:00AM to 4:00PM



# LAW VS. GRACE

By Dr. Henry Harbuck / PCAI General President and Int'l Overseer

World renowned evangelist, Billy Graham, often began his crusades by briefly quoting from an old hymn: “Jesus loves me; this I know, for the Bible tells me so.” This is a magnificent confession of what the Bible says about grace. Though we may fail, God’s abiding love never fails!

Without realizing it, many Christians still rigidly follow some form of Old Testament Law. These same believers reject the New Testament doctrine of grace, believing it makes them appear “soft” or “weak.” This belief often prevails among holiness groups who accept nothing less than human perfection to qualify a person as saved.

Paul said in Romans 3:20-24: **v.20** - “...no human being can be brought into a place of justification (right standing—some Greek scholars say God’s righteousness) by the works of the Law. For all the Law can do is to make human beings aware of their sin. **v.21** - But now it has come to light that a righteous God has given human beings a way of having right standing with Him. It is a way that is not prescribed by the Law, but is attested to by the [scrolls of the] Law and the Prophets. **v.22** - God’s righteousness comes to all human beings who believe [in Christ and have faith in Him]. **v.23** - For everyone has sinned [and missed the mark], and are falling short of the glory of God—[that is, the honor bestowed by Him], **v.24** -

being made righteous (literally – justified) as a gift by His grace (love), provided by the priestly/sacrificial atonement of Christ Jesus to make them free [from sin.]” (Note: Missing the mark is in the Greek aorist tense and is essentially the same as the English past tense as listed above. And “falling” is the Greek present imperative tense.) If this is true, then how will we be approved or be made righteous by God? It is by His grace!

The above-mentioned Scripture, penned by the apostle Paul, is the most masterful explanation of grace ever written. Yet, this masterpiece is virtually ignored and/or misunderstood by a large majority of Christians. The truth is, “You don’t have the wherewithal to be considered pure and clean by your deeds; only by God’s grace is this made possible.” As I often say, “The Law gets you going, but grace keeps you going.”

Romans and Hebrews are the most neglected books of the Bible. Why? It takes much intensive study to understand these books and to teach them. They both speak of grace.

The following outline provides a better understanding of Grace:

## I – The Law Cannot Justify Us (Heb. 11:8)

Word processing programs

justify words and sentences automatically so the typist doesn’t have to be frustrated with alignment. In like fashion, this is what God does for us: He lines us up properly so we both look better and become better.

Grace is very often misunderstood. Worldwide, there is a tendency for human beings to believe that following a prescribed code of law will give them “peace and illumination,” and that eventually “right standing” with their God (or gods) will come about. People today search the world over seeking “peace and love,” never realizing that all these things are found in Christ.

Cults rely on codes [of law] to please God. The Jehovah’s Witnesses, the Mormons, and the “Oneness” Pentecostals all fall into this category because their doctrines are based firmly on “works” and not “grace.”

World religions rely on codes [of law] to find peace with their god (or gods). Though many world religions trust in some code of law to give them peace, the three major ones are mentioned here:

**Hinduism:** For the Hindu, the path to salvation wherein one may experience release, deliverance, emancipation, and liberty is found in moksha. This means to rid one’s life of something felt

Hebrews 11:8 (ASV)

*“By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed to go out unto a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.”*

to be undesirable; and is done through a cycle of rebirth. It indicates an expanded view, a sense of calmness and security; and carries the notion of attaining a goal, or grasping the power “to be” and “to do.”

**Buddhism:** Like Hindus, the Buddhists believe in reincarnation, and in the law of karma – i.e., of cause and effect. Buddha taught it is possible to abolish bad karma and to find liberty from its grip by reorientation of life. Thereafter, a new process begins, which is called good karma. A good Buddhist always follows the teaching of Siddharta Gautama, who became “the Buddha” (the enlightened one), born in modern day Nepal, once a part of India. The Buddha’s Eightfold Path is: right knowledge, right attitude, right speech, right action, right living (for an occupation), right effort, right mindfulness, and right composure.

**Islam:** This religion requires strict obedience to all its law in order to be a “good

*Continued on page 3*

## Law vs. Grace Continued from page 2

Muslim.” Founded by Mohammed, Islam uses exclusively the codes and laws found in the Qur’an (English—Koran), which Mohammed claimed were given directly to him by Allah (God). To the western world, one of the most unusual and puzzling doctrines of Islam is jihad. This is the belief that Muslims are called to wage war against evil forces that hinder Islam from advancing, thus bringing the non-Muslim world under the dominance of Islam.

**Remember:** Grace is never taught or accepted by either the World Religions or the (so-called) Christian Cults.

### II – The Law Cannot Make Us Righteous—Clean and Holy - (Gal. 3:11-12)

“By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place where he was to receive an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going.”

The prophet of old has said, “Your righteousness is as filthy rags” (Isaiah 64:6). This statement, which should cause each of us to pause and think seriously, is virtually ignored in the Christian holiness denominations. Though holiness groups believe this is a state one must strive for; it cannot, in point of fact, be humanly achieved by anyone. Why? Because this is only

accomplished by the action of the Holy Spirit within us. Interestingly, when one is lacking in holiness, he or she often appears (on the outside) to be more holy than they really are.

John Wesley, an early church pioneer, highly esteemed by most Christians, once said: “I believe that absolute sanctification is possible, but I cannot achieve it.” So, what is the greatest proof of holiness? Is it proved by how much you read the Bible? Or by how well you apply Christian principles in everyday life? During the times of Christ, the Law demanded adherence to 680 rules and regulations in order to justify (or make righteous) one before Jehovah (Yahweh—God). These rules were nothing more than a “yoke” (or burden) to the Jewish people, which most of them could not follow perfectly in order to please God.

### III – The Law Cannot Replace Faith (Galatians 3:11; 3-14)

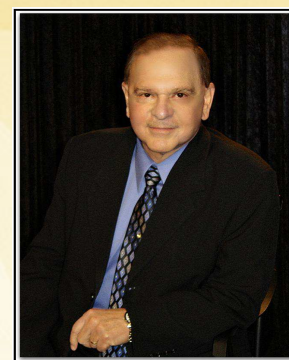
The promise of the Spirit is by faith (Gal. 3:14). In the Old Testament, the languages of the people were “confused” (Genesis 11:9) at the Tower of Babel. In the New Testament, the languages of the people seeking God (Acts 2:6) were “infused” at Jerusalem.

The Bible says. “...where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty; that is, freedom and not bondage” (2 Corinthians. 3:17). Now, this applies to what I am saying. The Spirit of the Lord is not manifest because someone speaks in tongues or shouts “Hallelujah!” But those who have the testimony of the Holy Spirit know beyond doubt that they have been freed from the bondage of sin, and by God’s grace, will complete their course on earth.

Faith also brings unity (Psalm 133:1). When brothers and sisters dwell together in unity and harmony, the Spirit of God dwells in their midst, because God hates anything among His people that brings disunity or discord.

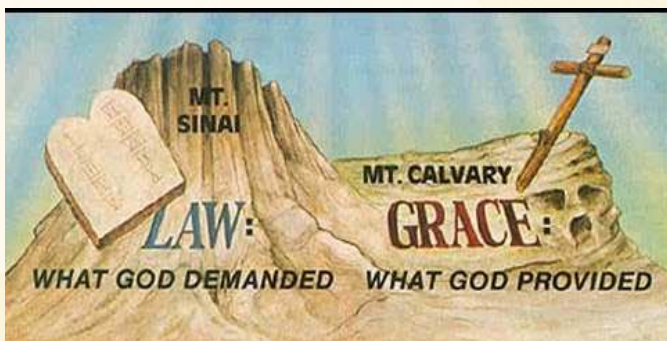
Returning to find the Galatians again under the Law [of bondage], Paul (who had previously taught them about grace) exclaimed, “O you foolish Galatians, who has bewitched [that is, mesmerized—or deluded] you, and caused you to follow [again] the Law [by casting a spell over you? Gal. 3:1]” They had once again reverted to arguing about holy days, holy foods, holy clothing, holy living, and holy swearing. Though much may be said today about “holy living” (which is pleasing to God); legalism is of little value, and puts people under bondage and slavery. People don’t need to perform “good deeds” to be saved, but they will perform “good deeds” when they are saved.

In conclusion, I am convinced the Bible teaches that grace is simply trusting in God’s love to run the race of faith. Even though we may fall away and hurt ourselves and others, through confession and obedience to His Word, we are given another chance. This is GRACE in its purest form! You may feel like a loser when you fall away, but a real winner will rise to the occasion and try... try...try again. ♥



*Dr. Harbuck is the int’l president/overseer of the PCAI Fellowship. He is also an author, teacher, conference speaker, educator, and an ambassador for the Lord Jesus Christ. Currently he is authoring a new Bible entitled: “The New Millennia In-depth Bible.” He desires your prayers to complete this unique Bible for the glory of God.*

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## CHURCH/MINISTRY TAX DATES TO REMEMBER

**April 17**—Federal income tax and self-employment tax returns by individuals for calendar year 2017 are due by this date.

Last day to file an amended federal income tax return (Form 1040) for calendar year 2017 (unless you received an extension of time to file your 2017 return).

**April 29**—Churches hiring their first nonminister employee between January 1 and March 31, 2017, may exempt themselves from the employer's share of Social Security and Medicare taxes by filing Form 8274 by this date (nonminister employees are thereafter treated as self-employed for Social Security purposes). The exemption is only available to churches opposed on the basis of religious principles to paying the employer's share of Social Security and Medicare taxes.

**April 30**—Churches with nonminister employees (or one or more ministers who report their federal income taxes as employees and who have elected voluntary withholding) must file an employer's quarterly federal tax return (Form 941) for the first calendar quarter of 2018 by this date. Enclose a check in the total amount of all payroll taxes (withheld income taxes, the withheld employee's share of Social Security taxes, and the employer's share of Social Security taxes) if these taxes were less than \$2,500 on March 31, 2018.

*Keep good records!*

**Dr. Jan Harbuck - PCAI Office  
Need Help? Call 1-866-268-5600**

## THE RESCUER

*By Pastor Mark Awa-ao /  
JRM Senior Pastor, HI*



1 Samuel 17:37

“The Lord who rescued me from the claws of the lion and the bear will rescue me from this Philistine!”

Saul finally consented. “All right, go ahead,” he said. “And may the Lord be with you!”

David who stood up for his faith was able to put down a giant. There is no greater glory when someone trusts the Hope of Glory. David was mocked and doubted by the soldiers even by his own brother but David defeated Goliath by relying on God, by knowing his capacity, and by standing on what he believed. David stepped up and fought Goliath when everybody was afraid of the giant. One stone was enough to destroy Goliath and changed forever the life of David and the Israelites. God positioned David in one of the most difficult crossroads of Israel's life. Eventually he became the most powerful influential leader of Israel.

A leader is someone who acts on their beliefs and they love to do things that need to be done. They do work relying upon God. A leader can stand for their faith when others have nothing to do in their lives but to make fun of you about the situation. You are divinely positioned by God not to talk about things but to get it done. Stand up for what you believe. Whatever or whoever the giant in your path is, still none is a match against your one stone with the help of the Almighty God. Be a leader, a person of influence and make history. Have a victorious day! You are blessed!

Remember:

“If you can stand up for your faith you can put down a giant”. (mpa)

## ANNOUNCEMENT



**CHARTER RENEWAL  
DEADLINE MARCH 28TH**



Charters under the PCAI 501(c)3 Group Exemption have been mailed their annual renewal report packet. It is also available on our website: [www.aega.org](http://www.aega.org) under “Resources” tab in a PDF file. It is important that your report be received in our

**office no later than March 28th.**

These reports and renewals are in compliance with the IRS code to maintain your charter's tax-exempt status under the PCAI Group Tax Exemption.