

The Doctrines of Grace

Doctrine 1-The Absolute Sovereignty of God

Part C/Lesson Two of Three

Part C How Does God Manifest His Absolute Sovereignty Throughout His Creation?- continued

2. God Manifests His Absolute Sovereignty through the Imposition of Morality

Deuteronomy 11:26-28

26 Behold, I set before you this day a blessing and a curse;

27 A blessing, if ye obey the commandments of the LORD your God, which I command you this day:

28 And a curse, if ye will not obey the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside out of the way which I command you this day, to go after other gods, which ye have not known.

The second way in which God exercises His Absolute Sovereignty is by holding all of Man accountable to the one single Standard of Morality that is based on His Own Holy and Righteous Character and Nature. And in doing this- God is the One Who Sovereignly determines what is "Right" and "Wrong", what is "Moral" and "Immoral", what is "Acceptable" and "not Acceptable", and what is "Worship" and what is "Sin".

True Morality, Heavenly Morality, consistent, Eternal Morality *does not* and *cannot* originate from Man- but God Himself- Sovereignly- *imposed* His Own Morality (based on His Own Perfect Character and Nature) onto Man, and it is this one single Standard of what is Holy and what is Profane that is the Standard by which all Mankind will be judged.

All human based "morality" throughout human history is inconsistent and contradictory. Only God's Sovereignly imposed Morality is Perfect, Consistent, and Eternal.

Exodus 20:1-17

1 And God spake all these words, saying,

2 I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

- 4** Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:
- 5** Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;
- 6** And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.
- 7** Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.
- 8** Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.
- 9** Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:
- 10** But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:
- 11** For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.
- 12** Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.
- 13** Thou shalt not kill.
- 14** Thou shalt not commit adultery.
- 15** Thou shalt not steal.
- 16** Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.
- 17** Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

Notice that God did not *suggest* this Morality to Moses. God did not consult with Moses or the Elders of Israel about what would bring Mankind happiness and fulfillment. Neither did the children of Israel *request* this. No, God Sovereignly *imposed* these behavioral restrictions on Man and then in His Omnipotence- holds all of Mankind accountable to this one single Standard. Also take note that the reason why this Morality is *eternal* is because it reflects the very Character and Nature of the God Who imposed it.

1John 3:4

Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

James 2:10

For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.

But we must understand that even though God's Law is the Standard by which all men will be judged- it is not harsh or cruel- but is, in fact, the very epitome of Love:

Mark 12:28-31

28 And one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, and perceiving that he had answered them well, asked him, Which is the first commandment of all?

29 And Jesus answered him, **The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord:**

30 And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment.

31 And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

Therefore- the Law of God is holy, just, and good.

Romans 7:12

Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good.

And because the Law of God is manifested Love- God's Law is *not* burdensome- but a joy (for those who are already saved) to walk in.

1John 5:3

For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

Psalms 1

1 Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.

3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.

4 The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away.

5 Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

6 For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.

But to those who are lost- the Law of God- the one single Standard of God's imposed Morality- is detestable and scornful and a source of offense- and all unsaved human beings live their lives in continuous and hostile rebellion to it. They do not *want* to obey God's Law- nor do they have the *ability* to obey it.

1Corinthians 2:14

But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

Genesis 6:5

And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

Romans 1:18-32

18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them.

20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,

23 And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.

24 Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:

25 Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

26 For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature:

27 And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.

28 And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;

29 Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers,

30 Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,

31 Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:

32 Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

Heaven is reserved for all of those who are perfectly and continuously Righteous. Hell is reserved for those who are unrighteous. Unrighteousness comes from disobedience to God's Law while Righteousness comes from perfect and continuous obedience to God's Law. Therefore- all that human beings have to do to earn Heaven is to keep these Ten Commandments perfectly (without flaw) and continuously (24/7).

Deuteronomy 28:1-9

1 And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth:

2 And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God.

3 Blessed shalt thou be in the city, and blessed shalt thou be in the field.

4 Blessed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep.

5 Blessed shall be thy basket and thy store.

6 Blessed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and blessed shalt thou be when thou goest out.

7 The LORD shall cause thine enemies that rise up against thee to be smitten before thy face: they shall come out against thee one way, and flee before thee seven ways.

8 The LORD shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto; and he shall bless thee in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

9 The LORD shall establish thee an holy people unto himself, as he hath sworn unto thee, if thou shalt keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, and walk in his ways.

Matthew 5:48

Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.

But if we break the Ten Commandments in any way (thought, word, or deed) even one time- we are guilty of being nothing more than a transgressor of the Law (a sinner) and are by definition- unrighteous. And as unrighteous- we forfeit entrance into Heaven and place ourselves in line for eternal damnation.

1John 3:4

Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

James 2:10&11

10 For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.

11 For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law.

Therefore- since nobody keeps the Law perfectly and continuously- no one is "good", no one is "righteous", and all of humanity are sinners.

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Romans 5:12

Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

1John 1:10

If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

Romans 3:10-18

10 As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:

11 There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.

12 They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.

13 Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips:

14 Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness:

15 Their feet are swift to shed blood:

16 Destruction and misery are in their ways:

17 And the way of peace have they not known:

18 There is no fear of God before their eyes.

So Man is in the terrible position of having been commanded by God to keep all God's Commandments and held accountable by God to do so. Yet all Mankind fails miserably in this requirement. Therefore- all of Mankind are living in hostile rebellion to God and His Word and are therefore rightly seen in God's Eyes as being:

- ✓ Immoral
- ✓ Sinful
- ✓ Evil
- ✓ Wicked
- ✓ Transgressors
- ✓ Rebellious

And the result of this condition is that every single human being who is born of woman is in jeopardy of their souls because they are living in direct rebellion to God and the things of God. Therefore- because God is Holy and Just and Righteous- God is proper and correct to be angry with our sin.

Psalms 7:11b

... God is angry with the wicked every day.

So God's Righteous and Holy Law acts as an Absolute and Eternal Standard of what is "Right" (that which brings forth Righteousness [thus bringing God the Glory He deserves]) and "Wrong" (that which does not).

Thus the Law acts as a "guide", or an "instructor", or a "mirror", that accurately and fully reveals our true condition before God.

Romans 7:7

What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.

Galatians 3:24

Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

The net result of the Law being rigid and unmovable is that God uses it as the instrument by which the Holy Spirit causes God's chosen elect to become convinced of our own inherent wickedness, and how hopeless our situation before God really is- so that we may come to God in broken helpless desperation- confessing our sins and begging for a Mercy that we do not deserve- so that by God's Grace- we may be empowered and enabled to repent of our sin and cry out to God for a Savior.

Luke 18:10-14

10 Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican.

11 The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.

12 I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess.

13 And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.

14 I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.

The Practical Implication of This Truth

The practical Implication of God exercising His Absolute Sovereignty over His Creation through His imposed Morality is that both Sin and Worship is defined by God- and not Man

For example, something may be perfectly acceptable to Man and yet God declares that it is sinful. It is possible that something could be perfectly legal and yet be sinful. So the criteria that a believer uses to determine whether something is holy or profane (moral or immoral) should not be the *legality* or the *popularity* of it- but it should be whether or not that thing offends or glorifies God. And that determination must be made on what the Scriptures actually teach about the Character and Nature of God.

Those thoughts, words, and actions which offend God should *always* be rejected by the believer while that which brings Glory and Honor to God should

always be accepted and used by the believer. The failure to obey God is Sin and the struggle to obey God is Worship.

Sin

Sin is that which offends God; that which He dislikes; that which does not bring honor or Glory to Him. Sin is any thought, word, or deed which robs God of the Glory that only rightly belongs to Him.

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

Therefore, Sin is human beings failing to give to God the Glory that He so rightly deserves, and Sin is human beings failing to delight in the Glory of God, but in seeking happiness and fulfillment in something else besides God. Therefore- Sin is what God says that Sin is.

Sin May Not Always Offend Us

Now it is very important for us to distinguish between that which offends us and that which offends God in determining what Sin really is. Sin may or may not offend us- but real Sin *always* offends God. And because that is true- we cannot base our understanding of what Sin is by the measurement of how much or how little it negatively affects us. Sin may, in fact, actually make us feel better- temporarily- or even financially or socially make us more acceptable, and more approved by the world's fallen standards, or Sin may even in some very measurable temporal ways- cause us to be better off. But the Word of God promises that even though we may temporarily benefit in some ways by sinning- the end is utter destruction.

Proverbs 16:25

There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.

Also- we do not have the right to define Sin using our own logic or terminology. Sin has already been defined for us by God- and has already been faithfully and accurately recorded on the pages of Holy Scripture- so that we will not have to wonder or guess- but so that we would know.

Romans 1:13

Now I would not have you ignorant, brethren...

What is and is not Sin can be both taught and learned so that the faithful believer may see it and avoid it- therefore we are instructed as to what Sin is- through a consistent and lifelong study of Scripture.

Psalms 19:7-11

7 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

8 The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.

9 The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

10 More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

11 Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.

In fact, Sin could be anything that might normally or humanly be called "good" or "noble"- but if that thing is done for any other reason other than to glorify God- it too is sin.

Romans 14:23b

... whatsoever is not of faith is sin.

Saved people are empowered to overcome and avoid sin by the effectual Working of God the Holy Spirit indwelling within us in combination with the right and full knowledge of Holy Scripture:

Psalms 119:11

Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

Colossians 1:29

Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.

Avoiding, minimizing, and turning from sin- no matter how inconvenient or costly it may be- is *always* glorifying to God. And likewise- celebrating and partaking of sin is *always* dishonoring to God- no matter what the personal benefits may be.

Sin is primarily engaged in when an external opportunity (temptation) meets with ungodly internal desires (lust).

Does Sin Originate From a Sovereign God?

Because Sovereignty is so little understood today- many times people *wrongly* conclude that because God is Sovereign- that this means that God *initiates* or *originates* Sin in the lives of people- that God exercises His Sovereignty in *forcing* people to sin or forcing them to disbelieve and disobey. We must keep in mind as we discuss this- that Sovereignty- as well as Sin- must be defined by God in Scripture- and not through human reasoning.

As we have seen earlier in this Study- God is Holy and Good, and God is utterly separate from sinners in that God *cannot* sin- because He *is not able* to think or act contrary to His Own sinless Character and Nature. Also since God exercises His Righteousness by judging the sinful activity within Man- God *cannot* tempt any Man to sin. God can never in any way be complicit in the sins of Mankind. In other words- God would be unjust (and unrighteous) to judge sinful Man if God is the One Who put that sin in Man and/or forced Him to sin.

James 1:9-16

9 Let the brother of low degree rejoice in that he is exalted:

10 But the rich, in that he is made low: because as the flower of the grass he shall pass away.

11 For the sun is no sooner risen with a burning heat, but it withereth the grass, and the flower thereof falleth, and the grace of the fashion of it perisheth: so also shall the rich man fade away in his ways.

12 Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

13 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:

14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

16 Do not err, my beloved brethren.

Everybody sins because they *want* to, and all sin is engaged by humans *willfully*. Neither God nor satan forces *anyone* to sin. So it is true to say that all "Good" that is manifested in the Universe- exists only because God Sovereignly and Actively *caused* it. Thereby God alone is glorified for it. But all "Evil" that is manifested in the Universe- exists only because it came from the wicked and sinful and fallen nature of Man- and that in His Wisdom and Power- God Sovereignly and Passively *allowed* that evil to exist- to a degree and for a season- because by allowing that evil to be manifested- it served to further God's Plan to bring forth an infinitely greater "Good". And thereby God is also glorified in this.

A true Biblical understanding of God's Absolute Sovereignty will *never* allow *anyone* to conclude that God *forces* or *coerces* anyone to sin. **Anyone who believes or teaches that- doesn't understand Sovereignty- Biblically.** God's Absolute Sovereignty is *never* correctly understood or manifested in any way that alleviates the Responsibility that *all* humans have- to love, serve, and obey the one true living God.

Romans 8:28

And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.

Sins of Commission and Omission

Sin is primarily engaged in by Man in two different methods:

1. Commission Doing what God says *not* to do
2. Omission *Not* doing what God commands and requires

1. A Sin of Commission

A Sin of Commission always has two parts:

- A. A Prohibition To Not Do Something
- B. Disobedience To That Prohibition

A. The Prohibition

Genesis 2:15-17

15 And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it.

16 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.

B. The Disobedience

Genesis 3:1-6

1 Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?

2 And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden:

3 But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die.

4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die

5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

2. A Sin of Omission

A Sin of Omission also has two parts:

- A. A Command to do Something
- B. A Refusal to Obey

A. The Command

Jonah 1:1-2

1 Now the word of the LORD came unto Jonah the son of Amittai, saying,

2 Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it; for their wickedness is come up before me.

B. The Refusal to Obey

Jonah 1:3

But Jonah rose up to flee unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD, and went down to Joppa; and he found a ship going to Tarshish: so he paid the fare thereof, and went down into it, to go with them unto Tarshish from the presence of the LORD.

Many times when discussing sin- it is easier to understand it as a willful act on our part to rebel and do something that has been forbidden by God (Sin of Commission)- and that is true. But we are also held accountable to actively obey and do what God has commanded. Thus sin is *also* manifested in us through our rebellion and refusal to do what God has commanded.

James 4:17

Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.

We must know that as far as sinning goes- whether it is Commission or Omission- Man *always* and in *all cases* engages in sin *willfully*- without *any* Divine coercion or force. Therefore God is able to hold all of Mankind accountable for their sins.

2Corinthians 5:10

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

Sadly, we live in a day when Morality is defined by many in the modern Church by Social Acceptance; Governmental Decree; or Personal Preference- rather than what God has said in Scripture. The result of this madness is that what is and is not Sin is confused in the minds of many people. Acts and Thoughts that the Bible declares to be sinful are routinely carried out today without remorse or even conviction while Acts and Thoughts that God has commanded are abstained from with the same lack of conviction.

So if we are to have a Biblical understanding of Sin- we must acknowledge four facts:

- A. Sin is defined by God through Scripture
- B. Sin always dishonors and insults God
- C. Celebrate or engaging in sin *cannot* bring God any Glory
- D. Sin must be hated; confessed; and turned from

Worship

Unlike Sin- Worship is defined as that which brings Honor and Glory to God. Thus Sin cannot ever be Worship. But in our day- Worship has been cheapened and very *narrowly* defined as either an individual and mystical experience or what Church members do on Sunday Morning- especially during the Song Service. But Worship is much more involved than that.

The word, "Worship" comes from two words: *shchh* in the Hebrew and *proskuneoo* in the Greek and means: *to bow down to; to prostrate oneself; to venerate; to submit to the authority of another*. So Worship is best understood in relation to the way we live our daily lives and *not* in what we do in Church on Sunday. Therefore a good definition of spirit and Truth Worship would be:

Genuinely born again believers struggling against the lusts of their flesh- by the Power of the Holy Spirit- to humbly and joyfully submit (bow down) to the Authority of Scripture in their daily lives- all to the Glory of God.

Other similar Biblical Terms would be defined in a similar way:

<u>Term</u>	<u>Meaning</u>
Praying in the Spirit	Praying in accord with Scripture (God's Will)
Walking in the Spirit	Living moment by moment in humble and joyful submission to Scripture
Singing in the Spirit	Singing songs that are Biblically correct to God's Glory alone
Prophecy	Preaching the Word of God rightly and fully with unction and conviction- to God's Glory

Joy

While human emotions do and should play a *part* in our worship (i.e. Joy, Love, Rejoicing, etc.) we must understand that our human emotions are *responses* to the Spirit of God- but they themselves are *not* the same thing as the Spirit of God. Being passionate and sincere is *always* desired in true believers- because Jesus taught that the Fullness of Joy was the result of belonging to Jesus.

John 15:7-16

- 7 If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.**
- 8 Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.**
- 9 As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love.**
- 10 If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love; even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and abide in his love.**
- 11 These things have I spoken unto you, that my joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.**
- 12 This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.**
- 13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.**
- 14 Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.**
- 15 Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.**
- 16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.**

The Apostle John taught that the overriding purpose of all that the Apostles wrote and had written (in the 27 New Testament Books) was so that believers would know the fullness of Joy:

1John 1:4

And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full.

But as true as that is- we must not confuse human emotion, passion, and sincerity with Divine Truth or the Spirit of God- because they are *not* the same thing. If anything has become evident over the twenty centuries that Christianity has been displayed on the earth- it is that very earnest and sincere believers can and do err- sometimes grievously. Many times- we misunderstand or we misappropriate what God is actually doing and the result is that we go astray. That is why God gave us the 66 Books of Scripture- to keep us in right standing with Him- so that we will know how to love and serve and worship our great God.

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The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen. Be watchful and quicken your pace. Soli Deo Gloria. For the Glory of God alone.

Recap of Lesson 2

1. On what is God's Morality based? _____
2. In what way did Moses receive this Morality?
 - A. From a dream
 - B. From his own reasoning
 - C. Moses adopted it from Hammurabi's Code
 - D. God imposed it
3. Why is God's Law eternal? _____
4. Explain how God's Law is the truest manifestation of Love _____

5. Why is the Law of God a source of joy to the saved but an offense to the lost? ____

6. Explain why God is correct to judge those who disobey the Law _____

7. What is the Requirement for anyone to enter into Heaven? _____

8. Why is it true to say that no one is "good"? _____

9. Explain how the Law is used to bring a soul to Christ _____

10. What is the struggle to obey God called? _____
11. What is the failure to obey God called? _____
12. Why is sin wrong? _____

13. Explain how it could be possible for a human being to sin and not be convicted about it _____

14. Does God being Sovereign mean that God originates sin? _____

15. Why or why not _____

16. From where does Sin come? _____

17. Explain how temptation leads to sin _____

18. What is the Sin of Commission? _____

19. What is the Sin of Omission? _____

20. What is Worship? _____

21. What is the connection between how we live our daily lives and Worship? _____

22. What is the connection between Worship and Joy? _____

23. Explain why the thought that God imposes Morality on Mankind might be insulting to some people. _____
