

*perfection of His obedience*” that has completely delivered us from sin and death into Life and Immortality! The Law shows us our utter disobedience and inability to please God and thus drives us to Christ for refuge!

- D. **to restrain their corruptions, in that it forbids sin: and the threatenings of it serve to show what even their sins deserve; what afflictions, in this life, they may expect for them, although freed from the curse thereof threatened in the law.** – As we come to a knowledge of sin through the Law, and God’s displeasure of it, this produces restraint in us because of the powerful sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit in us who have been born again.

Psalm 119:104 - 104 From **Thy precepts I get understanding; Therefore I hate every false way.** NASB

Psalm 119:127-128 - 127 Therefore I love Thy commandments Above gold, yes, above fine gold. 128

**Therefore I esteem right all Thy precepts concerning everything, I hate every false way.** NASB

2 Corinthians 3:17-18 - 17 Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.

18 But **we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory,** just as from the Lord, the Spirit. NASB

When we learn of the “*threatenings*” of the Law what its transgressions “*deserve,*” and what “*afflictions is this life should be expected*” from such sins, we are further restrained by the overwhelming love and grace of God who has “*freed us from the curse thereof threatened in the law.*” This “*grace of God has appeared and instructs*” and trains us, even molds and shapes our hearts from gratitude and love toward God to deny sin and “*to live sensibly, righteously and godly.*”

Titus 2:11-14 - 11 For **the grace of God has appeared,** bringing salvation to all men, **12 instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age,**

13 looking for the blessed **hope** and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus;

14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and **purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.** NASB

- E. **show them God's approbation of obedience, and what blessings they may expect upon the performance thereof: although not as due to them by the law as a covenant of works. So as, a man's doing good, and refraining from evil, because the law encourages to the one and deters from the other, is no evidence of his being under the law: and not under grace.** – Moreover we learn from the Law that **God is pleased** with “*obedience,*” and seeks to bless us for it. This general principle of the Kingdom of God is amply displayed in the Law. This we know He does out of the riches of His grace and not “*due to them by the law as a covenant of works.*” God doesn’t bless us primarily because of obedience, but because He is gracious and filled with lovingkindness. However, even in the New Testament we are told that because of “*God’s approbation of obedience,*” we are therefore blessed.

Psalm 128:1-4 - **How blessed is everyone who fears the Lord, Who walks in His ways.** 2 When you shall eat of the fruit of your hands, You will be happy and it will be well with you. 3 Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine, Within your house, Your children like olive plants Around your table. 4 **Behold, for thus shall the man be blessed Who fears the Lord.** NASB

Luke 11:28 - 28 But He said, "On the contrary, **blessed are those who hear the word of God, and observe it.**" NASB

James 1:25 - 25 But **one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it,** not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, **this man shall be blessed in what he does.** NASB

This obedience and blessing in no way puts us under the yoke of the Law, for we are not under law but under grace. This is why they emphatically restate, “*So as, a man's doing good, and refraining from evil, because the law encourages to the one and deters from the other, is no evidence of his being under the law: and not under grace.*”