

Do You Know How to Behave?
Are You Sure? How to text, tip,
ghost, host, and generally exist in
polite society today.

Illustration: Andrew Rae



72. If you like them, text people within three hours of hanging out with them.

If you didn't receive a text from me within three hours after our hanging out, it would signal that I did not have a good time and I am simply not interested. I understand that not all of my cohort follows this rule, but they should. It is rude not to confirm that a good time was had. **I don't care if we've known each other for 15 years; I'd like verification of a successful hang.** Most of my friends don't do this, so I tend to be the one to follow up. That said, a response to a confirmation of a solid hang is absolutely necessary. If I text "That was so nice," I'd like to hear "I love you so much" in return within the hour.

If a first meeting was nice — not even great! — the person who did not ask for

Romans

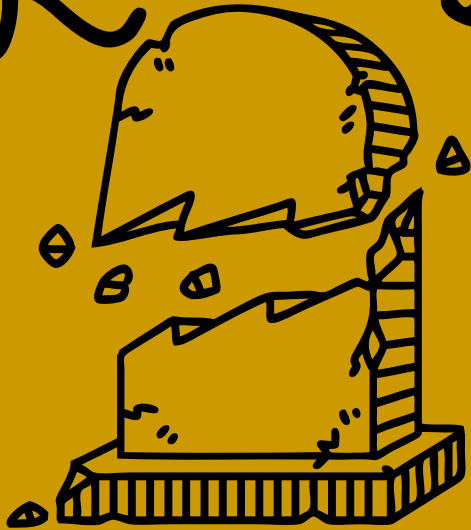
SERMON SERIES



Romans 1:32

³² Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

Romans



THE GOOD NEWS

CHAPTERS 1-3

Four Weeks in Romans 1:18-32

1. Revealed Wrath of God
2. The Great Exchange
3. Natural for Unnatural
4. God's little "I" law

Romans 1:32

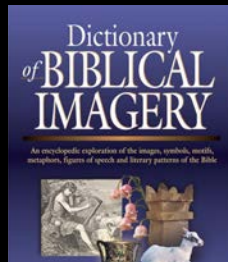
³² Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

Romans 1:32 (NASB)

³² and although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them.

The first thing to note is the range of specific words by which the law is called: testimonies, precepts, statutes, commandments, ordinances, ways, word.

What all these terms have in common is their assumption that God gives the law in such a form that people can order their lives by it.



Romans 10:5

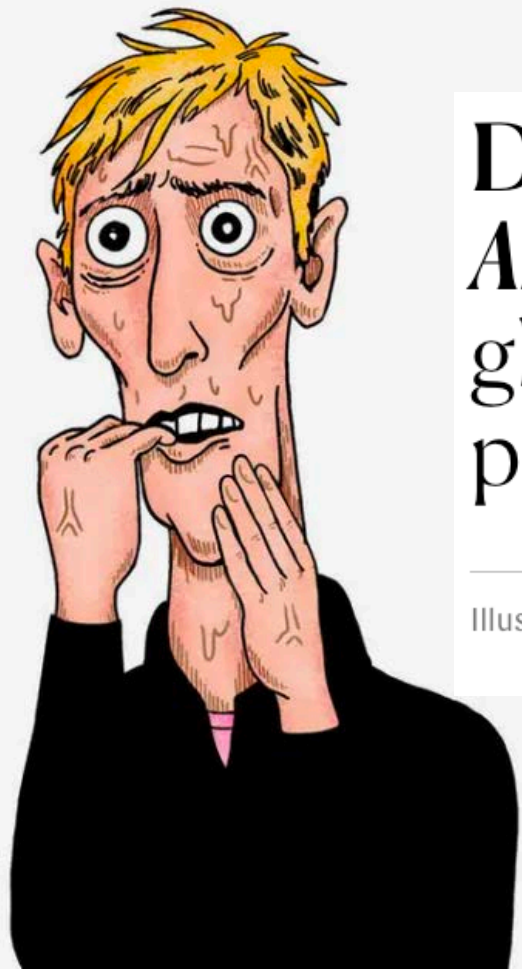
⁵ Moses writes this about the righteousness that is by the law: “The person who does these things will live by them.”

Romans 1:32

³² Though they know God's righteous decree that those who practice such things deserve to die, they not only do them but give approval to those who practice them.

Genesis 2:16-17

¹⁶ And the Lord God commanded the man, “You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; ¹⁷ but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die.”



Do You Know How to Behave?
Are You Sure? How to text, tip,
ghost, host, and generally exist in
polite society today.

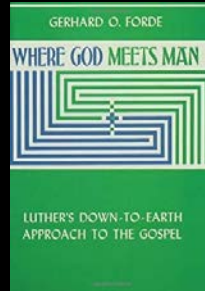
Illustration: Andrew Rae

Genesis 2:8-9

⁸ Now the Lord God had planted a garden in the east, in Eden; and there he put the man he had formed. ⁹ The Lord God made all kinds of trees grow out of the ground—trees that were pleasing to the eye and good for food. In the middle of the garden were the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

The temptation is to become like God. Our temptation is to reach for something that does not belong to us... to refuse our creaturehood, to refuse our humanity, to refuse to take care of the earth and to become a God. That, as St. Augustine rightly saw, is the essence of sin: pride. Sin is located not primarily in the body, but rather precisely in our spiritual pretensions and ambitions. It is our god-like aspirations that destroy our life and seduce us to make life miserable for our fellow human beings.”

Geerhard Forde, *Where God Meets Man*,



Leviticus 18:4-5

⁴ You must obey my laws and be careful to follow my decrees. I am the Lord your God. ⁵ Keep my decrees and laws, for the person who obeys them will live by them. I am the Lord.

“Do this and live” in...



Relationships

Genesis 4:7-11

⁷ If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it.”⁸ Now Cain said to his brother Abel, “Let’s go out to the field.” While they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him. ⁹ Then the Lord said to Cain, “Where is your brother Abel?” “I don’t know,” he replied. “Am I my brother’s keeper?”

Genesis 4:7-11

⁷ If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it.”⁸ Now Cain said to his brother Abel, “Let’s go out to the field.” While they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him. ⁹ Then the Lord said to Cain, “Where is your brother Abel?” “I don’t know,” he replied. “Am I my brother’s keeper?”

Genesis 4:7-11

¹⁰ The Lord said, “What have you done? Listen! Your brother’s blood cries out to me from the ground. ¹¹ Now you are under a curse and driven from the ground, which opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand.

“Do this and live” in...



Relationships



Communities



Genesis 15:13-16

¹³ Then the Lord said to him, “Know for certain that for four hundred years your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own and that they will be enslaved and mistreated there. ¹⁴ But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves, and afterward they will come out with great possessions. ¹⁵ You, however, will go to your ancestors in peace and be buried at a good old age. ¹⁶ In the fourth generation your descendants will come back here, for the sin of the Amorites has not yet reached its full measure.”

“Do this and live” in...



Relationships



Communities



Individuals

The Writing on
The Wall

Daniel 5:5-6

⁵ Suddenly the fingers of a human hand appeared and wrote on the plaster of the wall, near the lampstand in the royal palace. The king watched the hand as it wrote. ⁶ His face turned pale and he was so frightened that his legs became weak and his knees were knocking.


Daniel 5:23-27

You praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood and stone, which cannot see or hear or understand. But you did not honor the God who holds in his hand your life and all your ways.²⁴ Therefore he sent the hand that wrote the inscription.

²⁷ “You have been weighed on the scales and found wanting.”

Lex Sempur Accusat

“The law always accuses”



The law is a voice which sounds in the heart and the conscience, a real voice which afflicts man in his isolation from God. A voice that can and does arise from anywhere and everywhere. Any accusation can function as law, whether it be society, family, or friends.”



John 8:5-11

⁵ Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" ⁶ They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing him. But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. ⁷ When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her."

John 8:5-11

⁸ Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground. ⁹ At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. ¹⁰ Jesus straightened up and asked her, “Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?” ¹¹ “No one, sir,” she said. “Then neither do I condemn you,” Jesus declared. “Go now and leave your life of sin.”

“He was born under the law, to redeem them that are under the law.” And how does he bring about this redemption? Only by dying and being raised again. He does not come to bring some new law. He does not come saying, “come on now people, be nice!” He does not come fit into any of our known schemes of meaning, our “laws.” That is why, in the end, he must die. At any rate, he comes only to die.

“The Old Adam must be daily drowned in repentance and the new man arise to live before God. Faith in the gospel has to be renewed each day. Yesterday’s faith tends to slip into mere theory. The voice of the law sounds again. Each day we must hear anew that Christ is the end of the law and the gift of new life.”

Where God Meets Man, Geerhard Forde





7.2

When race day finally came around, in the most anti-climactic fashion possible, I suffered an injury and had to drop out of the race after only seven miles. As I hobbled to the spot where my wife and daughter were supposed to be cheering me on to my glorious victory, my failure was on full display and my anger was in complete control. “God, why would you shame me like this in front of my family?” Deeper and deeper I spiraled as I limped for what seemed like a marathon in itself. But as I turned the corner, I saw my daughter waiting for her dad...”



RUN

DADDY

RUN!

As I stepped off the road and limped towards her, she threw her sign on the ground. Then she trotted towards me and gave me a hug...

I didn't realize I was hearing from Jesus that day, and I especially didn't think he was answering my angry questions, but he was – he was there in that moment when my daughter threw down her sign and hugged me."

Josh Brook,
Marathons and Shattered Tablets: What not finishing is teaching me about grace
<<https://redtreegrace.com/organizational-purpose/featured/marathons-and-shattered-tablets/>>



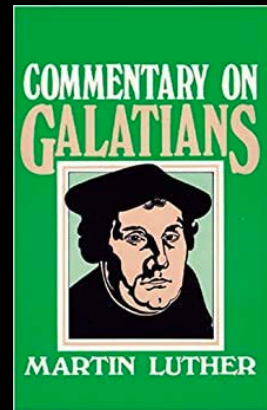


Grace and peace to you
from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ”

- The Apostle Paul,
Galatians 1:3

The Apostle does not wish the Galatians grace and peace from the emperor, or from kings, or from governors, but from God the Father. He wishes them heavenly peace, the kind of which Jesus spoke when He said, "Peace I leave unto you: my peace I give unto you." Worldly peace provides quiet enjoyment of life and possessions. But in affliction, particularly in the hour of death, the grace and peace of the world will not deliver us.

“However, the grace and peace of God will. They make a person strong and courageous to bear and to overcome all difficulties, even death itself, because we have the victory of Christ's death and the assurance of the forgiveness of our sins.”



Gospel Application

Where is God replacing the law's many
accusations with his better,
personal word of good news for *you*?