

Royal Law

11-16-25

James 2:8 (NIV)

If you really keep the Royal Law found in Scripture, “Love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing right.

As we learned last week the Royal Law is the Perfect Law, the Law of Freedom. Also, Romans 8:2 refers to these as the Law of the Spirit. The evidence of all these is, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” This gives clear direction how the church, believers, are to behave towards one another. James reveals a startling truth.

James 2:9–10 (ESV)

⁹ But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it.

The OT Law condemns us and reveals that we fall short of God’s glory. Also, if we fail at one single point of the Law like showing partiality to others, before God we are of breaking all the Law. Perfection or condemnation. But praise God, Jesus has cleansed us from all sin and declared us righteous.

2 Corinthians 5:21 (ESV)

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Jesus made us righteous and pure before HIM. Now, we are called to serve in a new way of the Spirit, following the Royal Law of love, the Perfect Law, the Law of Freedom.

Romans 7:6b (ESV)

We serve in the “new way” of the Spirit and not in the “old way” of the written code.

This new way, Royal Law, Law of Freedom, Law of the Spirit of Life is restated in Galatians.

Galatians 5:13–14 (ESV) NO/OH

¹³ For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. ¹⁴ For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

Depth of relationship determines behavior. The fruit of the Spirit, keeping the Royal Law, is evidenced by loving others from our inner being.

Galatians 5:22–23 (ESV)

²² The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things THERE IS NO OTHER LAW.

Brothers and sister please note, “THERE IS NO OTHER LAW.” Therefore, James says:

James 2:12 (NIV)

Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by THE LAW THAT GIVES FREEDOM.

We are to act and speak according to the Royal Law, the Perfect Law, the Law of Freedom. This is the new way revealed by Jesus. As believers, we are going to stand before the Judgement seat of Christ, 2Cor.5:10, and be judged by the Royal Law of Love, the Law of Freedom. Jesus will judge us based on our behavior. Have we walked in love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control?” Brothers and sisters, ponder this, because THERE IS NO OTHER LAW. James adds one more statement concerning our behavior and judgement.

James 2:13 (NIV)

Judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

This statement is directed to believers that are standing before the judgement seat of Christ. All believers will be judged, but those who have shown mercy will receive more mercy.

Matthew 5:7 (ESV)

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

This is a Wallaceism, but I believe it is correct. When we come before the judgement seat of Christ, Jesus will be so pleased about the mercy we have shown others, HE will offset our failures proportionately to the mercy we have shown.

Mercy triumphs over judgment.

1 Peter 4:8 (ESV)

Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.