

Intro: Have you ever purchased something online and then found later that the instructions were all in russian and you had 40 more screws than you thought you would need? Things can be difficult, and often very confusing when you have no guidance - but even with guidance some things can be close to impossible. The law gives us a nice list of do's and dont's but it does not take us long to find out that we can't live up to it.

I. What are the moving parts in scripture that we must assemble?

- A. Exo 20:1-17
- B. Ecc 12:13
- C. Deut 13:18

Transition: You and I both know you don't live up to these things. Neither do I. But that is why even old testament scripture tells us to instead focus on three things: (Micah 6:8). It's all about your heart. (Psalm 51:16-17) David knew what God wanted - your humility and your heart. (Deut 6:5) That is as a preface to the 10 Commandments themselves!

II. How do we give everything? What does that even mean?

- A. We are three part beings (Gen 1:27). We have a body, soul and spirit. If your spirit serves God, but your body serves the world, the flesh, or the devil, then you are a house divided against yourself (Mark 3:25). You will fall. But if all three parts of your being are working together, you become a three-fold cord that is not easily broken. (Ecc 4:12)
- B. (Mark 12:30) tells us that we are supposed to give our all, but the very next verse goes on to put this into perspective. It brings it back to love, but it also brings it back to the law. (Matt 22:40) adds that all the law and the prophets hang on those two 'most important' commandments. In other words, it all boils down to love.

III. If you love me... (John 14:15)

- A. Show your Gratefulness for what God has done. (Eph 2:8, Rom 4:16) Grace works through faith. Think about the enormity of what God did for you personally, and showing your thankfulness and gratefulness comes much easier. Why? (Luke 7:36-50) -- [Emphasis on verses 41-43, 47]
- B. Body
 - 1. Give all your strength. Do everything you do as to the glory of God. Don't try to earn heaven, try to show your gratefulness for His gift of heaven by your actions (1 Cor 10:31). After all, even a child is known by what he does (Prov 20:11). So show your faith by works (Jas 2:18) - actions are an opportunity to do something for God! (Matt 25:40) How cool is that!
- C. Soul
 - 1. The soul is the mind, the will, and the emotions (or heart). We just read in (Mark 12:30) that you need to dedicate all of your mind, soul (will) and heart (emotions) to God. We do this by emulating God.
 - 2. We put on the mind of Christ (1 Cor 2:16) and take captive other thoughts (2 Cor 10:5).
 - 3. (Rom 13:1-8) We subject ourselves to God's will directly through obedience to His commands, and indirectly by honoring His servants appointed over us (Parents, government officials, boss, etc.). By showing love to them, whether they deserve it or not, we both fulfill the law and we become more like God who showed love to us while we were yet sinners (Rom 5:8).
 - 4. Finally, we give our emotions - our heart - to God.
- D. Spirit
 - 1. Spiritually we were dead in our trespasses but now we are brought to life by His Spirit replacing our dead spirits. (Eph 2) [Emphasis on verses 1-3, 18, 22]

Challenge: Take a moment to reflect on whether or not you are truly grateful. Every breath is a miracle. Every image you see, sound you hear, beat of your heart; these are all given to you - you don't deserve them. It sounds odd, but (remind of Sunday School, God fed manna for 40 years) we look at rainbows every time it rains and think 'its light refraction'. Yes, but it is also a miracle. You think that the God that made the rules of this universe can't use them to do stuff? Or alter them at will? Rain is a miracle! That wasn't included to begin with! Remind yourself of how awesome He is. Thank God.

IV. Grace vs the Law

- A. Read Romans 5 [Emphasis on verses 15-21]
- B. The law allows you to cut the distance between yourself and God by a small percentage of your current distance. Anyone in here have this math problem in school? Xeno's paradox of motion, also known as the dichotomy paradox. No matter how much you catch up, you will never actually catch up. Think of it this way, you lose your first game in an endless series. How many more games will you have to win to win all of the games? Exactly. You can win 99 out of 100 but you still didn't win them all.
- C. Grace changes the rules of the game. Grace says: Jesus won all his games, you want to join his team? Then your team will have won all the games.
- D. Now I wouldn't be a good teacher if I didn't send you off with a firm warning - this is NOT A LICENSE TO SIN (Rom 6:1,2).

Final thoughts: Read Hebrews 9 [Emphasis on verses 11 -> , 14]

Close: The difference between grace and the law isn't that one works and the other does not, it is that grace comes as a complete package, the law requires that you assemble perfection yourself. You and I are not capable of assembling perfection. Fortunately for us, we have something that is factory ready, plug and play, prepared for us. Grace is simple. So simple that many people struggle with the concept. Don't overthink it. Just accept the fact that God wants you.

Final Song: [Is Your All On The Altar?](#)

Scriptures:

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Transition: (Micah 6:8) (Psalm 51:16-17) (Deut 6:5)

II. How do we give everything? What does that even mean?

- A. (Gen 1:27)(Mark 3:25) (Ecc 4:12)
- B. (Mark 12:30)(Matt 22:40)

III. If you love me... (John 14:15)

- A. (Eph 2:8, Rom 4:16)(Luke 7:36-50) -- [Emphasis on verses 41-43, 47]
- B. Body
 - 1. (1 Cor 10:31)(Prov 20:11)(Jas 2:18)(Matt 25:40)
- C. Soul
 - 1. (Mark 12:30)
 - 2. (1 Cor 2:16)(2 Cor 10:5).
 - 3. (Rom 13:1-8)(Rom 5:8).
- D. Spirit
 - 1. (Eph 2) [Emphasis on verses 1-3, 18, 22]

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- B. (Rom 6:1,2).

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