

## June Questions / Answers

*\*The following questions are taken from emails and are printed below exactly as I received them. Names and contact information have been removed. The answers are in note form (sorry for any of my grammar errors) to be studied through. You'll have to examine each Scripture below to see the points. Please be mindful that there are often circumstances and details to every question that could potentially change the answer (there are generally no blanket answers to Bible questions).*

1. "I broke most of God's 10 commandments (I know everyone does as no one is sinless except Jesus). Is there anything I can do to fix it?"

- The Law of Moses and such was NOT intended for those who were not of the nation of Israel (**Romans 2:12-15** and **Ephesians 2:11-17**).
- Well, there is a lot to say about your question. First off, there was a beginning list of "ten commandments" under the Law of Moses (**Exodus 20:1-21**; cf. **Exodus 34:27-28**). However, that was just the beginning. There are hundreds of commandments later given during the time of Moses and the prophets of old beginning in that same context and going forward (**Exodus 20:24-22:31**, **Exodus 25:1-30:38**, **Leviticus 4:1-7:38**, **Leviticus 11:1-20:21**, **Numbers 15:32-36**, etc.). All of those commandments were for the children of Israel (**Deuteronomy 4:44**; **31:11**, **Leviticus 27:34**, **Numbers 36:13**, etc.).
  - The book of Deuteronomy, which lists many more than "10 commandments" says, *"If thou wilt not observe to do all the words of this law that are written in this book, that thou mayest fear this glorious and fearful name, THE LORD THY GOD; Then the LORD will make thy plagues wonderful, and the plagues of thy seed, even great plagues, and of long continuance, and sore sicknesses, and of long continuance"* (**Deuteronomy 28:58-59**). This would include things written by the prophets long after Moses' death (**II Kings 17:13** and **Acts 24:14**).
  - After that, God's law began changing. The law and prophets were in place until John came preparing the way for Christ (**Matthew 11:13** and **Luke 16:16**) at which time things began to change and continued changing during the days of Christ (i.e. **Matthew 5:17-48**).
  - After the death of Christ, the Law of Moses was done away with (**Romans 7:1-6**, **Colossians 2:6-15**, and **Hebrews 9:15-17**) because it saved no one (**Acts 13:38-39**, **Galatians 2:16**, and **Hebrews 10:1-18**).
- Having said all of that, some of the original "ten commandments" are still in effect today, so there is some concern about your statements (**Romans 13:8-10**, **I Corinthians 10:14**, etc.). Before we get to what you can do about your sins, let's address something else.
- You stated: "I know everyone does as no one is sinless except Jesus." This is a statement that is false, and is a cop-out. Faithful disciples of Christ are expected to STOP sinning (**Romans 6:1-23**, **II Corinthians 7:1**, **II Timothy 2:19**, **I Peter 1:13-16**, **I Peter 4:1-5**, and **I John 3:1-10**).
- Now to your question... If you are breaking the law of Christ, it depends on where you are spiritually as to what you can do. If you have never been properly converted to Christ you need to start there. This is a discussion we should have personally rather than in an email for the answer will potentially vary. The fact that you think we are under the 10 commandments makes me 99.9999% sure you were never taught the Gospel properly. That matters (**John 8:31-32** and **Romans 6:17**). Read the following Scriptures and see where you are: **Luke 8:4-15**, **Acts 2:22-36**, **Acts 3:19**, **Luke**

**14:25-33, I Thessalonians 2:13, Romans 10:9-17, Acts 2:37-41, Acts 8:12-39, Acts 18:8, and Acts 2:42-47).** Are all of those Scriptures clearly understood by you? Have you surely obeyed them all? This was NOT a complete list of what to do to be saved. This was just a list of Scriptures that, if you read and don't understand already, indicate you need to be taught and converted.

- If you are SURE that you have fully and altogether done what God says it takes to become a Christian, which I HIGHLY doubt (if you have you are at best a wet behind the ears babe in Christ who had a horrible teacher) then you need restored. Making things right is about confessing your sins, repenting of them, and bringing forth fruit meet for repentance (**Proverbs 28:13, I John 1:9, Luke 13:1-5, James 5:19-20, and Acts 26:18-20**). You'd need help from faithful saints (**Galatians 6:1-2**).

2. "WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO DEFEAT THE FALSE TEACHINGS OF antinomianism?"

- I had to look up the word "antinomianism". I had not heard that term before. I don't know if this is what you mean, but the word is defined as: "one who holds that under the gospel dispensation of grace (see 1grace 1a) the moral law is of no use or obligation because faith alone is necessary to salvation 2 one who rejects a socially established morality" (<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/antinomian>).
- How to defeat such false doctrine would be subjective. It would depend on who is teaching it and why they are (i.e. **Jeremiah 8:11, Romans 16:17-18, and II Peter 2:1-3; 17-22**).
- The Scriptures teach that you are not saved by faith alone (**James 2:14-26**).
- The Scriptures also teach that to be faithful to God you must keep the Law of Christ (**Matthew 28:18-20, John 14:15-24, Galatians 6:2, I Thessalonians 4:1-2, Hebrews 5:8-9, James 1:21-27, James 2:10-12, I John 2:3-6, and II John 1:9**) as grace is not a cover-all for sin (**Romans 6:1-2**).
- Grace teaches disciples of the Lord to be moral; obedient (**Titus 2:11-14**).
- This doctrine, and others like it, reject that we are under a law. That is foolish. Without a law there would be no sin and thus no need for grace (**I John 3:4**).

3. "Is Birthday Celebrations sinful? Also. Is Pro 10:23 a teaching that Sporting events are sinful?"

- Provided a brother is not made weak or caused to stumble, and that you are convinced that you are authorized to do so, you are permitted to keep and hold one day greater than another (**Romans 14:1-13; 23**).
- **Proverbs 10:23** says: *"It is as sport to a fool to do mischief: but a man of understanding hath wisdom."*
  - The word translated "sport" in that Scripture means: "laughter (in merriment or defiance): — derision, laughter(-ed to scorn, -ing), mocked, sport" (Strong's # 7814).
  - That particular statement is teaching that a fool finds it funny, in a mocking manner, to do mischievous things (**Proverbs 1:22, Proverbs 14:9, and Proverbs 15:21**).

4. "I got an email about a preacher training program. I was interested in what you think about training preachers to Find and Develop Sermons, Outlining, Funerals, Weddings, Staying Organized and Writing. Is this all there is to being a preacher?"

- What I think is really irrelevant (**Psalms 146:3, Isaiah 2:22, Jeremiah 10:23; 17:5, I Corinthians 1:12-4:6, and II Corinthians 10:12**). MUCH more could be stated than what I am about to say as to why this is all ignorant.
- What I know is, there is nothing in the Scriptures that describes the work of a "preacher" as finding and developing sermons, outlines, funerals, weddings, staying organized, or writing. To describe the work of a preacher as such is to add to the word of God. One proclaiming to know how to train preachers should know how God views that (**Proverbs 30:5-6, Galatians 1:6-12, and Revelation 22:18-19**).
- There is ZERO authority for a "preacher training program". Evangelists are to be trained, but not under any "program" (**II Timothy 2:2**). This is the institutional mindset (termed such for the sake of distinction) that the Scriptures do not speak of (see: <http://www.wordsoftruth.net/studyofinstitutionalism.htm>).
- The STARTING point for all whom are going to preach the Gospel is a study of the letters to evangelists (I Timothy, II Timothy, and Titus). These are letters written by the Apostle Paul, whom had authority to write the law of Christ (**Acts 2:42, I Corinthians 14:37, II Peter 3:1-2, and Jude 1:17**), to evangelists/preachers. Then a man must understand how much he is putting his own soul in jeopardy to teach the Gospel (**James 3:1**).
- A real preacher of the Gospel should not be:
  - "Finding and developing sermons", but teaching and preaching to the needs of those hearing him (**Luke 10:38-42 and Jude 1:3-4**) from the word of God (**II Timothy 4:2**). This would include many things, such as understanding what and when to teach certain things (i.e. **Mark 4:33, John 16:12, I Corinthians 3:1-3, Hebrews 5:8-6:3**). He has to "set things in order" locally (**Titus 1:5-9**).
  - "Outlining"... Such is subjective. A man who is preaching must be able to "preach off the cuff" just as much, if not more, than he is able to prepare a written document to help him speak publicly (again; **II Timothy 4:2**). I would imagine those planning this program think that a "pulpit sermon" is the primary work a preacher does. Shameful (**I Timothy 4:13-16**). Real teachers understand the work done is MOSTLY outside of the assembling of the saints and requires one to be able to do things such as pick up from someone reading something and teach it (**Acts 8:26-39**).
  - Social events, such as funerals and weddings, are not anywhere with the scope of a man trying to teach to save souls. Consider Jesus: **Luke 9:59-60**
  - Communication skills, etc. Consider, **I Corinthians 2:1-5 and II Corinthians 10:9-18**, though it does not directly apply today, as consideration as to how much such matters to our Lord.
  - I also wonder what one could teach a preacher about "staying organized". Maybe they would rebuke Paul for not keeping track of his supplies (**II Timothy 4:9-13**). I am not sure what that is supposed to mean. It sounds like this program is ripped from the pages of some denominational seminary.

5. "When can a christian break the laws of men and not be in violation of breaking the law of God?"

- As to be cautious not to be unclear, I am going to keep this answer simple. There is more to consider than just what I will answer, but this answer will hopefully keep one from erring. A Christians is expected to obey civil law and civil authorities (**Romans 13:1-7** and **I Peter 2:13-16**).
- The exception is if those civil laws violate the Lord's will (**Acts 5:17-29**).
- It has become an American tradition for "religious groups" to be at the forefront of rebellion against unjust laws. One should be careful with the mindset of civil disobedience for various reasons (**Proverbs 17:11**, **Matthew 22:15-21**, and **Romans 12:17-18**).

6. "I was reading inspirational verses and came across one that makes me confused. What do it mean that the word became flesh to save man?"

- The Scripture you are likely referring to is **John 1:14**. If you read the context, it is about Jesus who came into this world for the salvation of the lost (**John 1:1-17; 29-36** and **Hebrews 10:1-22**).
- Jesus was/is referred to as the Word (**I John 1:1; I John 5:7**, and **Revelation 19:11-16**).
- Jesus came in the flesh (**Romans 9:1-5**) to die, be buried, rise from the dead, and ascend into Heaven to be our mediator, advocate, intercessor, etc. (**Acts 13:26-38**, **Hebrews 1:1-2:18**, and **I John 2:1-2**).
- What do you mean by "inspirational verses"? Are you looking to certain verses to make you feel better? Why? What's going on? If you are faithful to God, you would have the peace that comes with that relationship (**Psalms 119:165** and **Philippians 4:6-8**). Is that missing in your life?