

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a wooden quill pen, poised to write on an open book. The book's pages are filled with dense, handwritten text in Hebrew script. The lighting is warm and focused on the pen and the immediate text, creating a sense of historical or scholarly work. The background is softly blurred, showing more of the book and the hand holding it.

LIVING ABOVE THE LAW

**3 "You are already clean
because of the word which I
have spoken to you.**

John 15:3

**1 Therefore there is now no
condemnation for those who are in
Christ Jesus.**

Romans 8:1–4

2 For *the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.*

3 For what the Law could not do,
weak as it was through the flesh,
God *did*: sending His own Son in the
likeness of sinful flesh and *as an*
offering for sin, He condemned sin in
the flesh,

4 so that ***the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.***

4 For *Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.*

Romans 10:4

The Law of the Spirit
means we live free of the
Law, because Grace makes
us able to live at a higher
level than the Law
requires of us.

Legalism lowers the
standard of holiness by
reducing it to what is
humanly possible.

16 But I say, *walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.*

Galatians 5:16–18

17 For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please.

18 But *if you are led by the Spirit,*
you are not under the Law.



So, what is the
Purpose of the Law
(Old Testament) for a
New Covenant
Believer?

1. It clears away
deception about with
is right and wrong

7 What shall we say then? Is the Law sin? May it never be! On the contrary, *I would not have come to know sin except through the Law*

Romans 7:7–12

for *I would not have known about coveting* if the Law had not said, "YOU SHALL NOT COVET."

8 But sin, taking opportunity through the commandment, produced in me coveting of every kind; for *apart from the Law sin is dead.*

9 I was once alive apart from
the Law; but *when the
commandment came, sin
became alive and I died;*

**10 and *this commandment,*
which was to result in life,
*proved to result in death for me;***

11 for *sin*, taking an opportunity through the commandment, *deceived me* and through it killed me.

**12 So then, the Law is holy, and
the commandment is holy and
righteous and good.**

The Law of God serves
as an x-ray to our heart,
revealing what is in us that
brings about death, but is
powerless to do anything
about it.

2. It gives instruction
to train us toward
righteousness

1 Now I say, as long as the heir is a child, he does not differ at all from a slave although he is owner of everything,

Galatians 4:1–3

2 but he is under guardians and managers until the date set by the father.

3 So also we, while we were children, were held in bondage under the elemental things of the world.

3. It provides warnings from the stories of those who fell, and examples of those who prospered in God.

1 For I do not want you to be unaware, brethren, that *our fathers* were all under the cloud and all passed through the sea;

1 Corinthians 10:1–6

2 and all were *baptized into*
Moses in the cloud and in the
sea;

**3 and all ate the same spiritual
food;**

4 and all drank the same
spiritual drink, for they were
drinking from a spiritual rock
which followed them; and *the
rock was Christ.*

5 Nevertheless, with most of them God was not well-pleased; for they were laid low in the wilderness.

6 Now *these things happened*
as examples for us, so that we
would not crave evil things as
they also craved.

The stories of the Old Covenant are not about a distant, foreign family or culture. They are about our spiritual ancestors.

4. It provides principles to point us toward Christ and the Way of the Kingdom.

7 Who at any time serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard and does not eat the fruit of it? Or who tends a flock and does not use the milk of the flock?

1 Corinthians 9:7–11

8 I am not speaking these things according to human judgment, am I? Or does not the Law also say these things?

9 For it is written in the Law of Moses, "YOU SHALL NOT MUZZLE THE OX WHILE HE IS THRESHING." God is not concerned about oxen, is He?

10 Or is He speaking altogether for our sake? Yes, for our sake it was written, because the plowman ought to plow in hope, and the thresher *to thresh* in hope of sharing *the crops*.

11 If we sowed spiritual things in you, is it too much if we reap material things from you?

Every last stroke of the pen in the Old Testament points to Christ — His ministry, His ways, His truth and His Life.

That alone makes it ALL
worthy of our diligent
study.