

GRACE & TRUTH

DISCOVERING THE LAW

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INTRODUCTION

During last week's lesson we learned about *Realism* and asked God to help us with the honesty and transparency in our spiritual lives that might transcend our spiritual commitment to God. Jesus posed a question: "How can you say you love me whom you have not seen and hate your brother whom you see everyday?" In the lesson on *Family Ties*, we talked about Aunt Mildred and Elsie, which were metaphors—examples of family differences, jealousy, and in many cases the root cause for our adult rejection, inferiority complexes, criticisms, strife and many other generational curses that exist in our lives. It is not until we confront the past and leave it, face the present and deal with it, then reach to embrace the future, that our healing begins. The scripture teaches: *As it is in the natural, so goeth it in the spirit.*

As we leave 2001 and enter 2002, the three positions of life face us once again, past, present, and future: the frightening past, the difficult present and the uncertain future. The old gospel hymn expresses it best, "I need thee, oh I need thee... every hour I need thee... bless me now my savior ...I come to thee!" Coming to God is an act of faith and trust. In Him we live; we move; we breathe; we have our existence, and by his grace we are saved. Not of ourselves, but it is a gift that comes from God.

THE LESSON

Definitions

Law	a binding custom or practice of a community : a rule of conduct or action prescribed or formally recognized as binding or enforced by a controlling authority. ² The revelation of the will of God set forth in the Old Testament
Commandment	the act or power of commanding. ² something commanded; especially : one of the biblical ten commandment.
Grace	unmerited divine assistance given humans for their regeneration or sanctification.
Truth	fidelity, constancy b. sincerity in action, character and utterance. ² The body of real things, events, and facts: actuality. ³ A transcendent fundamental or spiritual reality.

For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

John 1:17

In tonight's lesson we will deal with, for a moment, the law versus grace and truth. In Exodus 20, none of these commandments are done away with; for Jesus says that He came not to destroy the law, but to fulfill it. Here are a list of the Ten Commandments:

I. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

