

*your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;" (Matthew 5:43-44)*

Jesus Christ makes it very clear that the requirements of His righteousness are far above those of the Law! The good news is this, Jesus has given us the Holy Spirit to help us live out these requirements of grace. And the Blood of Jesus has been shed to provide reconciliation every time that we fail to be led by God's Spirit, every time we sin.

God's expectations with regards to the moral Laws is that we OBEY THEM! But this obedience is not legalistic compliance, it is a Holy Spirit-led life.

~~~~~

### How does this apply to giving tithes?

**The Law:** Thou shalt give tithes for the purposes of God.

**Grace:** 100% belongs to God! Therefore, we need to be faithful in the little things (tithing), and God will give us additional stewardship.

*"But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. (7) Every man according as he*

*purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. (8) And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:" (2 Corinthians 9:6-8)*

*"As a result of your ministry, they will give glory to God. For your generosity to them and to all believers will prove that you are obedient to the Good News of Christ."*

(2 Corinthians 9:13 NLT)

Paul associates abundant and generous giving with obedience to the Gospel of Christ. If we are in bondage and unable to tithe, how can we be free to abundantly and generously give?

~~~~~

### Giving Conclusion

Simply stated, giving while under grace, will be far more generous than what was mandated by the Law.

Holy Spirit led giving is always...

### EXTRAVAGANT GENEROSITY!

*Transformed Living Messages by Robert Dallmann*  
ChristLife  
PO Box 1033, Niagara Falls, NY 14304  
Ph: (716) 622-7320  
E-mail: [Christlife@Christ-like.net](mailto:Christlife@Christ-like.net)  
Visit us at [www.Christ-like.net](http://www.Christ-like.net)



By: Robert Dallmann

~~~~~

*"For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 5:20)*

~~~~~

### Grace is Superior to the Law

The notion of grace allowing us to do less than the Law requires is foreign to the Bible. God's grace includes His Holy Spirit living within us. God's grace far exceeds the Law!

Righteousness is a great place to start. In Matthew 5:20, quoted above, we see that our righteousness must exceed that which comes via the Law. This statement alone demonstrates that the requirements of

## GRACE EXCEEDS THE LAW - GIVING

---

grace are far superior to those of the Law!

~~~~~

### How is this evidenced in the Bible?

Paul said that regarding the righteousness of the Law, he was “blameless” (see Philippians 3:6),

This righteousness is “filthy rags” and “dung” (see Isaiah 64:6 and Philippians 3:8),

The righteousness of grace is the righteousness of Jesus Christ Himself imputed to us! Of course, this righteousness FAR exceeds that which comes from the Law!

*“Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:”* (2 Peter 1:1)

*“Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:”* (Romans 3:22)

At this point, some might say, “See, this is why the Law was done away with, it could not save us!” But this is to miss the point, which is simply this: Grace SURPASSES the Law!

~~~~~

### Aside from our righteousness, how does this apply to everyday life?

The Matthew 5 verses that follow verse 20 provide further clarification and demonstrations of how the righteousness of grace exceeds the Law. Here are a few examples:

**The Law:** Thou shalt not kill.

**Grace:** Thou shalt not be unjustly angry with a brother.

*“Ye have heard that it was said of them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: (22) But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.”*

(Matthew 5:21-22)

This passage clearly shows that the necessities of grace go beyond the mandates of the Law.

In the Law, murder places one in danger of the judgment. Grace sets one who is angry with a brother without cause in danger of the judgment.

**The Law:** Thou shalt not commit adultery.

**Grace:** Thou shalt not lust.

*“Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: (28) But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.”* (Matthew 5:27-28)

Again, these Scriptures make it clear that grace surpasses the Law. The Law defines and forbids the physical actions, whereas grace, exposes, and condemns the heart of the person.

**The Law:** Thou shalt love thy neighbor and hate your enemy.

**Grace:** Thou shalt love your enemies, bless those that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for those who persecute you.

*“Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. (44) But I say unto you, Love*