



## 2026 2Q Growing in a Relationship with God Lesson 9: Sin, the Gospel, and the Law

by Tim Jennings (announcements last page)

### SABBATH

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What are your thoughts about the lesson?

Did you notice that in the title of the lesson they increased the font size of the word “Law” so it is bigger than “Sin” and “Gospel”?

Why do you think they would do that?

Read memory verse:

- I will never forget Your precepts, for by them You have given me life. I am Yours, save me; for I have sought Your precepts. Psalm 119:93-94 NKJV.

What does this text mean?

This is a wonderful text—for it describes reality; what is the only kind of law that can give life?

This can only be design law, the laws the Creator has built into the operations of reality, it can never be imposed laws, why?

You cannot legislate rules that give life, only operations of reality can do that.

James describes this exact reality when he wrote “the perfect law that gives freedom” (James 1:25).

Why is it that only design law gives freedom and all imposed laws do not?

How do imposed laws function, always by restriction of freedom—do not do this, it is illegal to do that, if you break the law punishment is required.

But design law, the laws of health, the laws of life, when they are applied, they give vitality, ability, development, expansion, growth, and thus ever-increasing freedom.

It is in the breaking of design law that one causes their own enslavement and loss of freedom, which can never be restored through imposed legal systems and enforcement.

For instance, break the laws of health by eating junk food every day and never exercising, and you will become obese, deconditioned, and lose freedom. You will not be as free, by your own condition, to climb stairs, run and play with your children, and engage in so many of life's activities. Conversely, the more you harmonize with the laws of health, the greater freedom you retain.

It is the same in the spiritual world. If you break the law of love by lying, cheating, stealing, exploiting, manipulating, you deviate from reality as God designed it to operate and you encode degradation, fear, guilt, shame into your own neurobiology.

These distortions and corruptions become part of your predictive model, filters on how you experience reality, how you interpret life, and thus kindness is viewed as weakness, a gift is received with suspicion, a person who speaks truth is experienced as threatening and accused of being hostile.

As you continue to encode error, survival, distortion, you practice methods ever out of harmony with reality as God created it and you will not have peace—but will seek all kinds of comfort measures to allow you to avoid the natural distress that comes when out of harmony with God.

You will become a prisoner of your own making—the alcoholic who imprisons themselves in denial and distortion—the sinner who imprisons themselves in a false legal theology that keeps the spirit of fear alive behind the self-made legal distortions designed to hide self from God.

There are two types of laws—God's laws upon which life and reality are built and imposed laws, the types of laws creatures make up which always require enforcement through punishment.

Sometimes the imposed laws that are added are done in love, to protect the immature from the self-harm that comes when breaking design law that they do not yet understand—like parents who impose rules about what foods are allowed and not allowed, teeth brushing, not playing in the street and many more. Such rules are not reality, they are artificial interventions to protect from injury and harm that comes when one breaks the laws of reality.

This is the reason God gave added laws, including the Ten Commandments. The added laws, both the Ten Commandments and the ceremonial laws, were all added after sin and are not eternal, they are not the design laws life is built upon, they are added for us immature, sin-sick humans to both educate and protect us—educate us about our condition—diagnose what is wrong, and protect the ignorant from breaking design law.

But those who remain sin-sick, who refuse to surrender heart and mind to God for rebirth with His Spirit of love and trust based on truth, instead continue to live in fear and selfishness. They continue to encode error, falsehood, in thought and function.

But no fiction, no fantasy, no personal belief, even if one calls it “my truth” or perhaps they call it “biblical truth” or “God's truth,” but no fiction, regardless of what it is called, changes reality. Therefore, people who encode error will always be confronted by reality. Meaning, their errors will be

exposed by failure to thrive, by pain, by suffering, by distress, by problems because life only exists and advances in harmony with God's design laws, as the Psalm we read states.

So what happens to those who are encoding error is that things start to fall apart, their fantasy doesn't work. The rich young ruler's fantasy that he was right with God because he was rich, didn't work, he still did not have peace, therefore he came to Jesus asking, what he was missing.

That is truth/reality confronting the distortion, which gives opportunity for change, for repentance, for encoding truth and healing. But if people do not repent, then as things fall apart because they are out of harmony with reality, they experience more fear, more anxiety, more distress, and want order, want stability, want safety and security, and therefore they *always* resort to rules and rule enforcement as a means of trying to exert control both over themselves and others. But their system is false and their means of pursuing righteousness through law and law enforcement is false, it is not how reality works and leads only to further distrust, fear, rebellion, loss of autonomy, individuality, and conflict and division.

That is the exact history of reality, of what happens when law and law enforcement is used as a means of trying to provide security and stability, it cannot correct encoded error, in fact, it expands it, and prevents actual salvation and healing.

Look at the history of Christianity—wherever Christianity is practiced as Jesus taught, truth presented in love leaving people free, never with law and law enforcement, but sowing and reaping—design law, transformation, unity, love, growth, healing occurs.

But wherever the church has embraced imposed law and began teaching God's law functions like human law, the system becomes abusive and souls are destroyed.

This is why the final message of mercy to the world as recorded in Revelation 14 is a call for people to return to worshiping God as Creator who made the heavens, earth, sea, and fountain of water—and that requires we realize all His laws are design laws. And that God only added laws in OT times like loving parents do for the purpose of protecting and educating so that the children grow up, have the law written upon their hearts and minds and from a well if internalized love, truth, and trust they live in harmony with God's design laws.

So then what is sin? The lesson cites the Scripture that states sin is transgression of God's law and the wages of sin is death. We agree with the Scripture that sin is lawlessness and that the wages of sin is death—but what law?

If one holds to the fiction, the lie, that God's law is like human law, then sin is rule breaking and the wages of death is fraudulently taught as a legal punishment inflicted by God. This construct always leads to encoding error, for it is a lie, which destabilizes the mind, heart, inciting fear, and obstructing the Spirit of truth and love from healing the person.

If one returns to worshipping God as Creator and realize His laws are the design laws that life is built upon, then they realize that sin is transgression of reality, of the laws life is built upon, encoding error that deviates from life and results in death unless healed by the Creator, and God has been using His power to restrain and hold the sickness of sin and death at bay and it is when He stops using His power, and sets people free to reap what they have insisted upon that death finally consumes them. Galatians 6:8.

Consider multiple examples—tie a plastic bag over your head and transgress the law of respiration—a design law of love built into the operation of reality, and what happens? death, sin transgresses the law and doing so takes one out of harmony with life and the only outcome is death, unless healed by the Creator. All of God's laws work this way.

But what happens if we get to a person who tied a plastic bag over their head before they die and remove the bag and put them in harmony with the law? They revive—the law of the Lord is perfect reviving, bringing life to the soul, just as the Psalm says.

This is reality. We are out of harmony with God, with His design laws for life and we are dying of this terminal condition. But God loved us too much to let us die, so He intervened, began using power in multiple ways to hold death at bay and while He is restraining the full result of sin, He sent His Son, to fix the condition, to eliminate from humanity the spirit of fear and selfishness and restore in the species human a sinless life of perfect love and trust.

This is reality, it is design law, it is how God constructed life to work, it is the only way for us to have life, harmony with God through trust, built upon truth and love.

Read the third paragraph,

- Yes, every person has sinned, and our thoughts, motives, actions, and words hurt others, ourselves, and God. Ultimately, sin destroys our relationship with God, but God has revealed Himself to us through the knowledge of His law, which shines light on the sin in our lives. *Adult SS Guide 2<sup>nd</sup> Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God, p. 72.*

Why has every person sinned? Are we sinners because we sin, or do we sin because we are sinners?

How is it you and every single person you know became a sinner?

- Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. Psalm 51:5 NIV84

We are born in sin, Adam and Eve chose to become sinners, we did not. We never had the choice to be sinless.

Consider and HIV infected man and woman have a baby born HIV infected, what did the baby do wrong? Nothing, then no problems or problems? And will the baby have symptoms?

This is the condition of every human being after Adam sinned, we are born with a condition we did not choose and that condition will produce symptoms unless we are cured, and the symptoms of that condition we call “sins.” The true problem is not the sins, even though they are problematic and cause harm and injury—the real problem is the condition of sinfulness, the spirit of fear and selfishness with which we were born.

What if the HIV child grows enough to understand their situation and is offered free remedy but they refuse it—is it their fault they were born with the condition? No, will it be their fault if they refuse the free remedy?

That is also our condition, we are not held responsible for being born sinners, we are held responsible for choosing to stay a sinner, for choosing to refuse healing, for choosing to cling to fear and selfishness and refuse to be reborn in love and trust to Jesus.

This is what destroys our relationship with God, the choice to cling to fear, selfishness, and all the comfort and coping mechanism that we have learned to protect self—the various self-soothing and perceived empowerment choices that are in reality violations of God’s design law. As we continue to choose the lies, fiction, distortions, we are ever encoding further corruption and taking ourselves further and further away from God.

This is what penal legal religions do—they encode fear, selfishness, and a belief in a god who cannot be trusted, a rule-maker who uses power to force his way upon others—all under the guise of so called justice.

Those who promote this distortion, may do so with a real desire to help, to improve, to provide order, to prevent harm, to create safe spaces—but they demonstrate they do not understand the fundamental nature of reality and God’s kingdom. They are whitewashed sepulchers full of dead men’s bones. The legal religionists learn how to act behaviorally appropriately, they create rules to follow and at least publicly follow them so they look good on the outside, but having never been reborn all their behaviors are motivated by fear and selfishness rather than love and trust, thus they are still terminal, still corrupt, still dying.

This would be like the HIV infected child who refuses the anti-viral meds, wearing make up, taking cough suppressants, and various other external measures to make themselves appear on the outside to be healthy—but they are still filled with sickness and dying.

So God gave, added, wrote the Ten Commandments, as a diagnostic tool to help us realize we are sick and dying and need healing.

## **SUNDAY**

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The lesson focuses on one of Satan’s strategies to prevent people from experiencing a saving relationship with Jesus, and that is one of distraction and self-dependence.

This is an excellent point. Why is this so?

Because of how reality works—we are finite, but not only are we finite, we are also sick, infected, have thoughts and attitudes out of harmony with God and His design laws for life. We of ourselves cannot identify the errors within us, and even if we could, we don't have the source code to replace the errors within us. We don't possess a sinless spirit of love and trust built upon truth, thus we can only have life as we receive it from our Creator, and we receive it through trust, and trust is only established upon truth of trustworthiness.

Thus the truth about God sets us free from the lies and distrust and in trust we open our hearts and receive His Spirit who brings us the life of Christ, this is not metaphor, it is reality. We receive a new animating, motivating, living spirit from the Holy Spirit and become partakers of the divine nature. As we choose truth and trust, and experience God's love, this provides the reality-based elements necessary to restructure our souls.

Within our brains are molecules that alter their shape based on what we believe and internalize both cognitively and experientially. When this happens these internalized experiences and beliefs become filters, preset expectations from which we process new life experiences, and to change a distorted but settled system requires motivational energy sufficient to put that system back into a state of uncertainty, emotionally that feels like confusion, questioning, searching for answers, those places in life where things are not working and we don't know why. But on a quantum level, within your brain when those moments come, the structures in your brain where you have previously internalized your beliefs, your framework, your identity, attitude, loves, trusts, they oscillate into a position of uncertainty open for a new conclusion which collapses them back and attitudes, beliefs, motivations, attachments, and character changes.

Healing can only be experienced by presenting truth and love and leaving the person free to decide. External law and law enforcement can force behavioral compliance, but what that actually encodes into the brain is fear, distrust, and rebellion. The only way to encode love and trust is by truth and love presented without any compelling power and then leaving people free to reap what they have chosen.

When we trust ourselves, look to self, independent from God we will always encode error and will always experience decay, degradation, problems, things will not work—God lets the error run so that reality will itself reveal the result and at every point He remains there with truth and love providing opportunity to repent and encode healing.

## **WEDNESDAY**

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Read the last paragraph,

- That's why the gospel goes hand in hand with the law. That is, however much we believe in the law and in the importance of keeping it, we must always remember that in terms of our

legal standing before God, the law only condemns. The law never forgives, never justifies, and never atones. On the contrary, it points out why we need to be forgiven, why we need to be justified, and why we need atonement. That's why along with the law—even foundational to our understanding of the law—is the gospel, Christ's death on our behalf, which does for us what the law can never do: justify us before God. *Adult SS Guide 2<sup>nd</sup> Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 76

How does this paragraph frame the sin problem? As a legal problem, and notice how they frame it—the law condemns and therefore we need to be forgiven and justified.

Where is the problem as they construct it? We are in legal trouble, the law condemns and requires enforcement, punishment—death. God as Sovereign must enforce His law, therefore we need to get God's forgiveness and our status changed from guilty condemned sinner/criminal to one who is justified, or no longer counted as guilty.

The problem is God and His law which is against us and thus they construct a fraudulent plan of salvation in which Jesus died to take God's punishment upon Himself and then return to heaven and offer His blood sacrifice as a legal payment to the Father so that the demands of the law can be satisfied by someone paying its penalty and God can then legally pardon or forgive and then legally declare and register in the legal books that a person is righteous, even though in reality they remain unrighteous.

This is all fiction, a lie, an untruth, a system of irrational and distorted thoughts arising out of a spirit of fear that seeks control and conformity through law and law enforcement. It is Satan's system and he will advance it as things unfold under the banner of Jesus and come impersonating Christ for the purpose of doing justice, which will be via the enforcement of law through punishment upon all who will not accept him.

This penal legal fraud infected Christianity when Constantine converted and has never been removed. The Reformation was God's movement to lead people back to worshipping Him as Creator, and the Advent movement was intended to be the culmination of the Reformation with the full restoration of Creator worship through the full blending of the health message with the gospel message which teaches reality, God is Creator and all His laws are design laws, the laws of life. But the church leadership rejected this message in 1888 and has divided humanity into a physical being whose physical health is governed by design laws of health, and a spiritual being whose soul is governed by imposed rules. This has completely corrupted the gospel and prevented the church from completing its mission of taking the message of the 3 angels to the world.

Only when we return to presenting God as Creator and sin for what it is, deviation, transgression, of God's laws, which are the design laws upon which life is built, foundationally the laws of truth, love, and trust will we be able to finish the work.

And when we do this, then we realize that our status with God is not a legal-standing problem, that is fiction; our problem is reality, our actual state of being when standing before God—what is the state of

our heart and mind in reality? Have we been won to trust in God such that we have surrendered our life of fear and selfishness and been reborn so that we are now animated and motivated by the life of Christ who lives in us? Are we at-one with God in reality, so that we are able to stand in His presence because we are like Him, not by our work, not by our law keeping, not by a legal declaration, but by reality, by God restoring His living law in us just as the Bible teaches (Heb 8:10).

We do not stand before God as beings in legal trouble, we stand before God as beings who are dying, who are terminal, who are lethally in trouble, our very condition, if God does nothing, will cause our death. God doesn't want that so God acts, God intervenes, God reaches out, God sacrifices Himself, all for the purpose of reaching us and winning us back to trust so He can work inside of us, inside of our hearts and mind to heal us, to purge the distortions, to eliminate the corruption, to wash away the encoded guilt, shame, distrust, fear, and to rewrite in us His perfection, His truth, His love, His life, so that it is no longer our old fear-ridden self living but Christ living in us. This is reality and the penal legal fraud obstructs people from experiencing it.

## FRIDAY

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Read the fourth question,

- “How can we as Seventh-day Adventists, whose every name shows how seriously we take the law, avoid the trap of legalism, of depending on the law to save us? (Do a thought experiment: On the day of judgment, what are you going to rely on as your every sin is brought before a holy and perfect God in judgment? Your law-keeping? Or Jesus' perfect righteousness in your stead?) *Adult SS Guide 2<sup>nd</sup> Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 78.

First, what is legalism? They are suggesting legalism is depending on the law to save us. Hmmm.... What is legalism?

Legalism is any form of legal salvation—salvation through law of any kind. It could be the traditional view of our law-keeping saves us. But more commonly it is what I call legal-loophole law keeping, that we can never keep the law perfectly, but we don't have to, because Jesus came and kept the law perfectly and if I claim Him as my Savior, then in the legal court of heaven, I get His law keeping applied to my account and in the judgment I am legally declared to be righteous, this is how we are justified. This is legalism, it is the legalism of penal substitution theology and it is the legalism this lesson seems to be promoting.

And it is a lie, a fraud, built on the false premise about God's law.

Let's consider the thought experiment:

- On the day of judgment, what are you going to rely on as your every sin is brought before a holy and perfect God in judgment? Your law-keeping? Or Jesus' perfect righteousness in your stead?) *Adult SS Guide 2<sup>nd</sup> Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 78.

What is wrong with this thought experiment? It sets up a fiction, the framework, and premises are incorrect, thus the experiment is deceptive and designed to take one down a trail that leads them to a false conclusion with a false solution.

They have a premise that every sin will be brought up before God in some form or fashion—I wonder where they get that idea?

I have heard depictions of this from various preachers in the past it goes something like this, and let's use king David as an example:

In the judgment, when David's name comes up, the devil, who is the accuser of the brethren accusing them day and night, begins to recite a list of the sins that he led David to commit—adultery, murder...

But then Jesus stands up and opens His heavenly record book...."David son of Jesse, yes, I have it right here. Well, in our books we have no record of such sins my blood has been applied to His record and all recorded sins are erased, so we don't have anything like that in our record."

Do you think David's guardian angel says, "Jesus, would you like to borrow my King James Bible, because I have that written right here?"

This is the crazy, irrational, fictional, non-reality-based fantasies that the legal model leads to.

What happens in reality when the devil brings up David's sin? We are not left to wonder, God has revealed this to us:

- Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the LORD, and Satan standing at his right side to accuse him. The LORD said to Satan, "The LORD rebuke you, Satan! The LORD, who has chosen Jerusalem, rebuke you! Is not this man a burning stick snatched from the fire?" Now Joshua was dressed in filthy clothes as he stood before the angel. The angel said to those who were standing before him, "Take off his filthy clothes." Then he said to Joshua, "See, I have taken away your sin, and I will put rich garments on you." Then I said, "Put a clean turban on his head." So they put a clean turban on his head and clothed him, while the angel of the LORD stood by. Zechariah 3:1-5 NIV84.

What is described?

Yes, Satan is the accuser. He is the legalist. He is the one who focuses on deeds and behavior. He is the one who keeps a record of wrongs, remember what the Bible teaches, "Love keeps no record of wrongs." Satan is the one who claims the law requires punishment... notice that the same argument Satan makes and the same methods he uses is the corrupt theology of penal substitution.

But what does Jesus do? He doesn't argue, not record investigation, no legal debate, no claim of legal payment. "the Lord rebuke you." We are not having this discussion because you live in fantasy,

fiction, you are delusional, you do not know how reality works and you are no longer capable of understanding and internalizing truth. Be silent.

Then Jesus does what He does for all who trusts Him, as described in symbolism, He pulls us from the fire of sin, the corruption that we were born in and has been destroying us, and removes our fear, guilt, shame, distrust, lies, distortions, and cleanses our consciousness, renews our hearts, ennoble our minds, all symbolically represented by dressing us in clean garments. We become partaker of the divine nature, dressed in the righteousness of Christ.

I love this quote, it makes so clear what we just reviewed:

- This robe, woven in the loom of heaven, has in it not one thread of human devising. Christ in His humanity wrought out a perfect character, and this character He offers to impart to us... When we submit ourselves to Christ, the **heart is united with His heart, the will is merged in His will, the mind becomes one with His mind, the thoughts are brought into captivity to Him; we live His life. This is what it means to be clothed with the garment of His righteousness.** Then as the Lord looks upon us He sees, not the fig-leaf garment, not the nakedness and deformity of sin, but His own robe of righteousness, which is perfect obedience to the law of Jehovah. Christ's Object Lessons p. 311, emphasis mine.

This is reality, when we partake of the truth that Jesus brought and are won to trust we open our hearts and are reborn with His life and then we live lives in union with Him in which He leads us to ever increasing maturity and internalization of truth that in reality heals and transforms us.

So, if there were a judgment scene and Satan were accusing, Jesus would merely say, "The Lord rebuke you. David's history is known, nothing is erased from the record of history. But the facts of what David did are irrelevant because David has been reborn, He has a new heart and right spirit, He is fully healed in the inner man, and He is no longer infected with your lies and your spirit of fear and selfishness."

That is reality and it is the reality God is offering to each and every one of us.

## **MONDAY**

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Why does pride go before a fall? How does reality work and can we explain the exact reason why this is always true?

Pride places self as the final authority, but self is a finite being who is infected with sin, thus self will always encode error and make choices that are out of harmony with how reality functions leading to the inevitable collapse or fall.

Read fifth paragraph,

- “ ‘Judge not, that you be not judged. For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged’ ” (Matt. 7:1, 2, NKJV). Stop being so critical and judgmental of others. God is the Judge, so let Him be so (1 Cor. 4:5). *Adult SS Guide 2<sup>nd</sup> Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 74.

What does this mean? Why is this so?

What law lens do you read it through?

Imposed law—God is the Judge—does this mean God makes the judicial rulings and we have no right to make such judgments, and if we do we are breaking one of His rules, for only He is Sovereign and therefore God will judge us to be guilty of sin?

Design law—how reality works, when you judge others you are making choices within your own heart and mind which are restructuring, rewiring, and encoding your values, your preferences, your loves, your beliefs into your character. In other words, when you judge others you are revealing who you are choosing to become because your very actions are changing you, not the person you are judging. This is how reality work! The very measure you use on another that measure you are choosing to internalize into your being.

This is why Jesus said, “Father forgive them they don’t know what they are doing.” They were destroying themselves.

Read the sixth paragraph,

- “ ‘But I say to you, love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you’ ” (Matt. 5:44, NKJV). Stop hating your enemies. When you feel negatively toward those who treat you badly, it instantly places a barrier in your relationship with God. Instead, start praying for your enemies and see how this changes not just your walk with God but also your relationship with others. *Adult SS Guide 2<sup>nd</sup> Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 74.

What does this mean?

Why are we to love our enemies, bless others, and not curse them?

Why would holding to negative feelings and attitudes toward another be a barrier between you and God?

What happens inside of the person who holds grudges and fantasizes about revenge?

They are changed by their choice in what they internalize into themselves, and thus their hearts and minds become dissonant to the Spirit of truth and love and less capable of hearing and responding until they repent.

## TUESDAY

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Read second paragraph,

- The Ten Commandments (Exod. 20:3–17) were written by God’s own finger. Jesus echoed their importance: “ ‘ “And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.” This is the first commandment. And the second, like it, is this: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” There is no other commandment greater than these’ ” (Mark 12:30, 31, NKJV). He added: “ ‘On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets’ ” (Matt. 22:40, NKJV). *Adult SS Guide 2<sup>nd</sup> Q 2026, Growing in a Relationship with God*, p. 75.

What does it mean that the Ten Commandments were written by God’s own finger?

First that they didn’t yet exist, but that they had a beginning when God wrote them—they were added because of human sin as a God-ordained tool, aide, benefit, to diagnose and protect, but they are not eternal. They are a codification of God’s design law of truth and love which is eternal, but written in a structure specifically for fallen human beings.

Angels in heaven sinned before Adam and Eve were created. This means they transgressed God’s law. But angels didn’t have a law to honor their mothers and fathers; they didn’t have a law that sins would pass down 3-4 generations because they don’t have children; they didn’t have a law about adultery, they don’t marry.

The Ten Commandments were added after human sin as a tool, nothing more. Sadly, Satan has tricked many humans to believe God’s tool is representative of how God governs, with imposed rules enforced through punishment.

The Jews in Christ’s day thought this and they constantly accused Jesus of being a law breaker. Saul of Tarsus thought this, until He met Christ and then reexamined things and realized the 10<sup>th</sup> Commandment exposed the reality of God’s law.

- What shall we say, then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! Indeed I would not have known what sin was except through the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, “Do not covet.” Romans 7:7 NIV84.

What behavior can you do not to covet? None! And this is the commandment that helped Paul realize that the Ten Commandments were added as a tool to expose sin, not as a law we are to seek to obey, or a law that God enforces through punishment.

The only way to not covet is to be reborn with a spirit of love and trust, and the only way to keep the rest of God’s law is to be reborn with a spirit of love and trust. Behaviorally keeping God’s law, like the Jews were doing when Christ was on earth, with the spirit of fear and selfishness, turns one into God’s enemy. And all the penal legal models of salvation inflame fear, fear of punishment, fear of not

having all one's sins removed from the record before the judgment, fear of forgetting a sin, fear of what the Father will do if He sees one sin not covered by Jesus and on and on it goes.

Salvation is healing, recreation, restoration of righteousness within the believer through truth established on truth and love that results in our being reborn with a new animating motivating energy, the life of Christ.

## **THURSDAY**

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Read second paragraph, which is a quote from Matthew:

- “ ‘Not everyone who says to Me, “Lord, Lord,” shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven’ ” Matthew 7:21 NKJV.

What does this text mean?

How can it be true? How can people be claiming Jesus as their Savior and actually doing ministry work for Him and be lost?

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

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**Thank You—I am so appreciative of all you!** I was genuinely surprised and moved by the outpouring of appreciation last week when Christie came up and shared the gift of all the birthday cards. So many from people around the country and beyond, and many I have never had the privilege of thus far meeting. So many shared stories of how this message has revitalized their relationship with God, brought healing to their minds and families, and is being positively received by friends. Stories of how they are sharing it in their community. What a gift you have all given me to share in the joy of what God is doing in your life.

I received cards from people in 21 states and also Australia.

Thank you all.

**The God of Reality: Separating Truth from Fiction Seminar:** August 13-16 2026 Orlando, Florida—More information coming soon. First 500 get five free meals. Our outline of program topics:

**1. Who Decides What’s True?**

How do we know what’s actually true in a world full of competing voices? This session examines the foundation of truth—what authority can be trusted and how to discern reality from deception.

**2. Did Life Happen by Chance ... or Design?**

What does science really reveal about the origin of life? This session examines the evidence behind life’s beginnings and what it suggests about our purpose, meaning, and design.

**3. What Kind of Power Runs the Universe?**

What kind of power sustains the universe at its foundational level? This session explores what reality reveals about worshiping a Creator whose power operates through truth and love rather than force—the quantum power upon which Newtonian power is built.

**4. What If Sin Isn’t What You’ve Been Told?**

What if sin is something other than breaking rules? This session examines why God allowed sin to exist, how it began, and how being out of harmony with reality in our beliefs and actions reshapes the mind.

**5. What Did God Really Do After Human Sin? (Part 1)**

Were God’s actions after sin acts of punishment—or something else? This session reexamines key moments after the fall to uncover what they reveal about God, salvation, and the nature of reality.

## **6. What Did God Really Do After Human Sin? (Part 2)**

What does death reveal about God's response to sin? This session explores how death relates to God's mercy and what Christ's life and sacrifice accomplished in reality.

## **7. Spiritual Warfare: The Battle for Your Mind**

How do truth and lies shape the direction of your life? This session examines how our thoughts get encoded within the substructure of brain changing the motivational energy that moves us to action and why truth and love are the powers that, in reality, bring healing.

## **8. Genesis: History... and What It Reveals About Reality**

What does the book of Genesis reveal about the operating design of our reality? This session explores how God and the human mind intersect in the physical world.

## **9. Are We Misreading the Old Testament?**

Why does God sometimes appear harsh or angry? This session examines how truth, love, and freedom help us better understand God's actions in the Old Testament.

## **10. The Bible: History... and How Reality Works**

What kind of book is the Bible, really—and how should we relate to it? This session explores how Scripture records real events that reveal truth, conflict, and the principles that govern life.

## **11. The Opus of Jesus: The Opening Movement**

The Sermon on the Mount: A Quantum Masterpiece

*How Jesus revealed a kingdom built on truth, love, and transformation—not power and force*

## **12. The Opus of Jesus: The Final Movement**

Revelation and the 3 Angels—The Quantum Finale

*How the final message of the Bible restores the truth about God and brings everything full circle*

**REMEDY APP:** Updated, many new features including the ability to listen to the audio right from the app!

### **AFRICA:**

**Healing a Broken Heart** is now available in South Africa in both English and Afrikaans. You can access the Afrikaans version on our website under the Languages tab, or if you are in South Africa and would like print copies, email Jacques Van de Heever at [southafrica@comeandreason.com](mailto:southafrica@comeandreason.com). Our first shipment of resources has arrived in Kenya, *Could It Be This Simple?* Wycliffe has been passionately sharing this end-time message about God with great success and Jacques van den Heever, our Come and Reason Ministries Director in South Africa has been able to produce and get him these resources. It is through the support of you our friends that he has been able to do this. If you are in Kenya or know someone there who would like this book, email [kenya@comeandreason.com](mailto:kenya@comeandreason.com)

Our South Africa Distribution Director, Jacques Van de Heever, has been translating many of our materials into Afrikaans and now has added Swahili. Reach him at [southafrica@comeandreason.com](mailto:southafrica@comeandreason.com).

Thomas Wansara, in Ethiopia, has been translating blogs and some of our printed and online publications into Amharic and is creating a new Facebook group, Come And Reason Ministries - Ethiopia. Reach him at [ethiopia@comeandreason.com](mailto:ethiopia@comeandreason.com).

If you want to access these translated resources on our website, just click the Languages menu.

**AUSTRALIA:** Simon and Maani Harrison Direct Come and Reason in Australia and New Zealand and have a Facebook group in Australia and Come and Reason resources available there: You can email Simon at [australia@comeandreason.com](mailto:australia@comeandreason.com)

**ENGLAND:** If you are interested in connecting with our team in England you can contact Michael Dragoyvich and his wife Billie Jordan at [uk@comeandreason.com](mailto:uk@comeandreason.com)