

Romans 5:20-21 ²⁰ The law was added so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, ²¹ so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Which law is in view and why? Mosaic - Moses mentioned in vs. 14, it is mentioned in the context of a RH view (2 things reign)

For more on the purpose of (the Mosaic) law - Galatians 3:19-25

Does this apply to us? Yes, because it describes the nature of law in general.

What is your view of law? Let me ask that question a different way – How does the law make you feel? (Does it always make you feel that way? What about when you sin or when you desire to obey God?)

The laws of God will have differing effect upon people based on their perspective. (God-loving or God-hating)

God-hater under Mosaic law – Achan in Joshua 7:11-25

God-hater under the law of Christ – your apathetic neighbor & your son or daughter (Sadie)

God-lover under Mosaic law – David in Psalm 1

Psalm 1:1-3 Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; ² but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. ³ He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

God-lover under the law of Christ – John Huss(martyr) burned alive & you

Having a “law” is necessary. Otherwise, how will you know what God wants?

What does this truth tell you about yourself?

What problem does this passage present to us?

How can a good God intend for people to disobey Him even more?

How does the gospel solve this problem?

It gives me reasons to have faith. It shows me that God is even better than I question Him to be. (Romans 5:6-10)

My questioning God’s goodness is blown out of the water because the gospel displays God’s goodness in a way that I would never have thought of; much less actually being like Christ and dying for my enemies.

God is so good to you that through the cross He not only restored us from the sinful effects of

the Fall (and our own contributions), but overabounded grace to us outdoing sin.

Jesus as King Midas. - trades sin for righteousness, changes suffering to sanctification, death to gain.

God gave us law (not bad) so that we would sin more wickedly.

What does this truth tell you about God?

He is willing to take you through hard paths to get to the Celestial City. He wants good things for us. God brings in the vaccinating needle of law to benefit/bless us with the life/health of the gospel.

The point is that we can trust Him and know fully that His purposes are good, even if they're painful. Remember the gospel.

What application does this passage ask for?

Understand

The difficulty in applying passages like this is that there is no specific application point given. (Explain "kick the dog")

What is the main point of this passage?

(Understand that) the law was given, so sin would increase, but grace increased even more to reign by Christ's righteousness.

The man of God delights in God's law, longs to obey God more sincerely, and endeavors to demonstrate his gratitude through obedience (Rom. 7:22-25). This is why John writes: "This is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome" (1 John 5:3). Why are they not burdensome? Because grace leads to gratitude, and gratitude produces cheerful obedience to God. For a son who loves his Father, obedience is not a burden; it is a privilege and joy.

The irony of it is that God's law is given to us to see our sin, so we can fully rely on God, so we can please Him by obeying His law.