











in light of the PROMISE, why the LAW?

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the <u>SUPERIORITY</u> of the PROMISE over the LAW

"I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."

Genesis 12:2-3

"...indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies. In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."

Genesis 22:17-18

3 reasons the LAW did not DISPLACE the PROMISE given to Abraham

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- 1) the PROMISE was a COVENANT made by GOD
- 2) the SUMMATION of the PROMISE is CHRIST
- 3) the PROMISE was NOT INVALIDATED by the LAW

"What shall we say, then? Is the law sinful? Certainly not! Nevertheless, I would not have known what sin was had it not been for the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, "You shall not covet."

Romans 7:7

"The law was given so that man could understand God's holy character, recognize his own sinful being, and place his faith in God's provision for his salvation."

Robert Gromacki

2 things to note about the LAW

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1) the LAW was TEMPORARY

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them."

Matthew 5:17

2 things to note about the LAW

- 1) the LAW was TEMPORARY
- 2) the LAW required a MEDIATOR

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the LAW does not CONTRADICT the PROMISE

"The apostle Paul makes it clear that the law illuminates sin but is powerless to eliminate sin.

That's not part of its job description.
It points to righteousness but can't produce it.
It shows us what godliness is, but it cannot
make us godly.

The law can *inform* us of our sin, but it cannot *transform* the sinner.

Only the gospel can do that. As Luther said, 'Sin is not canceled by lawful living, for no person is able to live up to the Law. Nothing can take away sin except the grace of God."

Tim Keller

"The law tells us what to do, while the gospel tells us what God has done."

Tim Keller

in light of the PROMISE, why the LAW?

the LAW <u>CANNOT</u> do what the PROMISE <u>CAN</u> do

Our <u>UNION</u> with Christ <u>UNITES</u> us with ONE ANOTHER!