

## LAW AND GRACE

All men are born with a moral consciousness--even the most corrupt group has certain standards of right and wrong that reflect their value system (e.g. the Mafia, and Manson's hippie commune). And every man who ever lived in the world falls short of his own value system even. This is God's revelation of conscience <sup>ence</sup> which is given to every man and is the first of his three revelations of law.

The second revelation is the law of Moses which was given to the nation of Israel, and the third <sup>revelation</sup> ~~law~~ is the law of the New Testament, which was given ~~in~~ the Sermon on the Mount ~~and in the teachings of~~ Jesus, where ~~he~~ set forth the righteous requirements of God.

Every man who ever lived makes a response to these revelations of God's law, because, either consciously or unconsciously, he sees that it is impossible for him to come up to God's standards. His responses can be put in one of two categories which we will call Plan A and Plan B.

Plan A has three options for man. The first is when he goes into open moral rebellion, declaring that there is no God and if there is one--no one can know Him; there is no judgment, no hell, nothing. This is one reason why so many intellectuals so mishandle the Bible. You <sup>Present</sup> ~~can bring~~ a new <sup>found</sup> fact of history to an intellectual and he will look at it with objectivity because if it is true it will have no particular effect on him. But, if the Bible is true, a man has to humble himself, receive Christ into his life, and make a whole new way of life. What is his way out? TO MAKE SURE THAT THE BIBLE IS NOT TRUE.

The second option in Plan A is for man to head into human righteousness. He concentrates on the idea that he is better than <sup>N</sup> most of the people around him and reasons that, on this basis, he is a good and moral person. His creed; "Never look at God". This type of a man only looks around himself for his own standards. Many of our churches are headed into this option. Their whole creed is good works, social involvement, and no basis for their theology except the society in which they operate. (An example of this is Situation Ethics, resulting in "New Morality".) <sup>the</sup>

The third option in Plan A is religious righteousness which begins with man de-

The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions. It emphasizes that every entry should be supported by a valid receipt or invoice to ensure transparency and accountability. This section also outlines the procedures for handling discrepancies and the role of the audit committee in reviewing the financial statements.

The second part of the document details the internal control system implemented by the organization. It describes the segregation of duties, the authorization process for transactions, and the regular reconciliation of accounts. The document highlights how these controls are designed to prevent errors and detect any irregularities in a timely manner.

The third part of the document provides a comprehensive overview of the organization's financial performance over the reporting period. It includes a detailed analysis of the income statement, balance sheet, and cash flow statement. Key financial ratios and trends are discussed, along with the management's perspective on the overall financial health and the challenges faced during the period.

The fourth part of the document discusses the organization's compliance with applicable laws and regulations. It details the measures taken to ensure that all financial reporting is done in accordance with the relevant accounting standards and the requirements of the regulatory bodies. The document also mentions the ongoing efforts to stay updated with the latest changes in the legal and regulatory framework.

The fifth part of the document outlines the organization's risk management strategy. It identifies the key risks that could impact the financial performance and the steps taken to mitigate these risks. This includes the use of financial instruments, insurance, and other risk reduction techniques. The document also discusses the regular risk assessments and the role of the risk management committee.

The sixth part of the document provides a summary of the organization's financial position at the end of the reporting period. It reiterates the key findings from the financial statements and the internal control system. The document concludes with a statement of confidence in the accuracy and reliability of the financial information provided, supported by the audit committee's findings.

The final part of the document contains the concluding remarks and the signature of the authorized signatory. It expresses the organization's commitment to maintaining high standards of financial reporting and transparency. The document is signed by the Chief Financial Officer, and the audit committee members have reviewed and approved the content.

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ciding that he is not really totally sinful, and that he can do something for God. This leads to legalism where man says he can keep the laws of God and base his approach to God, not on faith, but on his own works and his own efforts. This move<sup>s</sup> him into traditionalism which is realizing that he can't keep God's rules completely, so he selects the keepable laws and adds his own religious tradition to them. This leads to exclusiveness or "religious righteousness", like the Pharisees. (In other words, "This is our church; here are the rules--if you keep all our rules, you are God's man." GOD DID NOT SAY THAT!) These are the three options of Plan A, and the tragedy is that as long as man responds that way, it's a "bum-trap", and he ends up in hell.

Plan B is the response that is God's plan for man. God is perfect, and man is imperfect; God says that only the perfect can be in his kingdom, so he condemns ALL the sins of man <sup>through</sup> ONE Perfect Sacrifice, Jesus Christ. Plan B begins with the righteous condemnation, not of a sinner, but of a Saviour. God cannot perform an unrighteous act; <sup>what</sup> made this a righteous act was not that Christ had sinned (because he really didn't) but Christ received all of our sins at the cross, and at that time God judged our sins on Him. Therefore, Christ's sacrifice on the Cross is God's revelation of Grace, and the way of forgiveness for man.

The response of the one who believes God's revelation of that sacrifice is twofold: first, He trusts God, believing in the efficiency (complete truth) of the sacrifice, and second, he accepts it. As a result, he is "born again", or, to rephrase it, he is seen perfect in God's eyes, and has eternal life with Him. The apostle John puts it simply when he said, "For God so loved the world, that ~~he~~ <sup>He</sup> gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life". (John 3:16) Plan B's only rule: believe the Father, and accept what God the Son did.

When you really see how much God loves you, you'll <sup>want to</sup> respond <sup>to His</sup> love, <sup>but</sup> you cannot love God without faith. Faith is believing that God and ~~his~~ <sup>His</sup> word is trustworthy. So faith in Christ's sacrifice brings us to salvation and eternal life; it makes God loveable because He is no longer our judge. Through faith in His word (or Plan B) we respond to



God's love as we see ourselves loved and accepted by him, and, in turn, we have love for the rest of the members of the Body of Christ, and love for the whole human race. It is Christ's love which begins to operate in our lives. If we have love without faith in Christ we produce a self-righteous love, limited by man's imperfections and leading to chaos and destruction. Faith, which doesn't produce love is also worthless. It results in self-righteousness, legalism or <sup>d</sup>ead orthodoxy.

What are the results of Plan B besides complete acceptance by God?

1. Absolute righteousness which is perfect: it is the perfection of Christ which everyone must have to come to God.
2. Christian perfection which believers can have in their own lives, not their own perfect righteousness but ~~where they~~ <sup>by</sup> allow <sup>ing</sup> the Holy Spirit to work through them.
3. ~~This~~ is how God Works: He created a perfect man who chose to live <sup>se</sup>parate from Him. God then took the necessary step to reestablish a <sup>a</sup> personal relationship with man. This relationship restored the perfect communication between God and man. In other words, He does all for man, and man is free to believe <sup>ie</sup>, or not to believe. That's what life is all about: Plan A or Plan B.

P.S. In the next issue, Bill will lay on why plan B is the "right-on" way of life.

