

PNEUMANETICS

ORIGINAL

BOOK 12

THE TORAH SYNDROME

(LEGALISM AND STANDARDS)

BY
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WORKBOOK

DAY ONE

WHAT CHRISTIANS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE LAW BUT DON'T

Most Evangelicals have little working knowledge of the Bible, let alone understanding of the Law. Listed below are facts concerning law which will help you know the Word of God. Because this assignment is longer than most, we have split it across two days. Pace your work accordingly, and be sure you take enough time to read these passages carefully and understand them fully. If you have any thoughts or comments as you are studying, use the space provided to write them down.

- Law proliferates law—Matthew 23:1-4

- Law produces a false sense of righteousness—Philippians 3:9; Galatians 2:21

- Law produces fear—Romans 8:15; 1 John 4:18

- Law demands punishment—Leviticus 20:10; John 8:5

- Law cannot justify—Romans 3:20; Galatians 2:16a

- Law will not justify, even if you could keep it—Galatians 2:16c; 3:11

- Law negates the receiving of the Holy Spirit—Galatians 3:1-2

- Law cannot perfect—Galatians 3:3

- Law cannot produce miracles—Galatians 3:5

- Law brings a curse—Galatians 3:10

- Law does not guarantee a spiritual inheritance—Galatians 3:18

- Law is part of elementary principles—Colossians 2:20-23

- Law is addicting—Galatians 4:9b

- Law arouses the power of sin—Romans 7:8; 1 Corinthians 15:58

- Law severs one from Christ—Galatians 5:4

- Law demands that you live according to your law—Romans 10:5;
Galatians 3:10

- Law demands full performance—Galatians 3:10

DAY TWO

WHAT CHRISTIANS SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE LAW BUT DON'T (CONTINUED)

- Law demands that you keep every point of law—Joshua 22:5; 23:6

- Law enslaves—Galatians 4:24; Romans 8:15-16

- Law produces pride—Romans 2:17; Matthew 23:6

- Law negates faith—Galatians 3:12

- The demands of the Law are absolute—Galatians 5:3

- Law robs you of grace—Galatians 5:2-5

- Law dominates your life—Joshua 1:8

- Law demands its own lifestyle—Deuteronomy 6:7; 17:18-20

- Law demands absolute obedience—Deuteronomy 27:26

- Law robs us of liberty—Galatians 2:4

- Law pre-empts the Holy Spirit—Galatians 3:4-5

- Law is counter-productive—Romans 8:3

- Law produces guilt—Galatians 5:3

- Law belongs to this present evil age —Galatians 1:4

- Law distorts the Gospel—Galatians 1:6-7

- Law opens you up for demonic attacks—Colossians 2:15

- Law is hostile toward us—Colossians 2:14

- Law is divisive—Ephesians 2:14-15

- Law cannot establish worth—Galatians 2:16

- Law actually causes you to sin more—Romans 5:20

- Law brings wrath—Romans 4:15

- Law is a channel through which sin can operate—Romans 7:11

- Law brings death—2 Corinthians 3:6

- Law brings condemnation—2 Corinthians 3:9

- Law hardens the mind—2 Corinthians 3:14

- Law exalts self—Romans 2:17-24

- Law and the Holy Spirit are incompatible—Galatians 5:18

- Law destroys relationships—Ephesians 2:14-15

- Law is only for the lawless—1 Timothy 1:7-9

- Law produces dead works—Hebrews 9:14

- Law is imperfect—Hebrews 7:28

- Law does not please God—1 Samuel 15:22

- Law produces callousness—Mark 3:5

- Law cannot complete—Romans 7:9-10

- Law demands punishment—Galatians 3:10

- Law deceives—2 Corinthians 3:15

- Law denies victory—Galatians 3:1-3

DAY THREE

THE STRANGE CASE OF THE LAW AND SIN

The interaction between law and sin has fascinated theologians for generations. But it's every bit as important for "everyday" Christians to understand the connection between these two as well. It's confusing to hear Paul say on one hand that the Law is holy, righteous, and good and then to state unequivocally that the power of sin is the Law.

Critical to understanding this juxtaposition is that the Law belongs to the Old Covenant (Abraham's agreement with God, that obedience to His will would yield His blessings), while grace belongs to the New Covenant (that believers are made righteous solely through Jesus' holy sacrifice). The motivating, controlling power in the life of every Christian is to be the Holy Spirit, not Law. When we reverse this intended relationship in our lives, the Law wields destructive power over us.

Read the passages below and then briefly write your understanding of this mysterious relationship. Specifically, describe how the law affects sin when we introduce it into our belief system.

- Indwelling sin is aroused by the Law. (Romans 7:8-12; 1 Corinthians 15:56)
- Indwelling sin is personified in the Scriptures. (Romans 5:20-8:15)
- Apart from law, indwelling sin remains dormant.

KEY WORDS USED IN EXPLAINING A KEY TRUTH

The second part of this lesson is simply to study carefully the following definitions of the various key words. You need to fully understand what each one is, how it works, and what its impact is in your life and in your relationship with the Father.

Grace: The visible expression of the invisible working of the Holy Spirit within the life of the believer. We see God's grace in changes that take place in how we think and behave over time, as the Holy Spirit changes us from within. While our behavior changes as a result ("good works"), this is not because we are attempting simply to do good because we want to please God. Rather, the drives that motivate us change to align with His perfect will, so that we gradually earnestly desire things that are different from our former nature and personality.

Law: Used as a principle encompassing all law, including both the laws of God and the self-imposed laws of man.

Torah: In the context of this book, we use the word "Torah" simply to describe the principle of the erroneous ("unlawful") use of law in the life of the Christian. By no means do we wish this to reflect negatively on the meaning and significance of The Torah in the lives of our Jewish friends. The word "Torah" appears 221 times in the Old Testament. Its basic meaning is "teaching" or "law." We therefore use it in this book in the general sense of "law." (Refer to Proverbs 3:1 and 13:14, and to Deuteronomy 4:5-8.) Our focus is on behavior and lifestyle. The Torah as original law includes the Mosaic Code (the law as given to the Hebrew people by Moses) and the Ten Commandments, including the moral, civil, and ceremonial aspects of law.

Nomos: "Mind," used 197 times in the New Testament. Basically the same meaning as in the Old Testament.

Indwelling Sin: A pervasive power of evil that permeated man at the Fall. It is used in two ways:

1. **The root problem.** When activated or aroused by law, sin expresses itself through the members of our body. (See Genesis 4:7.)
2. **The fruit problem.** Sins which one commits. Sins are the symptoms of the root problem—indwelling sin. (See 1 Peter 2:24.)

Legalism: A satanic process through which the Word of God becomes a curse instead of the blessing He intended it to be.

Antinomianism: Derived from the Greek word anomia, meaning simply “lawlessness.” A satanic process through which we turn our freedom into a license to do evil (sin).

DAY FOUR

A PRIMER ON THE LAW

Over the next two days, we will present you with a thorough Biblical background of the Law. Remember: Law is not our enemy, but a gift from God. However, as we have seen throughout this book, Law can only be a blessing in our lives if we apply it in its proper context. Because this particular study is lengthy, you might want to flip all the way through it first, so you can pace your reading for each day accordingly. Once you begin, take enough time to study each passage carefully to ensure you fully understand all that God's Word is trying to say to you.

- I. Origin of the Law
 - A. Given by God—Exodus 19-32
 - B. Came through the agency of angels—Galatians 3:19; Acts 7:38; Hebrews 2:2
- II. Purpose of the Law
 - A. As a tutor—Galatians 3:24
 - B. To lead us to Christ
 - C. That we might be justified by faith
- III. The Old Testament was divided into three areas:
 - A. The Law
 - B. The Psalms
 - C. The Prophets
 - 1. Major
 - 2. Minor

- IV. The Law covered four general areas:
 - A. The Moral Law—Exodus 20:1-26
 - B. The Civil Law—Exodus 21:1-24
 - C. The Ordinances—Exodus 24-31
 - D. The Ceremonial Law—Leviticus (basically the entire book)
- V. Jurisdiction of the Law
 - A. The Law becomes a lifestyle—Deuteronomy 11:8, 18
 - B. The Law is for a lifetime—Romans 7:1
- VI. The Nature of the Law
 - A. The Law is holy, righteous, and good—Romans 7:12; Psalm 12:6
 - B. The Law is spiritual—Romans 7:14
- VII. The Demands of the Law
 - A. The Law must be kept—Deuteronomy 8:11; Romans 1:13; 1 Corinthians 7:19; 1 Timothy 6:14
 - B. The Law demands absolute perfection—Matthew 5:20, 48
- VIII. The Extent of Law as a Principle
 - A. Need for internal order—Romans 2:14-15
 - B. God has written law upon the hearts of every person, whether or not they follow Christ. This means that each of us inherently has a propensity for law. Generally speaking, we tend to despise anarchy and love law. We always opt for order rather than disorder.

CHARACTERISTICS OF LAW

1. The demands of law are unconditional—Deuteronomy 17:11-12
2. Law demands absolute obedience—Deuteronomy 27:26
3. Law is absolute in its authority—Deuteronomy 29:29; Matthew 23:2
4. Law demands that we keep every point of law—Joshua 22:5; 23:6; James 2:10
5. Each person must live his life according to his own sense of law—Galatians 3:10
6. Law becomes a lifestyle—Deuteronomy 11:8, 18
7. Law encompasses a person's entire life—Romans 7:1
8. Law is the key to the old covenant—Hebrews 1:1-2
9. Law demands perfection—Matthew 5:20, 48
10. Law is comprehensive in its impact—Psalm 1:2
 - I. Thoughts Concerning the Law
 - A. What the Law has become
 1. A lifestyle—Galatians 3:12
 2. A superstructure—Matthew 23:1-4
 - B. Consequences of the Law
 1. The Law had become an impossible burden—Matthew 11:28

2. The Law had brought bondage—Romans 8:15
3. The Law condemned the innocent—Matthew 12:1-7
4. The Law created hypocrisy—Matthew 15:1-9
5. The Law produced callousness—Luke 6:6-11
6. The Law created fear—Romans 8:15; 1 John 4:20
7. The Law demanded punishment—Hebrews 10:28
8. The Law demanded perfection—Hebrews 7:11
9. Law proliferates more laws—Matthew 23:3
10. The Law created arrogance—Matthew 21:23
11. The Law produces a mentality like that of the Pharisees—Matthew 23:13-30. The Law:
 - a. Created a system that became a substitute for the Kingdom.
 - b. Turned the system into a superstructure that devoured under the pretense of religion.
 - c. By making the system the final authority, law loses those that it claims to save.
 - d. The system makes trivial things important and trivializes the things that are actually important.
 - e. The system is more concerned with external appearances than with genuine internal holiness.
 - f. Although the system gives the appearance of life, in actuality it produces death.

- g. The system outwardly applauds grace while at the same time subtly seeks to destroy it.

II. The New Covenant

A. How new? How different?

1. Law was the essence of the old;
grace is the essence of the new.
2. Law came to man by angels, grace came by Christ—John 1:17
3. Grace is far superior to law—Hebrews 7:18, 19; 10:1
4. Law was but a shadow of the grace that was to come—Hebrews 10:1
5. Law and grace are totally incompatible—Galatians 5:4
6. Law and grace cannot be mixed—Mark 2:21-22

B. Purpose of the Law within the New Testament

1. To be a tutor to bring a person to Christ—
Galatians 3:24
2. To provide an outline (shadow) of things to come—Hebrews 8:5;
10:1
3. To demonstrate the sinfulness of indwelling sin—Romans 7:13b

D. If law and grace are incompatible, can a Christian keep law and still be under Grace?

1. No!—Galatians 5:4
2. We need to understand God's methods of keeping law, not man's—Romans 7:14

3. We need to seek to understand how to use law lawfully (that is, properly)—1 Timothy 1:8
4. We need to understand what Christ did with law—all law—Matthew 5:17

III. Key Concepts

A. The Law must be—and has been—fulfilled:

1. The minimal demand of the Law—and thus all law—is absolute perfection. Only Christ was able to meet all the demands of the Law (Matthew 5:17). As was necessary, all that the Law demanded He accomplished (Luke 24:44).
2. All of the demands of the Law on us are met in Christ. He is the fulfillment of the Law for us—Romans 10:4
3. Christ has imputed righteousness to all who believe in Him—1 Corinthians 1:30

B. The requirements of the Law are fulfilled in us:

1. God did what the Law could not do—Romans 8:3
2. The Holy Spirit meets the requirements of the Law in us as we walk in the Spirit—Romans 8:4; Galatians 5:18

C. The Christian's relationship to the Law, all law:

1. We are to die to law—Romans 7:4; Galatians 2:20
2. How does we die to law?
 - a. Through identification—Romans 6:5
 - b. We are made to die to law—Romans 7:4

- c. It is only through death that we are free from law—Romans 7
- 3. Why is it important for us to die to law?
 - a. So that we will not come under the curse of the law—Galatians 3:10; Deuteronomy 21:23
 - b. So that we will not be “severed” from Christ—Galatians 5:4 (severed: from the Greek word katargeo, “to make ineffectual, to negate”)
 - c. So that we can be filled with the Holy Spirit—Galatians 3:2
 - d. So we can experience freedom from bondage—Galatians 5:1; 2 Corinthians 3:17

D. Similarities between the Holy Spirit and Indwelling Sin:

Holy Spirit	Indwelling Sin
Indwells	Indwells
Fills	Corrupts
Leads	Controls
New nature	Sin nature
Life	Death

- 1. Characteristics of Indwelling Sin:
 - a. Deceitful.....Hebrews 3:13
 - b. Controlling.....Genesis 4:6-7
 - c. Enslaving.....John 8:32
 - d. Universal.....Romans 3:9
 - e. Leads to Death.....Romans 5:12; 6:23

- f. Expresses itself through the members
of our bodies.....Romans 6:13
 - g. Derives its power from law.....Romans 7:8
 - h. Sin is utterly sinful.....Romans 7:13
 - j. Brings utter frustration.....Romans 7:17
 - k. Creates dread.....1 Corinthians 15:56
 - l. Opposes a godly walk.....Hebrews 12:1
 - m. Remains at war with the Christian.....Hebrews 12:4
 - n. Lawless.....1 John 3:4
 - o. Produces evil.....1 John 5:17
 - p. Wars against the soul.....1 Peter 2:11
 - q. Is activated by lusts.....Galatians 5:13
 - r. Produces the flesh.....Galatians 5:19-20
 - s. Wars against the spirit.....Galatians 5:17
- 2. Sin needs instruments to carry out its activities:
 - a. The members of our body—Romans 6:13
 - b. Law—Romans 7:8
 - 3. Law is the catalyst that arouses sin within us—Romans 7:8
 - 4. Indwelling sin is a spiritual force:

- a. Sin is a spiritual entity, a viciously powerful, evil force harnessed by Satan and directed toward us. We fell under sin's absolute dominion at the Fall, producing in us a nature that is prone to sin.
 - b. Sin reigns supreme in fallen people, although its power was broken by our Lord at the cross (1 Peter 2:24). Sin has not lost any of its power or effectiveness, and thus it continues to corrupt (if possible) all that it touches. Within those who follow Christ, however, sin lies dormant—as long as we continue living and walking in the Spirit.
- E. The difference between spirit and flesh:
 - 1. The spiritual is that which emanates from God, while that which is fleshly comes from us.
 - 2. God operates from a spiritual structure and kingdom. Human beings operate from a secular or worldly structure.
 - 3. A spiritual Christian (that is, one who is filled with the Spirit) loves God's Word. A carnal Christian (that is, one who is striving in their own strength to please God) finds the Law a system of bondage and defeat.
 - 4. Characteristics of a Spirit-filled Christian:
 - a. One who is filled with the Holy Spirit—Ephesians 5:18
 - b. One who understands the Person and ministry of the Holy Spirit—Acts 19:2
 - c. One who lives under the authority of the Holy Spirit, meaning that they live, walk, and are led by the Holy Spirit—Galatians 5:24-25
 - d. One who is aggressively seeking godliness—1 Timothy 4:7b

- e. One who produces evidence of the fruit of the Spirit in their life—Galatians 5:22-23
 - f. One who understands law and grace
 - g. One who is convinced that the unlawful use of law results in disaster
5. Characteristics of the carnal Christian—Galatians 5:19-20
6. Characteristics of the spiritual world:
- a. God is spirit.....John 4:24
 - b. God's kingdom is spiritual.....John 18:36
 - c. God's Word is spirit.....John 6:63
 - d. The Law is spiritual.....Romans 7:14
 - e. God gives spiritual gifts.....Romans 12:6
 - f. God desires that we be fully aware of spiritual things.....1 Corinthians 12:1
 - g. God fills us with His Spirit.....Ephesians 5:18
 - h. God blesses us with every spiritual blessing.....Ephesians 1:3
 - i. We are to judge everything.....1 Corinthians 2:15
 - j. God's Spirit gives us liberty.....2 Corinthians 3:17
 - k. We are to walk in the Spirit.....Galatians 5:16
 - l. We are to be led by the Spirit.....Galatians 5:18
 - m. We are to live in the Spirit.....Galatians 5:25

- n. We are to be spiritual.....Galatians 6:1
- o. We are to demonstrate the fruits
of the Spirit in our lives.....Galatians 5:22-23

DAY FIVE

A PRIMER ON THE LAW: SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

I Understanding the Basics of the Law

A. Man

1. At the Fall, all of mankind underwent a change in their “nature.” We went from being prone to righteousness to being prone to sin. We became as different from what God intended for us as light is different from darkness. Fallen people are depraved, controlled by their indwelling sin, pawns and slaves to Satan.
2. At regeneration, our nature is changed again. We go from having a nature prone to sin to having a nature prone to righteousness. Each of us who chooses to trust in Christ as Savior and Lord becomes a spiritual being.
3. Although the Christian has a new nature and a renewed spirit, we still have our flesh to contend with—our soul and our body. A Christian can, unfortunately, be “fleshly,” that is, dominated either by our soul (souliness/self) and or by our body (carnal).

B. God

1. God is spirit, and His kingdom is spiritual. Through Christ's atonement, we are brought into His spiritual realm.
2. God's process of sanctification is to bring each of us to the peak of spirituality or godliness, a lifelong, continuous, gradual transformation driven by and directed by His Spirit.

3. When a Christian operates in their flesh—that is, allowing themselves to be dominated either by their soul or body (or both)—they introduce internal contradiction between their spirit and their flesh, and an external contradiction between themselves and God.

C. The World

1. Living on the physical earth means that our physical bodies exist in a system dominated and controlled by Satan. This world exists in apposition to God's kingdom—while simultaneously standing in opposition to God Himself. For our purposes here, the world system bases its pattern of acceptance, approval, recognition, etc., on how well we perform, on what we achieve, and on our position in this physical life.
2. The world never accepts you on the basis of who you are, but on what you are and what you do.

D. The Flesh

1. Fallen man is incurably religious.
2. Our flesh is fascinated by religion, striving to become as religious as possible.
3. God created human beings with an innate propensity for law. Therefore, we attempt by default to satisfy our religious leanings through law.
4. Our flesh tries to meet its own needs through law, attempting to find acceptance within the world's system of performance.

E. The Fall

1. We are “set up” by the world system through the programming of our belief system—specifically, our ties to our old, pre-regeneration identity.

- a. The Fall broke our relationship with God and our distorted our view of Him.
 - b. Our view of God determines how we worship Him.
 - c. Worship is the basis of true worth. Without right worship, wrong worth results.
 - d. Worth is the basis of all identity—self-esteem, self-image, etc. Wrong worship creates wrong worth, which in turn creates identity problems.
 - e. We operate within a system that not only creates self-worth problems, but also constantly reinforces self-worth as our system of self- and others' acceptance, forcing us to greater and greater degrees of performance in our attempts to achieve it. At the same time, the world makes an idol of self-image, deceiving us into pursuing a counterfeit solution that only further exacerbates our default identity problem.
 - f. Our identity—what we believe ourselves to be—dictates our behavior.
 - g. The Fall causes us to make activity our desired objective—rather than productivity.
 - h. We focus our lives on our performance (self-glorification), rather than on God.
2. Our belief system has been programmed by the world. The only way to effectively change this programming is to wholly submit ourselves to the process of allowing God's Spirit to renew our minds.

3. A belief system that causes a person to feel unworthy forces them to direct all of their efforts onto becoming a “worthy” person in and of themselves. The world encourages this approach, further perpetuating the very problem it proposes to solve.

F. Our Nature

1. We possess an innate sense of law (among other things).
2. Our nature operates from a default sense of “unconditionalness”—that is, we possess an innate sense that we want to have our needs met unconditionally, and we want to be accepted on the basis of who we are rather than by what we do.

G. The World System

1. Accepts a person only on the basis of their breeding, their station in life, and their performance.
2. Acceptance is always conditioned by performance, achievement, etc.

H. Compensating Systems

1. In lieu of receiving unconditionally, most people tend to build “compensating systems,” designed to fulfill and meet the needs that they sense they are lacking.
2. Compensating systems are in reality self-imposed laws and standards that we impose upon ourselves to gain conditionally what we cannot gain unconditionally.
3. Because our compensating systems are actually law, when Christians turn to compensating systems, it means they invoke the “unlawful use of law” in their lives, bringing upon themselves the curse of law.

4. We constantly reinforce compensation systems in our lives through a system of “rewards/punishments.”

- I. Systems Development

1. The need for parental approval:
 - a. Children learn at an early age that parental approval is earned rather than given.
 - b. When other siblings are present, intense rivalries develop to compete for parental approval.
2. The need for acceptance, recognition, etc.
 - a. Children also learn at an early age that they exist in a world of competition, which means that the better they can perform, the more (and better) “rewards” they can earn.
 - b. Although it occurs on a subconscious level, because we strongly feel the pain of rejection and the fear of disapproval, we tend to quickly establish compensating systems that over time become deeply entrenched within our unique belief system.
3. The need to alleviate insecurities
 - a. The greater the insecurity a child feels, the greater their need for a “security blanket” to protect themselves. (Adolescent aggression is one such example of a security blanket.)
 - b. The greater the insecurity, the greater the need for control. This desire for control only intensifies as a child grows older.
4. The need to meet expectations

- a. Children feel they need to meet their parents' expectations in order to offset their fears not just of punishment, but more poignantly of disapproval and rejection.
 - b. As children grow older, they discover they must also meet cultural, social, peer, and authority figure's expectations to offset those same fears (disapproval, rejection, and punishment).
- 5. The need for protection
 - a. Against a hostile world attitude.
 - b. To build up resistance against hidden desires.
- 6. The need to express worship
 - a. Christians often tend to seek God through law, rather than through grace.
 - b. As we grow up, most of us tend to use the very same system we developed to gain our parents' approval to attempt to gain God's approval.
- j. Systems Control
 - 1. Stroking (Rewards)
 - a. Self-achievement within and through law gives us a sense of well being, allowing us to feel good about ourselves. And although we're pursuing self-achievement as a means to offset poor self-image, it doesn't work.
 - b. The ever-increasing demands of law force us to pursue ever-greater levels of performance, all in a futile attempt to gain the accolades (rewards) of our parents, peers, and others we desire to accept us.

2. Lifestyle

- a. Law becomes a lifestyle. To the very laws that we ourselves created, we hand over the power to govern over us.
- b. Our compensating systems form the basis for our self-imposed laws, which in turn lay the foundation for the superstructure we attempt to apply to our lives. We then have the illusion (that is, a counterfeit worldview) that we are somehow “in control” of our lives, as well as our circumstances.
- c. Once we set up a system, we are then forced to continue expanding it at an ever-increasing rate, constantly attempting to adapt to address the changing circumstances that inevitably come with the realities of life experience.

3. Authority

- a. When a person creates law, they don't control it—it controls them.
- b. People come under the absolute authority of their own self-imposed laws.