



GOSPEL INSTITUTE

101 SIMPLE COMPARISONS

BETWEEN LAW + GRACE

Even though as believers we are not under law but under grace, we still have the effects of our old life under the law imprinted in our minds - that is a law mindset. A law mindset is an old way of thinking that causes you to rely on your performance to make things happen. Instead of relying on the indwelling life of Christ:

- You strive to become what you already are
- You seek to find what you already possess
- You try to measure up you when you already do
- You try to cross a divide that isn't there
- You ask God to do what He's already done

In short, you try to re-accomplish what Christ already has accomplished on your behalf. A law mindset causes you to sin, make you feel condemned and gives you a sense you're never doing enough. Talking about frustration!

The moment you choose to believe the Gospel of Grace, however, you'll experience rest, joy and freedom because you stop trying and start trusting. To experience restful trust and live in joyful freedom we need to be able to discern law from grace.

Here's a Cheat Sheet with 101 simple comparisons between a law mindset versus a grace mindset.

	Law Mindset (Old Covenant)	Grace Mindset (New Covenant)
1.	God's people are under law	God's people are under grace
2.	God's people are sinners; unholy, unrighteous and imperfect	God's people are saints; holy, righteous and perfect
3.	God's people are slaves to sin	God's people are slaves to righteousness
4.	God's people ask God for forgiveness to be forgiven	God's people are already forgiven
5.	God's people are concerned about "sin in the camp"	God's people rejoice in the fact that Jesus has taken away all sin
6.	God's people confess by reviewing their sin	God's people confess by reviewing the fact that all their sins - past, present and future - are forgiven
7.	God's people confess sin to be forgiven or put their sin "under the blood"	God's people confess they are already forgiven and that their sins have been removed by the blood
8.	God's people turn from sin (as repentance)	God's people turn to God (as repentance)
9.	God's people believe the Holy Spirit convicts them of their sin	God's people believe the Holy Spirit convicts them of their righteousness in Christ
10.	God's people ask the Holy Spirit to examine their heart and point out their sin and shortcomings	God's people ask the Holy Spirit to examine and show Jesus and His perfect sacrifice to them and hear Him say "I choose to remember your sins no more"
11.	God removes His presence from His people when they sin	God's people are the temple of the Holy Spirit, sealed and secured. He will never leave them

12.	God's people believe that "sin separates you from God"	God's people believe nothing can separate them from God or from the love of God
13.	God's people separate themselves from unclean things and touch no unclean thing to be holy	God's people are sanctified and holy, therefore don't get involved in what is unclean
14.	God's people are sin-conscious for it crouches at the door and desires to be their Master	God's people are Christ-conscious, not sin-conscious, for they have been set free from sin and live free from fear and condemnation
15.	God's people focus on self-sacrifice and human works	God's people focus on the sacrifice of Jesus and His finished work
16.	God's people do to be	God's people are who they are
17.	God's people through works try to become righteous, holy, perfect and Christ-like	God's people are righteous, holy, perfect and Christ-like and show it forth by allowing Christ to live His life through them
18.	God's people have a wicked heart – a heart of stone – that's deceitful above all things and sing "create in me a clean heart"	God's people have received a new, clean and holy heart – a heart of flesh – that's an identical copy of Jesus' heart
19.	God's people emphasize sanctification as a life-long process of being cleaned up	God's people emphasize sanctification being a Person – Jesus Christ – and that they are cleaned up once for all
20.	God's people try their best to become godly	God's people are godly in Christ
21.	God's people have a lack-mentality and are constantly crying out for "more" - more blessings, more favor, more love, more anointing etc.	God's people are complete in Christ. They have already been given everything they will ever need. They are blessed. They have favor. They have received the fullness of His love. They are anointed
22.	God's people seek and ask for "a fresh infilling" or "anointing" of the Holy Spirit	God's people are filled with the fullness of God's Spirit and anointing
23.	God's people seek and ask God for more faith	God's people have received the faith of God and are full of God's supernatural faith
24.	God's people pray and fast for more spiritual power and authority	God's people possess raising from the dead power and have the same authority as Jesus has
25.	God's people fight for victory	God's people fight from a place of victory
26.	God's people use language of "thirst" and "hunger"	God's people believe in Jesus, therefore never thirst or hunger
27.	God's people use language of "longing" and "lack"	God's people are married to Mr. Satisfaction – Jesus Christ; are filled with the fullness of God and lack nothing
28.	God's people always seek for "more of God"	God's people have received all of Him and are and are complete in Him
29.	God's people strive to get to another level	God's people are all equal and have the same standing as Jesus before the Father
30.	God's people chase His glory and talk about "clouds" and "pillars"	God's people have Christ, the hope of glory, living in them

31.	God's people are concerned not "to touch God's glory" for He doesn't share it with anyone	God's people are partakers of God's glory. As sons of glory they are carriers of God's glory
32.	God's people seek God to "find Him"	God's people are found by God and have found Him in return
33.	God people call themselves "God chasers"	God's people are God's home: and live in His permanent embrace
34.	God's people seek God's face	God's people are face to face with Him in spirit without any distance
35.	God's people ask God to show His glory, yet they believe no one can see the face and glory of God and live	God's people have confidence to draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith because they're partakers of His glory and are 24/7 face to face with Him
36.	God's people ask God for forgiveness for sin in their land and repent on behalf of their nation	God's people thank God that He's already forgiven the sin of the whole world 2000 years ago and that He doesn't hold man's sin against them
37.	God's people seek mantels for different spiritual things	God's people are clothed with one mantle alone: Jesus Christ
38.	God's people don't move unless God's presence goes with them, before them and when He prepares the way	God's people move because God's presence is in them and He works through them. When they move, God moves.
39.	God's people seek double portions of spiritual things, like "a double portion of anointing"	God's people have received one portion which includes every spiritual blessing: the full portion or measure of Christ. He's the Anointed One which makes His people just as anointed as He is
40.	God's people strive to earn acceptance, blessings and favor with God	God's people are already accepted, blessed and favored
41.	God's people draw close to God by means of sacrifice, devotion and ritual	God's people are in effortless union with God, therefore never try to get closer to Him
42.	God's people go to church or temples to meet with God	God's people are the church and the temple of God and as they do life together with God they meet Him everywhere.
43.	God's people approach the Holy of Holies in the hopes to enter	God's people are permanent 1 st class members of the holy of holies, therefore they don't enter a place where they already are
44.	God's people would enter God's presence	God's people are 24/7 in His presence, thus never "enter His presence" because God Himself has entered them
45.	God's people seek to encounter God	God's people are not seeking the encounter of a lifetime, but are in a life-time of encounter
46.	God's people are searching and praying for an open heaven ("God, rend the heavens")	God's people are an open heaven

47.	God's people beg God to come down	God's people rest in the fact God already has come down - 2000 years ago - and makes His home in those who believe in Jesus
48.	God's people are living under a brass heaven; one that's shut	God's people are living under a permanent open heaven
49.	God's people look and sing to God to let it rain, for fire to fall, and wind to blow	God's people enjoy the rain, fire and wind 24/7 as they rely on the Spirit's indwelling Presence, who is Living Water, Consuming fire and the Fountain of desire
50.	God's people try to change the atmosphere to change people	God's people are the atmosphere who change people
51.	God's people seek God's perfect will for their life and are afraid to make the wrong choice and getting "out of the centre of God's will"	God's people have found God's perfect will, revealed in the Person Jesus Christ. Jesus is the perfect will of God for their lives
52.	God's people have on occasion the Spirit on them which makes them "anointed"	God's people are anointed therefore the Spirit is on them
53.	God's people through works try to get heaven down on earth	God's people are heaven on earth
54.	God's people pray for revival	God's people are revived to be revival
55.	God's people seek for keys to have "revival"	God's people are revival
56.	God's people wait and expect "a move of God"	God's people are the move of God
57.	God's people talk and prophecy about a "new thing" to happen and about "new seasons" that are around the corner or that have arrived.	God's people talk and declare that all things are made new by the one offering of Jesus; how they're new creations who are placed into continual season of the New Covenant enjoying the new and living way to relate to the Father through His Son Jesus Christ
58.	God's people look and wait for a visitation of God	God's people are His habitation
59.	God's people cry out for "an outpouring of God's Spirit"	God's people are God's "down-pouring" as they let the Living Water pour out of their inmost being
60.	God's people ask God to make wrong things right	God's people are made right with God to make wrong things right on earth on His behalf
61.	God's people beg and plead God for breakthrough	God's people have already received their breakthrough - once for all - to bring breakthrough to other people's lives
62.	God's people tell God "send us out"	God's people are already the "send out ones" from the moment of conversion
63.	God's people wait on God "to renew their strength"	God's people have already received God's strength and make use of it as they live by the Spirit
64.	God's people expect to go to heaven one day	God's people are already in heaven - seated with Christ

65.	God's people are looking for God to speak through others and hear a voice from heaven (an outside source)	God has already spoken through His Son and continuous to speak through the indwelling Spirit
66.	God's people don't act unless they get "a leading" or "a rhema word" from God what to do, when to do it and how to do it	God's people always act based on the Word and as they do they're led by the Spirit because the Word and the Spirit are one
67.	God's people think the Christian life revolves around them and what they do for Christ	God's people believe it's all about Christ and what He has done for them
68.	God's people do their best and try hard to please God	God's people are the pleasure of God and rest in the knowledge that He is well-pleased with them
69.	God's people are under a curse, like "a generational curse"	God's people are free of any curse since Jesus became a curse for them
70.	God's people serve God as if He needs them and is served by human hands and their self-efforts	God's people allow God to serve them; letting God work through them to bless others
71.	God's people believe the Christian life is "all of God and none of me"	God's people believe it's "all of God and all of me" because of their union with Him
72.	God's people believe God can or will heal people of sickness and disease	God's people believe God has already healed all sickness and disease by the stripes of Jesus
73.	God's people consider the Kingdom of God a matter of talk	God's people consider the Kingdom of God not a matter of talk but of power
74.	God's people believe unconfessed sin is a blockage to healing, to minister to others and to have their prayers answered	God people are sin-free in Christ: He has removed the sin-blockage once for all. We relate to God through a new and living way without any blockage of sin or distance
75.	God's people follow signs and wonders	Signs and wonders follow God's people
76.	God's people believe God withdraws His presence or "lifts His grace" in due season	God's people enjoy the fact that God lives in them and will never leave them
77.	God's people think God is in a bad mood and that He is an angry God who is ready to punish the moment they mess up	God's people know that God is in an outrageously good mood! And that He will never get angry at them because sin is punished on the cross
78.	God's people are occupied by appearance and self-image	God's people are occupied with God – who lives in their heart – and Christ's image which is their true self-image
79.	God's people have confidence in the flesh living a self-righteous life	God's people have confidence in Christ and His righteousness
80.	God's people give God worth and honor by their performance	God's people give God worth and honor by resting in Christ's performance
81.	God's people stand on the principle P.U.S.H. through self-effort (Pray Until Something Happens)	God's people don't bang on the "doors of heaven" but speak faith-filled words to bring what is not into existence
82.	God's people ask themselves "What Would Jesus Do" (WWJD)	God's people let God work through them and say "Watch What Jesus Does" (WWJD)

83.	God's people are trying to "make Jesus Lord of their lives" and talk about "laying down their rights"	God's people celebrate the fact that Christ is their life and by default already "Lord" of it and esteem Him as their Treasure
84.	God's people talk to God about their mountain (problem)	God's people talk to the mountain about their God
85.	God's people do His work because they have to	God's people do His work because they get to
86.	God's people confess "without Jesus I can't do anything"	God's people confess "I am with Jesus, so I can do all things through Him who strengthens me"
87.	God's people are on a life-long journey to enter the promised land	God's people have arrived into the Promised Land – Jesus Christ. They have already reached their eternal Destiny
88.	God's people go through "seasons of wilderness and dryness"	God's people are united with the Fountain of Living Water and thus never dry up as they continue to drink from the Grace tap.
89.	God's people are uncertain about God's character and His will and confess "His thoughts are higher than ours and His ways are mysterious"	God's people are one with God, therefore His ways are their ways and His thoughts are their thoughts. What may be known about God is manifest in them. And in Christ, God has revealed the mystery that was hidden for ages
90.	God's people tithe because they owe God 10 percent of their income and will be blessed when they give	God's people don't owe God a dime. They don't pay God back for what He's given as a gift. They don't tithe to get God's blessings but give cheerfully whatever they decide in their heart because they are already blessed
91.	God's people rely on their faithfulness, commitment and discipline for their salvation and eternal security	God's people rely on God's faithfulness, commitment and the finished work of the cross for salvation and eternal security
92.	God's people stand on their promises to God	God's people stand on His promises to them
93.	God's people participate in accountability groups where they emphasize failure and sin and make commitments to do good and avoid evil	God's people participate in New Creation realities groups where they emphasize identity (holy, sinless, perfect) over behavior, making no commitment except to be Christ-focused and not self- and sin focused
94.	God's people see themselves in the physical mirror as imperfect and conclude "nobody is perfect"	God's people see themselves in the mirror of Christ's image and conclude "I am perfect"
95.	God's people have to overcome life's trials and dress themselves in white clothes, otherwise God will blot out their name	God's people have received Jesus' world-overcoming faith and victory, are clothed with His clean righteous clothes and God promised to never blot out their name
96.	God's people are priests who are appointed to continuously stand to minister to God without any rest to bring sacrifices that are well-pleasing and fragrant aromas to God	God's people are royal priests who are appointed to continuously sit on the throne at the right hand of the Father to minister to God from a place of rest – being well-pleasing and a fragrant aroma to God in Christ

97.	God's people are afraid God might be disappointed or angry at them due to their sin, failure and shortcomings	God's people are at peace because they know God is never disappointed or angry at them because sin is a non-issue between God and them
98.	God's people don't dare to draw near God who is holy, to be feared and lives in unapproachable light	God's people were once far away but have been brought near by the blood of Christ and are the light of the world
99.	God's people talk about having a broken and contrite heart	God's people talk about having received a wholesome and perfect heart in Christ
100.	God's people are focused on their obedience or lack thereof and are afraid of doing the wrong things	God's people are focused on Jesus' obedience that's imputed unto them and enjoy the fact that He made all things right between the Father and them
101.	God's people emphasize that Grace and Truth need to be kept in balance	God's people rest in the fact that Jesus Christ is Grace and Truth. Grace and Truth are synonymous; both are embodied in Christ, therefore they can't be balanced

I trust this Cheat Sheet helps you to discern law from grace in order to live in joyful freedom. However, I know how hard it can be to spot law preaching, especially if you're new to the message of grace. For that reason here's a simple question that will help you know if you are being deceived by law preaching or if you are enjoying undiluted grace preaching: *does this preaching or practice point to Christ and His performance or to you and your performance?*

- If it points to Christ, what He has done and who you are in Him = Grace
- If it points to you, what you have done or what you must do = Law

In other words, grace makes you Christ-conscious and law makes you self-conscious.