

# God's Mercy and the Devil's Grace Part 3 of 6: Satan Targets the Grace Message; Marcion's Heresy (Presented in 2016)

The following text is a message from Corner Fringe Ministries that was presented by Daniel Joseph. The original presentation can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pkMIpjApW1Q>

**\*Portions of this document have been edited from the video message to better present a written document. All the Scripture verses are from the New King James Version unless otherwise noted and are in the red text. Therefore, it is recommended that this document is printed in color. The Hebrew is to be read from right to left.**

This series part was started with a message by David Wilkerson entitled *Last Days Deception*. To hear the audio on Wilkerson's presentation, this is one link [https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=29&v=TPdTxSNcC5Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=29&v=TPdTxSNcC5Y)

This is Wilkerson's transcribed message. Whether they want to hear it or not, the LORD always sends forth watchmen to warn. He always does. He never does anything until He warns.

[I want to talk about] The gospel of accommodation. To accommodate, it means to adapt. It means to make suitable or acceptable. It also means to adjust; to make something very convenient. It means to yield to the desires of others to placate them.

Now you put that together, and I'm talking about a gospel that has been invented in hell and now being propagated all over the United States. It's suitable, acceptable, convenient; a gospel that has yielded to the desires of the weakness of sinful men.

I call it the gospel of accommodation because it's adapting and adjusting the gospel to appease and attract sinners. This gospel accommodation is primarily an American cultural invention to ease our lifestyle. It appeals primarily to white American [who are] rich and prosperous. It was invented out of hell itself.

This new gospel is sweeping America and the nation. It is influencing the ministers of every denomination. It's giving birth to mega churches. Some of the largest churches in the United States are involved in this gospel. It is a non-confronting, convenient gospel. It is spoon fed to the congregation by skits, humorous skits [and] drama; short, nonabrasive, twenty minute messages. And it is all called seeker friendly. The seeker friendly churches. And one of these days, there may be somebody [who] moves into the city to bring one of these churches right into New York City.

They are springing up now, overnight, and suddenly thousands attend. This new gospel is being propagated by bright, young, intelligent, and talented ministers. They came upon a formula by which you can go into any city and any town and almost overnight build a mega church. And as I understand this formula, you begin by going into the community with your workers, and you poll the community to find out what the sinner found offensive about attending church or "Why don't you attend church? What was offensive about it? What would we have to do to bring you back into the church; what would make you comfortable? What would you like to see? You don't like choirs; we will do away with choirs. You don't like suits and shirts; you come the way you choose. Just tell us what you want."

They survey the community, and then they sit in there with their computers, [in] their conference rooms, and they design a program that will make it comfortable for the sinner, and make it friendly. Rather than call it sinner friendly, they call it seeker friendly and try to attract them to come into the house of God.

It's becoming the most prosperous, most flourishing of all religious movements in the history of America. The churches are run like corporations; the pastor is the C.E.O., chief executive officer, and it's big business. And this formula is now been cleverly packaged, and it is now being pushed in seminars all over the United States. It sounds good. What they say sounds very good. It sounds spiritual in its goals; it sounds like Jesus is the central theme. And folks, I'm not going to name any names because I'm not talking about the character of these men. I'm talking about the gospel they preach.

I am here to remind you that Paul the Apostle warned of the coming of another gospel which we have not preached. He said there is coming another gospel that's going to preacher another Jesus. You'll hear his name; it will sound sweet, but it's not the Jesus that I preach, Paul said. It's not the true Jesus.

Paul was amazed. He said, "You are so removed from Him they called you into the grace of Christ to another gospel." Folks, listen to me. There is in the land right now thousands of people sitting under another gospel, another Jesus, being preached by ministers who have lost the touch of God and been transformed into angels of light to come and deceive, if possible, even the elect of God.

Paul goes to warn the church it's really not another gospel, but it's a perversion of the gospel of Christ, which is really not another, Paul said. But there be some that trouble you but pervert or change the gospel of Christ. He said, "They're going to change it; they're going to accommodate the sinner. They're going accommodate their pleasures; they're going to accommodate their needs; they're going to accommodate all of them. They're going to design a gospel with their own Christ, their own doctrine."

Then this awful warning from Paul, "But though we or an angel of heaven preach any other gospel unto you but that which we preached unto you, let him be accursed. Let him be accursed." I didn't say that; the Apostle Paul said it, "If anybody preaches another gospel what you've heard; if anyone preach anything but the crucified Christ; if anyone preaches anything that appeases man in his sin, that's not the gospel you heard from me. And if anyone preaches another, let him be accursed."

When he said it's going to be dangerous because it's going to come from seemingly pious, sincere ministers, that's what made the doctrine called Antinomianism so dangerous because it was in the hands of some very fine, good living men like Dr. Crisp who was one of the founders of that anti-Law movement back during the Puritan age [of] anti Law. They cast aside the burden of the Law, and the reason it was accepted was because the men who preached it seemed to be so pious.

Daniel starts his message here.

For the simple reason that the reality of the nature of the things we're going to be covering, I wanted you to get a taste of one of his fiery sermons. This guy was so incredible; he was so powerful in his methodology. He had eyes to see; he had ears to hear. Let me tell you something. You go back into the late sixty's and early seventy's, and he was saying things that people told him he was nuts, he was crazy, and he was insane to say. He made outrageous claims. For example, he said, "There is coming a time when the Church will normalize homosexuality. There is coming a time when there will be Church

leaders who are embracing the act itself. These people will be leading congregations.” He said this in the early seventy's, and they said he was insane. Yet, look at what is happening today.

What I'm telling you is Wilkerson saw what was happening to the Church. He is one of the most powerful, influential evangelists who have ever graced this land. He saw something. He saw the churches had been penetrated by the evil one. He saw what was going on. But now the new blueprint of the church is to look at corporate America. If we're going to be successful as a community, we need to do what they're doing. We need to do what the world's doing to become successful and to bring in profits. This is the blueprint for us today, and he saw it happening. He saw the seminaries kicking the pastors out one after another, sending them through, and just pumping them out. They are preaching this message and utilizing this formula. Wilkerson saw all this happening.

I don't know if you caught it where I ended Wilkerson's message. He saw antinomianism creeping into the Church. He saw it with his eyes where there was this loathing, this hatred, for the Law of God that had crept into the Church.

These things are real. I'm going to tell you something. The things David Wilkerson saw beginning to happen in the Church, the seeds that were being planted, they have come full circle. What he saw has been brought to fruition. Satan has crept into the Church, and what he has done? He has gotten into the innermost sanctum of the faith, and he's been ripping out the vital organs of the faith. The worst part is the church doesn't even know it. They have no idea what is happening to them. They have no idea they're really following another gospel. To them, it is business, pun intended, business as usual.

People in the Church are thinking, “The gospel is being preached; we're telling people about Jesus; everything's wonderful.” The only problem is it's not the gospel of the Bible. It is not the gospel of the first-century Jewish people. The Jewish believers and the Jewish disciples who went out and transformed the world by turning it upside down did not preach the gospel being preached by these churches. I'm going to tell you it sounds good, it feels even better, and it comes packaged so beautifully with all this array of wonderful, useful terminology. This is terminology we love to bathe ourselves in such as love, grace, liberty, and freedom. Who doesn't want those things?

They're preaching Christ. They are preaching Him crucified. How can something seem so right and yet be so wrong? The answer to that question becomes obvious when you investigate the gospel, the grace message that is being preached today. When you start to peel back the layers, you start to discover something. It is not as biblical as it is being portrayed.

I want you to understand something. When you understand the goals and objectives of our enemy, that's when things come into focus. I don't know if you noticed or not, but the New Testament spends a lot of time talking about the objectives of HaSatan. It spends a lot of time with all of these warnings. Yeshua's ministry was filled with the warnings of HaSatan's objectives. I believe we talked about this in lesson one. What is Satan's primary objective? What is the number one goal on his to-do list? It is to target the grace message. This is target number one.



I'm going to tell you this is the kill shot. If you can in any way alter the true gospel, even a little bit, just a tiny bit, I promise you it will result in 100 percent fatality. It's going

for the juggler. There will be no survivors. The enemy knows this, so he targets the grace message.

However, he's crafty. He doesn't do away with the gospel. He redesigns it just ever so slightly, and this new package that he has that is beautiful and glitters with light, it's more appealing to the masses. His version is more acceptable because it's not as offensive. It is very inclusive of everyone. It doesn't matter who you are; you can come as you are. Satan's gospel doesn't need you to change. This is the gospel that is being preached today. Just come and enjoy the service. God loves you! This false gospel is what we are dealing with today.

In our message today, we're going to be covering the inner core of this pseudo-gospel that is not God's mercy, but it's the devil's grace. The way I want to do this is by taking you back into Church history, and I want to show you some things that were said in the first century that came right out of the Bible. Then I want to show you something that happened in the second century that was a pivotal moment in time.

With that said, I want to take you to Jude 1:3—**Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.** Jude said—**once for all delivered to the saints.** This is interesting because as I mentioned before in week one, here Jude comes to the front lines, cries out, and he sounds the alarm to his brothers and sisters in the faith. The cry is, “We are under attack. The enemy is attacking us.” The call is to earnestly rise and defend the faith.

Continuing in Jude 1:4—**For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness.** So Jude says this attack that is mentioned is within the Church. It was an attack on the grace message, the gospel. Men were creeping in unnoticed. They were sitting right next to us, and they were defiling this beautiful and holy message. So when we go all the way back to the first century, we find right in the pages of the Bible that the first thing Satan did was he went for the kill shot. He went for the juggler. He went after the grace message itself. The devil sent his men into the Church, and they appeared to say all the right things. They appear to look the part because they have sheep's clothing on. They raise their hands, bow their head, pray, and speak the name of Yeshua. Inside, however, they are ravenous wolves who have come in as spiritual anesthesiologists to literally deaden, to kill, the pain of godly sorrow so that people don't turn and repent which leads to salvation.

Through their infectious and attractive rhetoric, they appeal to the masses. More and more believers continue to wallow in their sin while they profess they are under grace. I'm telling you it is a great delusion.

I want to take you to 1 Peter 2:15-16—<sup>15</sup> **For this is the will of God, that by doing good you may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men--** <sup>16</sup> **as free, yet not using liberty as a cloak for vice.** What an amazing statement! Peter, a Jew speaking to his Jewish brother, says, “We're free. We're under liberty, but we need to be careful because something is happening.” Peter saw the exact same thing Jude saw which was—**not using liberty as a cloak for vice.** In other words, he's saying, “Don't you dare go out and justify your sins, your desires of your heart, or your actions simply by putting the cloak on that says ‘Well, wait a second. I'm under grace. I'm not under Law. I'm under grace, so I can do this. This is perfectly permissible. It doesn't matter what it says in the Law, the Tanakh, or the Torah. This is OK because now we are under grace.’”

I'm telling you something. This is the grace the devil is offering the Church today. It is a grace that tells you that you don't need to listen to the Law of God. In fact, it goes so far as to say, "If you who are under grace do not reject the Law entirely, you cannot be under grace. You cannot continue under grace. You must reject the Law."

I really believe this when I say this to you; the greatest deception this world has ever known is this message. This is what David Wilkerson saw. It is what we see happening in many of the churches today. Satan has gone out, and he is selling this false gospel, and the Church is buying it. They're buying all of it.

We should understand why this is happening. Instead, we are thinking, "How is this possible? They are preaching Jesus. This is too crazy; it doesn't even make any sense." I tell you, it makes perfect sense.

Do you know what the easiest marketing tactic is? You don't have to be elaborate in your marketing scheme. It's really simple. Go sell something to someone who needs it, who wants it, and who desires it. In other words, what I'm saying to you is Satan comes up to you, and he starts to speak to your flesh. He tells you that you can do this, and you can do that. You're perfectly OK doing these things. Go ahead and embrace them. Eat of the fruit of the tree; you shall surely not die." I'm going to tell you right now that your flesh will consume and lap up every last word he sells you. As he speaks to your heart; as he speaks to your mind; this is what's going to happen.

With that said, I want to take you to the second century. Something monumental took place. Let me say this, so you feel the weight of it. In the second century, there was an unprecedented attack unleashed upon the faith. It was like the world had never seen before. There was a particular move, or if you would call it a spirit, that went forth, and it wreaks havoc on the Church so much so that men were scrambling to combat it. Godly, righteous men like Jude, Peter, and Paul were going forth to the front line to war against it. The most disturbing thing about this particular spiritual move is it is moving in the Church today in full force. As we go through this, it is going to send chills down your spine.

With that said, I want to introduce you to a man by the name of Marcion of Sinope. He was a gentleman who was born in the first century and lived well into the end of the second century. He was said to be a wealthy ship owner. Interestingly enough, he was the son of a Christian Bishop. You need to understand something about Marcion; he comes from the faith background. He comes from that background, so he has this heritage in him.

As Marcion continues in his life, something happens. He all of a sudden gets excommunicated. Godly men, men who fear God, started coming out from all over the place, and they were crying out in their communities that Marcion was a heretic; stay away from him. His name and doctrine spread like wildfire.

Having said that, I do want to emphasize something about Marcion. Marcion did not start out as a heretic. Actually, according to history, we find it was the exact opposite. We know this not just because of the fact he came from Christian parents. It goes beyond that. We are told in Church history he actually walked the walk of faith. He knew the truth. Let me read you this



commentary from Tertullian which is Church history. [That portion of it \(truth\) which we alone receive is so much older than Marcion, that Marcion himself once believed it, when in the first warmth of faith he contributed money to the church, which along with himself was afterwards rejected, when he fell away from our truth into his own heresy \(Adversus Marcionem, Bk IV, Ch IV\).](#)

Tertullian identifies Marcion as having started out on the right path. In fact, the statement he gave regarding all this money Marcion gave to the church testifies to how Marcion fell away. Marcion was very wealthy, and he gave a substantial amount of money to the Church in Rome, and they accepted the money because he was in the faith, and everything was fine. Shortly after that, he fell into his heresy. When that happened, the Church in Rome gave the money back; they didn't want it.

So Marcion believed the truth of the gospel just as all the other first-century believers did. He was on the narrow path. But he fell away. This makes you think of a Scripture Paul talks about, and then he gives a warning. 1 Timothy 4:1—**Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons.** Let me tell you something; this is exactly what happened to Marcion. Marcion gave heed to this deceiving spirit; he gave heed to a doctrine of demons, and it literally led him into the land of apostasy.

If you're going to understand this message, you need to understand this point. Despite Marcion being deemed a heretic, he did not go into another faith. He did not start worshipping Baal. He didn't join Mithraism or any other pagan religion of his days. Marcion continued to preach Jesus and preached Him crucified. He preached Yeshua is the salvation, and through Yeshua we have forgiveness. He didn't go anywhere else as it would seem, or you would think. He stayed the course in his mind and stayed true to Christianity.

For many believers today, when we when we think about departing from the faith and being deemed a heretic, we are immediately prompted to believe the departing person is now a Muslim or involved in New Age. The problem with that thinking is it's typically not the truth. Often, those who depart from the faith still continue in the faith in the sense they're continuing to proclaim Yeshua as LORD according to their understanding. They are following what they believe to be the sole truth. Therefore, they chart this course, and they are attempting to share this truth, this wonderful, beloved truth, that has been revealed to them. That is the reality, and such is the situation with Marcion. Marcion continued down that path proclaiming Yeshua LORD.

However, the deceiving spirits that got to Marcion led him just a titch askew. They lead him to teach things that would really bring people into the depths of hell. And what did Marcion teach? Let me share some of the things Marcion taught. Number one, he taught the God of the Old Testament is not the God of the New Testament. He taught the Old Testament God who he deemed as the Creator, was the God of the Jews. He called Him the demiurge, the God of creation.

What is interesting is Marcion said the God of creation is a just God. He is not a good God. The good God is the God of the New Testament who is superior to and reigns over the just God of creation and the Jews. But the God of the New Testament, the God of the Christians, is a forgiving and loving God.

It is interesting where Marcion took this because he got into some deeper aspects of this. We know in 2 Corinthians 12 Paul talks about three heavens and that the Third Heaven is the unseen heaven where the Father reigns with Yeshua at his right hand. Marcion taught that the demiurge, the God of creation

and God of the Jews, actually reigned in the second heaven. He was lower than Yeshua. The God of the New Testament, the God of the Christians, reigned in the third heaven.

When I start talking about two different gods in that there is a separation of the Old Testament and the New Testament, and the God of the Old Testament is the God of the Jews, and the God of the New Testament is the God of the Christians, what does that sound like? Have any of you heard any of that type of mantra in the Church today? The answer is, absolutely. What is dual covenant theology? Dual-covenant theology is the Old Testament is for the Jews; the New Testament is for the Christians.

Let me let me take this a step further. Did you know the first canon of Scripture regarding the New Testament is actually not the one we have today in our Protestant Bibles? It was actually Marcion's. Marcion is responsible for creating the first closed canon of Scripture. If you're not familiar with those terms, closed Canon means you take a compilation of books and say this is our life, this is holy, these are our instructions, and this is what we are to follow.

There is kind of a joke in the scholarly realm that because Marcion was the first one to put a canonized, the closed canon, Scripture together, people had to respond to his canon. As a result, we now have today what is in our Bibles. They had to start looking at all the letters they possessed in the early first, second, and third centuries, and they had a star looking at these things and determine what they were going to deem as the absolute, infallible word of God. They had to figure out what would become the true instructions for the Church. They had to do that because of Marcion.

So today we have twenty-seven books in the New Testament. Honestly, we could divide the Tanakh into two or three sections. Same thing with the New Testament. We can divide into sections the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Then there are all the letters from Paul, Peter, James, and the other writers.

Marcion's Bible is a little bit different, and I'm going somewhere with this. It is very important we go through this because I'm setting something up in order to reveal something to you. We have four gospels. Marcion had one gospel. He didn't call it by a name like we call Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. He just called it the Gospel. Marcion took the Gospel of Luke that we have today and did some editing. He entirely ripped out the first three chapters, and what was left he mutilated according to his own liking.

Now, this is very important to understand because the Marcionites came under fierce attack, venomous attack, by strong believers during the day who all had the Gospel of Luke. They had the full version. They looked at Marcion's and noticed much of the material was gone. Marcion had removed the first three chapters of Luke because he didn't believe in the virgin birth. They noticed Marcion had completely mutilated the Luke documents. Marcion had taken on some of the things a deist does.

I want to read to you Tertullian's commentary on Marcion's Gospel of Luke. It says—[For if the Gospel, said to be Luke's which is current among us](#) [In other words, they all had a copy] [\(we shall see whether it be also current with Marcion\), is the very one which, as Marcion argues in his Antitheses, was interpolated by the defenders of Judaism \(Adversus Marcionem, Bk IV, Ch IV\)](#). In other words, the reason Marcion's mutilated version of the Gospel Luke looks the way it did is because he went out and said the Jews have corrupted this document. He was an anti-Semitic; he was anti Jewish. Marcion said they corrupted the interpellation, they added things, and so it's totally corrupted.

Please listen to me when I say this. When people start coming to you and purporting their theology based on the fact they believe the document is corrupted, be very careful because I've seen that spirit before in Marcion. He's not the only one. This is a result of demonic spirits. Marcion insisted their version of the Gospel of Luke has been corrupted because the Jews corrupted it. He said they were trying to interpolate it. Interpolate means to read into text; to put things in there that shouldn't have been in there according to his mind.

Let me show you what his Bible looks like. On the left side, we have his Gospel of Luke, which is a mutilated form of Luke. Then we have his Apostalikon. At the head of his Apostalikon, we have



Galatians. That is interesting. Galatians is the one to receive the primary seat in his Bible. Then there are the Corinthians and Romans, but he didn't include the last couple of chapters of Romans. Then there is Thessalonians, Ephesians, Colossians, Philemon, and Philippians. Of course, he was always wonderfully generous in the creativity department with his books.

I want to ask a question. Do you notice anything peculiar about Marcion's Bible? First of all, you're asking yourself, "Where is the rest of it?" Where is the Tanakh (Old Testament)? Where's the rest of the New Testament? Where is the letter to the Hebrews? Where are James letter and Peter's Epistles? Where are John and his revelation? They are nowhere to be found. Anything that was Jewish, that even had even a sense of Jewishness, it had to go. But not just that, he didn't even include all of Paul's letters. You won't find any of the Pastoral Epistles. Where's Titus? It's not there.

Now let me go deeper here; you need to see the reality of what is going on here. Look at Marcion's Bible. Then look at the Christian Church today and what they base their faith and their theology on. If you want to talk theology with your average Christian who is caught up in the stuff David Wilkerson was talking about, they're going to go to the head of Marcion's Apostalikon. They're going to go to the letters of Paul. Their theology exclusively hinges on the letters of Paul versus the totality of the Bible. Is this disturbing? Yes, it is. When you start seeing these eerie parallels that exist between Marcionism and today's Church, you realize Marcionism is alive and well. The same mentality is being applied. This should send chills down your spine.

Now let me be very clear about the Apostle Paul. I, more than anyone, will stand to defend him as an authentic apostle because I have poured over his letters. He was anointed with the Ruach, and his words were anointed. There is no issue with Paul. What I am saying is this, we're going to get into talking about theology, doctrine, and how we live our lives. Marcion's compilation does not constitute the Bible. It does in modern-day Christianity, but it did not in the first century.

Obviously, you can ask yourself, "Why does Marcion's Bible look like this?" He had an agenda. The evil one has an agenda; he is very crafty at what he does.

Let's dig further into Marcion's ideology, so you understand where he's coming from, and then let's just see if there are any more crazy parallels. I want to take you back to Tertullian and his *Adversus Marcionem*. In book one, Tertullian explains the driving force behind all of Marcion's heresy. In other words, what was the thing that made the car run? It was the flux capacitor (Back to the Future).

Tertullian identified what it was that gave Marcion his doctrine, and how it infected the entire world. What was its power? [The separation of Law and Gospel is the primary and principle exploit of Marcion \(Tertullian, Bk 1 Adversus Marcionem, Earnest Evans. English\).](#)

Isn't that interesting? It was the separation. The tearing apart of Law from grace. This is what Tertullian has identified as the source of Marcion's power by which everything else is built upon. Tertullian continues—[is the primary and principle exploit of Marcion. His disciples cannot deny this, which stands at the head of their document, that document by which they are inducted, into and confirmed in this heresy \(Tertullian, Bk 1 Adversus Marcionem, Earnest Evans. English\).](#) In other words, what he says is when you wanted to become part of Marcion's faith, which is called Christian, you must confess there is a separation. You must agree the Law is the antithesis to grace. It is the antithesis to the gospel.

Tertullian goes on to say—[For such are Marcion's Antitheses, or Contrary Oppositions.](#) I just want to stop and explain this. Marcion's antithesis was his compilation of his writings explaining his doctrine. In the same way, Catholicism has their catechism. It is a very comprehensive book that explains why they believe what they believe. You get a clear understanding where the Roman Catholic Church is coming from. Marcion's writings were an antithesis, which really means opposition. Continuing—[which are designed to show the conflict and disagreement of the Gospel and the Law, so that they may argue further for a diversity of gods \(Tertullian, Bk 1 Adversus Marcionem, Earnest Evans. English\).](#)

Marcion's whole goal is to tear the grace away from the Law, which is this perfect harmonious thing that existed in the first and second century. Marcion came to destroy it. That was his primary exploit.

Let me explain something to you. This concept is so powerful. If you can successfully go forth and rip the Torah from the gospel, if you can create this dichotomy between the two, the sky is the limit. Anything can happen. Divorce rates in the Church can be as high as they are in the world. When you separate the Law from the gospel, pastors can engage in adulterous affairs and preach from the pulpit. These things can happen when you separate the Law from the Gospel.

Churches can start being run like corporations. You can change the Sabbath; you can arbitrarily begin changing commandments. You can start eating things that are unclean. It is all game when you separate the Law from the Gospel. There's nothing the adversary cannot accomplish when that happens. We cannot allow it to continue.

Tertullian says this—[Therefore, as it is precisely this separation of Law and Gospel which has suggested a god of the Gospel, other than and in opposition to the God of the Law, it is evident that before that separation was made, \[that\] god was still unknown who has just come into notice in consequence of the argument for separation: and so he was not revealed by Christ, who came before the separation, but was invented by Marcion. To two million \[Marcion\] says this therefore as it is precisely this separation](#)

of long gospel which has suggested a God of the Gospel other than in opposition to the God of the Law it is evident that before that separation was made that God was still unknown who has just come into notice in consequence of the argument for separation and so he was not revealed by machine who came before the separation but was **invented by Marcion** (emphasis added).

This was all from his mind. I don't think he was operating on his own. There's demonic influence. This was purely demonic.

Moving on—who set up the separation in opposition to that **peace between Gospel and Law** (emphasis added). This is proof! Tertullian is writing this in the second century. He tells us there is harmony, there is peace, between Law and grace. There is a relationship between the two. Yet, not so much today.

Continuing—which previously, from the appearance of Christ until the impudence [arrogance] of **Marcion, had been kept unimpaired**. He is saying no one had ever messed with this to this degree. No one had ever seen this distortion before.

We continue in the next line—and **unshaken by virtue of that reasoning which refused to contemplate any other god of the Law and the Gospel than that Creator against whom after so long a time, by a man of Pontus, separation has been let loose** (emphasis added). Separation of the Law and gospel went forth through Marcion.

Do you understand when you are looking at this statement, something unprecedented happened in the second century? The gates of hell were opened upon the Church, Satan came in like a flood, and it was all through this man, Marcion. Do you want to talk about an anti-Christ figure? He is it.

There's an interesting story about Marcion and Polycarp. Polycarp was another first-century Church Father. He was said to be an actual disciple of John the Apostle. Polycarp was the Bishop of Smyrna, which is one of the seven churches we read about Revelation. It was said Marcion traveled to Rome, or Polycarp traveled to Rome, and as Polycarp was walking around Rome, Marcion was on the street there, and Polycarp was just going to walk by and not even acknowledge him.

The story goes that Marcion cried out to Polycarp, and he said, “Polycarp recognize me.” In other words, recognize who I am and the things I am saying. Recognize me in the faith. Polycarp’s response was, “I recognize you Marcion. You're the firstborn of Satan.”

Let that statement sink down into your mind. Marcion was accused of being the firstborn of HaSatan. Think about what Marcion was responsible for and what they knew he was responsible for.

Just to give you an idea of how impactful Marcion really was, Tertullian makes a special comment about how successful his ideology was upon the faith—and he [Marcion] **found it easy to argue for a new and hitherto unknown divinity revealed in its own Christ, and thus with a little leaven has embittered with heretical acidity the whole mass of the faith** (emphasis added, Tertullian, Bk 1 Adversus Marcionem, Earnest Evans. English). The whole mass of the faith was actually infected by this doctrinal cancer.

Look at the church today. You see the effects of Marcion. You see it crystal clear. The devil's grace has been preached, and it's affecting the whole mass. Churches all over the world willingly choose, and they glory in their shame, to reject the Law of God and pretense that they're under the grace.

Apparently, to the church, and in the eyes of many believers, the Law has no value. There is no value; therefore, this is why they're not reading it. That's why we have Bibles that just have the New Testament! Why do they believe there is no value in the Law? Because HaSatan has come in and told them it's worthless. It's totally worthless.

I'm going to tell you something. If you fear God, and you serve Yeshua of Nazareth, you read His word with fear and trembling. You seek it out, and you seek to apply it to your life. Right? And think about this— **All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness (2 Timothy 3:16)**. Don't let anyone tell you different.

Going to 2 Thessalonians 2:7-8—**<sup>7</sup> For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work**. It's amazing how Paul in the first century is already seeing glimpses of it. He is already seeing things that are happening. Lawlessness is starting to move. He's not talking about the world; he's talking about the Church. The mystery of Lawlessness is already at work. Continuing—**only He who now restrains will do so until he is taken out of the way.<sup>8</sup> And then the lawless one (emphasis added)**. Understand that the anti-Christ figure is identified as something, Lawless! His title is the Torahless one. Is this the faith that you want to follow where they're telling you to do away with the Law? They tell you to run away from the Law because it is a curse. Don't go back to it; you'll never be saved. Is this Lawless faith what you want to follow? Absolutely not.

Continuing in 2 Thessalonians 2:8-12—**<sup>8</sup> And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. <sup>9</sup> The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, <sup>10</sup> and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. <sup>11</sup> And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, <sup>12</sup> that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.**

Let me point out a couple things. Number one—**Your Law is true (119:142). All your commandments are truth (119:151)**. Paul is articulating the 2 Thessalonians 2:8-12 verses because the people of the Church rejected the commandments of God. As a result, they have been given over to a state of delusion. They think they're on one path, yet they're on a completely other path. How scary is this?

In Jeremiah 23:16, we read the following—**Thus says the Lord of hosts: "Do not listen to the words of the prophets [This is people in the Church, not the world] who prophesy to you. They make you worthless**. The word "worthless" in Hebrew means total vanity. Your life will become totally vain in God. You will become worthless if you listen to them.

Continuing in Jeremiah 23:16-17—**they speak a vision of their own heart, not from the mouth of the Lord. <sup>17</sup> They continually say to those who despise Me, 'The Lord has said, "You shall have peace" '; and**

to everyone who walks according to the dictates of his own heart, they say, 'No evil shall come upon you.' "

Think about what is happening today. The prophets, such as Jeremiah, prophesied we need to be aware of the churches telling us we can live like hell and go to heaven. The churches today tell us, "You will have peace. You don't need to listen to the Law. Don't worry about holding on to that bitterness. It is OK. You're under grace. God paid that penalty for you, so you don't have to do the things in the Law."

Start thinking about the cleverness and how vile and ruthless our adversary is. He loathes you. He loathes the fact you call upon the one true One, Yeshua of Nazareth. He's coming at us with everything he's got. He's not holding back at all.

I want to close with this passage. I want you to see the full gospel out of Yeshua's mouth. John 15:13—**Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.** The first thing I have to tell you is what Yeshua is talking about. He is talking about His sacrifice and His ability to give us life. He willingly laid down His life for us. We didn't earn it; we don't deserve it. He willingly came to pay our penalty, and He does this for His friends.

Now here's where it gets interesting. John 15:14—**You are My friends if you do whatever I command you.** So He came to die and pay the penalty for a group of people He calls friends. Well, who are his friends? They are those who love Him and keep His commandments. That is the full gospel. This is the state we need to be in. How precious and powerful is that message? It will save; it's the saving of the soul.