

Agree / Disagree

1. NT believers are free from the Law
2. NT believers are free to worship idols
3. NT believers are free to murder
4. NT believers are free to covet

A landscape scene featuring a tree on the left with one side bare and one side green, several birds flying in a sky transitioning from blue to orange, and a green field in the foreground. The text "That They May Have Life" is overlaid in white script.

That They May Have Life

That They May Have Life

- “See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, and death and adversity...” (Deut. 30:15)
- “So choose life in order that you may live...” (30:19)

Deut. 30:15-20

- Life & Prosperity:
 - To love the Lord your God
 - To walk in His ways
 - To keep His commandments, etc.

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Life and Love in Deuteronomy



- Love God & Neighbor
 - Focus, priorities, goals, agenda
 - His desires, likes, wants, preferences

Life and Love in Deuteronomy

- Love for God is based on love from God
- Love for God is from the heart
- Love for God is due God
- Love for God is manifested in obedience, worship, and service

Deut. 30:15-20

- Life & Prosperity:
 - To love the Lord your God
 - To walk in His ways**
 - To keep His commandments, etc.

Deut. 30:15-20

- Life & Prosperity:

- What does *walk in His ways* mean?

Way

- *A path worn by constant walking*
- OT: *road* (Gen. 16:7); *journey* (Gen. 45:23); *custom* (Gen. 31:35)
- Most often: *actions, behavior, conduct, manner of life* (e.g. –1 Kings 16:26)

God's Way(s)

- Blameless / perfect – Ps. 18:30
- Holy – Ps. 77:13
- Just – Deut. 32:4; Dan. 4:37
- Righteous – Ps. 145:17

God's Way(s)

- Right – Ezek. 18:25, 29
- Everlasting – Hab. 3:6
- Unfathomable – Rom. 11:33
- True – Rev. 15:3

God's Way(s)

- Expression of His character
- God revealing Himself to mankind
 - Ex. 33:12-23
 - Moses: “let me know Your ways that I may know You” (13)

To Walk in His Ways

- *Way* = conduct, manner of life
- *God's ways* reflect Him
- *To walk in God's ways* = conduct yourself in righteousness; to do things as God would do them; to be like God

To Walk in His Ways

- Gen. 18:16-21

- “For I have chosen him, so that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord by doing righteousness and justice...” (19)

To Walk in His Ways

- Who came first: Abraham or Moses?
- Was Abraham saved by grace or by earning righteousness? (Gen. 15:6)
- Did God expect Abraham to live a certain way? (Gen. 17:1)

Ways and Love (Heart)

- Deut. 10:12-13
- Deut. 11:22-23
- Deut. 19:8-10
- Josh. 22:1-6

Man's Way(s)

- Man has two choices:
 1. The way of the wicked
 2. The way of the righteous (the Lord)

The Way of the Wicked

- Against God's character
 - Corruption, violence, darkness, lies, instability, theft, adultery, idolatry, insurrection, evil, destruction, ruin, crookedness, treachery, death

The Way of the Wicked

- How does God view this way?
 - The way of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord, But He loves one who pursues righteousness. (Prov. 15:9)

The Way of the Wicked

- How does God deal with this way?
 - Warns men of the consequences
 - There is a way which seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death. (Prov. 14:12; 16:25)

The Way of the Wicked

- How does God deal with this way?
 - Warns men of the consequences
 - Watch out for the boomerang! (1 Kings 8:32-34; Prov. 11:5; 14:14; 26:27; 28:10, etc.)

The Way of the Wicked

- How does God deal with this way?
 - Calls men to change their ways
 - Isa. 55:6-9; Ezekiel 18; Acts 3:26

The Way of the Righteous

- In line with God's character
 - Righteousness, truth, justice, peace, wisdom, integrity, understanding, light, purity, life

The Way of the Righteous

- How does God view this way?
 - How blessed is everyone who fears the Lord, Who walks in His ways. (Ps 128:1)

The Two Ways

- In the way of righteousness is life, And in its pathway there is no death. (Prov. 12:28)
- But the way of the wicked will perish (Ps. 1:6b)

Theological Wordbook of the OT

“The contrast is between the way of sin/death and the way of obedience/life. These exhaust the options available to man. Man makes his own choice but he cannot choose his own consequences.”

What about the NT?

- Eph. 6:1-3
 - It's right! (well-pleasing – Col. 3:20)
 - Quote OT Law?!
 - Ex. 20:12; Deut. 5:16
 - The Law expressed the way to life

What about the NT?

- 1 Pet. 3:8-12
 - Quote OT? (Ps. 34:12-16)
 - The one who desires life must...*
 - Following God's ways brings life

What about the NT?

- Matt. 7:12-23
 - Love others (12)
 - Two ways (13-14)
 - Two trees: two kinds of fruit (15-23)
 - Following God's ways brings life

So What?

- God wants us to know Him
- God wants us to love Him
- God wants us to be like Him

So What?

- God's ways reveal God
- Knowing His ways helps us know Him
- Walking in His ways expresses love for Him and makes us like Him

–Phil. 1:9-11

So What?

- We need to know God's ways
 - Through His Word (*renew your mind*)
 - Community
 - Godly examples / mentors
- Act on it: *do the will of the Father*