

Two views of saving faith

<p>Roman Catholic</p> <p>Saving faith changes our heart and gives us the ability to obey the law so we might be saved.</p>	<p>Protestant</p> <p>Saving faith imputes to our credit the righteousness of Jesus apart from anything we are or do.</p>
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Romans 1

"1 Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, 2 which He promised beforehand through His prophets in the holy Scriptures, 3 concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh, 4 who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord, 5 through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles, for His name's sake, 6 among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ; 7 to all who are beloved of God in Rome, called as saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."

- Four relationships that shape the Christian Gospel**
1.
The relationship of Paul's Gospel to Jesus.
 2.
The relationship of the O.T. to the N.T.
 3.
The relationship of the humanity and divinity of Jesus
 4.
The relationship of saving faith and works

The relationship of Paul's Gospel to Jesus

Romans 1

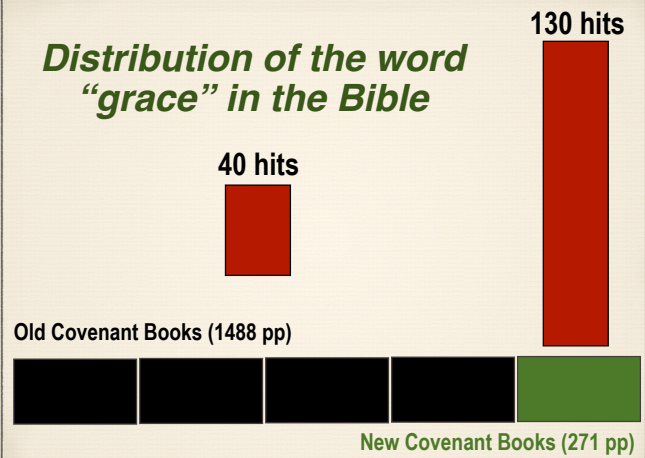
"1 Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,"

<p>Jesus</p> <p>Law</p> <p><i>faith expressed in obedience to the Law</i></p> <p>Old Covenant</p>	<p>Paul</p> <p>Grace</p> <p><i>faith inspires love for God and those He loves</i></p> <p>New Covenant</p>
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Differing *emphasis* between Jesus and Paul

Jesus' Gospel of the Kingdom	Paul's Gospel of the Cross
Matthew, Mark, Luke	Acts, Epistles, (John)
Faithfulness	Faith
Repentance from sins	Repentance from (dead works)
Practiced holiness	Positional holiness
Under the Law	Indwelling Holy Spirit
Our walk	Christ's work
Preached to the Jews only	Preached to the world
Kingdom ethics centered	Cross and Resurrection centered
Fulfillment of the promises to Israel	A mystery before it was revealed to Paul
Temporal renewal	Eternal salvation

Distribution of the word "grace" in the Bible



Paul's Gospel represents a new revelation.

Ephesians 3:3-5

"that by revelation there was made known to me the mystery, . . . which **in other generations was not made known to the sons of men**, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit;"



Old Testament - Gospels

Old Covenant

Paul's Gospel

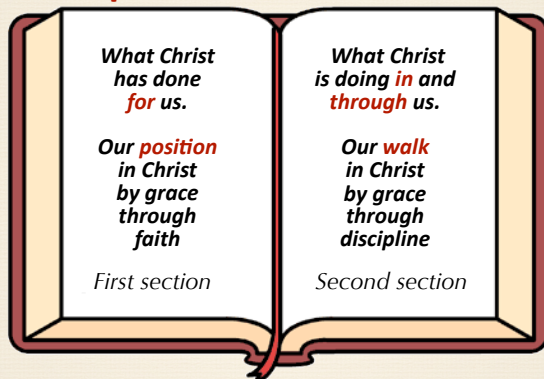
Acts - Epistles

Acts 11

"15 And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as He did upon us **at the beginning**.
16 And I remembered the word of the Lord, how He used to say, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.'"

The coming of the Spirit was not a continuation of what had been but the **beginning of something new.**

The pattern of Paul's letters



The order is consistent and significant

The emphasis of the Gospels

The Passion and Resurrection



Gospels

**The Passion and
Resurrection**

birth, teaching, miracles, deeds of Jesus

**The emphasis
of the Epistles**

Epistles

**The great symbols of the faith
are NOT**



The Law



The towel and basin



Crown of a King

**reminding us of the life of
Jesus**

**The great symbols of the faith
ARE**



The Cross



The Lord's Supper



Baptism

**reminding us of the death and
resurrection of Jesus**

The relationship of Paul's Gospel to Jesus

Romans 1

"1 Paul, a bond-servant of Christ Jesus, called as an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God,"

**Paul's message clarifies the significance
of Jesus' cross and resurrection.**

**Don't let the ethical teaching &
miracle working of Jesus
displace his real purpose in coming.**

**The relationship of the Old Testament
to the New Testament.**

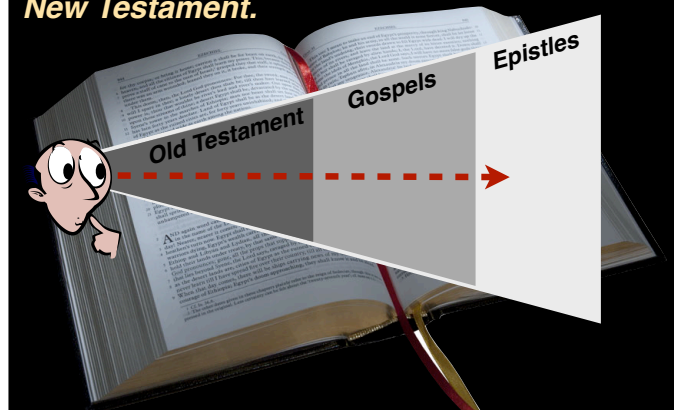
Romans 1

"2 which He promised beforehand through
His prophets in the holy Scriptures,"

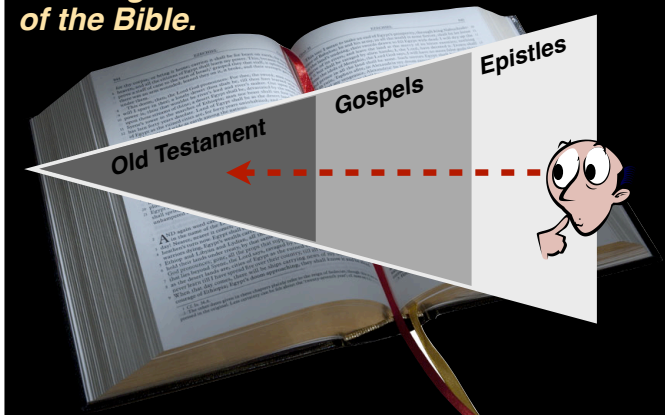
**The New covenant is not an upgrade of
the Old but a displacement of it.**

**The O.T. is written for us
but not about us or to us.**

**The Old Testament gives us a framework
and context for the
New Testament.**



The Epistles explain the significance and meaning of the rest of the Bible.



Implications (Sabbath as an example)

- We don't balance the O.T. with the N.T.
- We don't harmonize the O.T. with the N.T.
- We don't apply the O.T. to us directly.
- We don't allegorize the O.T. to make it applicable to us.
- We let the N.T. explain the O.T.
- We see much of the N.T. (Christ) concealed (symbolized) in the O.T.

The relationship of Jesus' humanity and deity

Romans 1

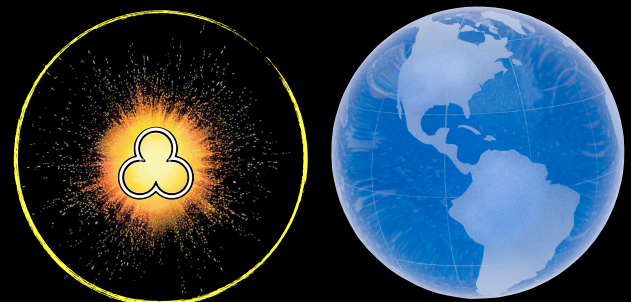
"3 concerning His Son, who was born of a descendant of David according to the flesh, 4 who was declared the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead, according to the Spirit of holiness, Jesus Christ our Lord,"

The Incarnation creates a synergism between the spiritual and the physical.

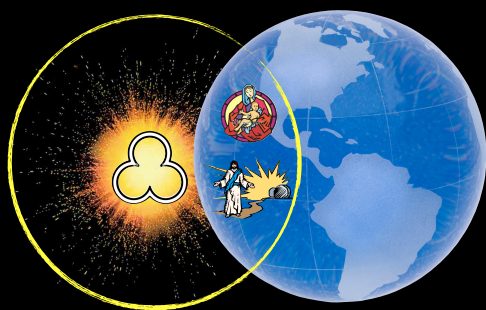
Reason (science) & faith
should not be in conflict.

We have in Jesus a model of what it means
to be fully human (bearing God's image).

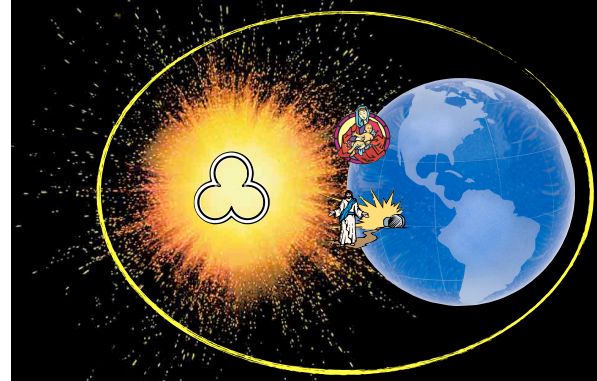
**The material world
and the spiritual world are different
spheres of reality.**



**The material world
and the spiritual world overlap
in the Biblical story.**



**The material world
is an extension of the spiritual world.**



The relationship of faith and works

Romans 1

"5 through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles, for His name's sake, 6 among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ; 7 to all who are beloved of God in Rome, called as saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ."

Faith is the obedience that saves, not the means to the obedience that saves.

**We are saved by grace
(apart from good works)
unto (so that we might live out)
good works.**

The two aspects of holiness



The temple priest was ceremonially sanctified with water before he performed his sacred duties.



This had to do with his official position not his personal character.

1 Peter 3:21

**"baptism
now saves you"**



This had to do with his official position not his personal character.

Four concerns

- We can displace Jesus' cross and resurrection with his ethics and miracles.
- We can combine the old and new covenants and do justice to neither.
- We can separate the physical from the spiritual and disrespect both our humanity and science.
- We can confuse faith with works and forfeit inner peace.



Martin Luther

"So when the devil throws your sins in your face and declares that you deserve death and hell, tell him this: 'I admit that I deserve death and hell, what of it? For I know One who suffered and made satisfaction on my behalf. His name is Jesus Christ, Son of God, and where He is there I shall be also!'"