

Definition	Example	Comments
<p>The Law The Torah The Mosaic Law</p> <p>These are interchangeable terms. They refer to the laws given to Moses by God and recorded in the first 5 books of the Bible. These books are sometimes referred to as the Pentateuch or the Books of Moses.</p>		<p>Genesis provides a historical prelude and context, with many of the laws recorded in Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy.</p> <p>The Law is widely recognized as having 3 components; the civil, ceremonial and moral laws.</p> <p>These 3 components are interwoven throughout the text. There is no "civil law" or "ceremonial law" section in the writings. And for those who like to keep track of these things, there are 613 laws in total recorded in the Mosaic Law.</p>
<p>Civil law</p>	<p>"When you build a new house, you shall make a parapet for your roof, that you may not bring the guilt of blood upon your house, if anyone fall from it." Deuteronomy 22:8</p>	<p>The underpinning of the civil and ceremonial laws is the moral law. Both the civil and ceremonial law speaks to loving God and neighbor.</p>
<p>Ceremonial law</p>	<p>Circumcision, Passover</p>	<p>When St. Paul says "bad" things about the law, he is speaking about the ceremonial. That is why he almost always surrounds his arguments against the law with references to circumcision and the Jews.</p> <p>St. Paul says in Galatians that a person is severed from Christ if he seeks to be justified by the law (5:4) in the context of saying the severing of circumcision severs you from Christ. He would never say keeping moral law (loving God and neighbor) would sever you from Christ. See below.</p>
<p>Moral law</p>	<p>10 commandments</p>	<p>Whenever St. Paul or Christ speaks of the necessity of the law for salvation, they are speaking on the moral law (love God and neighbor). When Paul says "the doers of the law will be justified" (Romans 2:13), he speaks of the moral law. But when Paul says "you are severed from Christ who seek to be justified by the law" (Galatians 5:4), he speaks of the ceremonial law. In this way supposedly conflicting passages are harmonized.</p> <p>But unless a person is attached to Christ <u>he cannot obey the commands of God</u> (a requirement). Sanctifying grace (grace alone) enables us to have a working faith with sanctified acts of love for God and neighbor. Living the moral law (through grace alone) keeps us from falling away, but cannot cause us to be born-again. We are not Pelagians. See John 15:5 and Matthew 19:17</p>
<p>Natural law</p>	<p>St. Paul speaks of natural law in Romans chapter 1.</p>	<p>The moral law is written on men's hearts. Via natural law people know murder and theft are wrong. They don't need the 10 commandments to know this.</p>