

Great Controversy Series
The Law Satan Hates The Most
Chapter 36 – The Impending Conflict
 Bible Sermon Study Notes: Cary Rodgers, Jr., pastor

What was one of the main things that Satan wanted to overthrow in Heaven?

One of the main objectives that Satan used to try to persuade the heavenly angels to his side during the beginning of the great controversy in Heaven was to get rid of the law of God. Satan made direct attacks on the law of God, the Ten Commandments, by insinuating that it was useless and puts all who keep them in a state of bondage.

Unity, Freedom, Prosperity, and the Character of God

The law of God not only promotes true unity, freedom, and prosperity, but it is a direct reflection of the character of God.

For example:

Characteristic	God is...	God's Law is...
Love	1 John 4:8 - "...God is love."	Romans 13:10 - "...love is the fulfilling of the law."
Holy	Psalms 99:9 - "...the LORD our God is holy."	Romans 7:12 - "...the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good."
Perfect	Psalms 18:30 - "As for God, his way is perfect..."	Psalms 19:7 - "The law of the LORD is perfect..."
True	John 3:33 - "...God is true."	Psalms 119:142 - "...thy law is the truth."

When Satan directly attacks God's law he is also attacking the character of God. Those who reject and attack the law of God also are directly attacking the character of God. Today the majority of professed Christians and its ministers teach that the law of God is bondage. This is an attack of the character of God! They are in essence saying that God wants to put people in bondage. This is a lie.

What does Jesus Christ and God's Law do for us?

John 14:6

6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

John 8:32, 36

32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

36 If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

James 2:12

12 So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty.

James 1:23-25

23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass:

24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.

25 But whoso looketh into the **perfect law of liberty**, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

Jesus and the law of God is not bondage, but they are keys that set us free from sin and death!

Romans 6:22-23

22 But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life.

23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

What is sin?

1 John 3:4

4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

Romans 7:7

7 What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.

Law of God = The Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1 – 17)

The Ten Commandments are like a mirror that reveals our problem, sin, but ONLY Jesus can save us and cleanse us from our problem. The law of God gives us the standard of righteousness, but it can not make us righteous. Only Jesus can make us righteous.

Psalms 119:172

172 My tongue shall speak of thy word: for all thy commandments are righteousness.

Remember, righteousness is a legal term in Heaven in which a guilty sinner can legally be rendered NOT guilty, in the courts and be entered into the legal book of life by accepting and applying God's gift of salvation through the blood of Jesus Christ. Only Jesus, our high priest, lawyer, and judge through His blood can take us from guilty to NOT guilty – unrighteous to righteous!

Romans 3:22-28

22 Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:

23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

24 Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:

25 Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;

26 To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.

27 Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? of works? Nay: but by the law of faith.

28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.

But does this make void the law of God?

Romans 3:31

31 Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law.

The law of God is established... Jesus says Matthew 5:17 “Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.” Jesus established the law and set those who are in bondage to sin to be made free from it!

How does it ALL work? Guilty to NOT guilty

Remember: Only Jesus can take you and I from guilty to righteous! Governments like a republic, has laws to protect the rights, life, health, property and general welfare of its citizens. Without these laws total chaos will result. Every law has a punishment if it is violated or broken. All laws of government are written on the law books of the land. If a person for example, breaks in someone’s house and steals a computer and is found guilty of violating the law, his name and the laws he broke will be written as “GUILTY” on his criminal record. Even though he paid the penalty of jail time and restitution for the stolen item, his criminal will still say GUILTY. In the earthly courts, he will always have that criminal record until the day he dies. There is NOTHING he can do to wipe his criminal record clean! He cannot wipe it clean by keeping ALL the deeds of the law. Never stealing again and teaching others not to steal, still would not clean his record.

The Bible reveals that we are ALL guilty of breaking the law of God. Guilty, guilty, guilty is next to every sin in the sinner’s legal records in heaven. Even if the sinner says that they will not sin again and try to keep the law of God as a sinner to justify himself, will still have his sins recorded in heaven as guilty. He can try to keep the law, but still will not be justified. Even though a sinner can try to keep the law of God as a sinner, he will fail because the law of God is spiritual, the sinner is carnal and naturally hates the law of God. A sinner who is guilty cannot make himself not guilty by keeping the deeds of the law! The ONLY way a sinner can become NOT GUILTY and righteous is through Jesus Christ. The only one who has the legal authority to wipe your sin record clean is Jesus Christ. We must be in Christ in order to be obedient to the law of God.

John 14:15

15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.

What did Jesus tell the women who was forgiven for adultery, justified and her guilt wiped clean from her sin record?

John 8:11 “...go, and sin no more.”

What is living in the grace of Jesus Christ?

Romans 6:14-15

14 For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

15 What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid.

When we in Christ Jesus we are no longer under the penalty of the law of God, but are living within the grace of Jesus by faith. This gives us the power to keep ALL the commandments of God. Obedience to God and His law is the fruit of true conversion. When a person is without Christ, they are under the penalty of the law of God.

What is Satan’s main objective in the great controversy on earth?

In the great controversy on earth Satan’s main objective is to continue his attacks on the law of God and to keep ALL people under the penalty of the law of God. Satan uses both deception and elements of force to keep people in sin or to lead them into breaking one of God’s commandments.

James 2:10-11

10 For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.

11 For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law.

Satan hates all the Ten Commandments of God, but which law does he HATE the most?

Ezekiel 20:20

20 And hallow my sabbaths; and they shall be a sign between me and you, that ye may know that I am the LORD your God.

Sign (Hebrew)= monument, mark, or evidence.

Keeping the seventh-day Sabbath holy is a sign or proof of your loyalty and love toward Jesus our Creator and Savior God. Remember, **Mark 2:28** reveals that Jesus Christ is the Lord of the Sabbath. It is His holy day that He established for His glory on the seventh day. All Christians who are loyal to God will prove their allegiance to God by keeping holy His seventh-day Sabbath.

The seventh day Sabbath connects us to the true Jesus Christ and exposes the counterfeit. This is the reason why Satan hates the fourth commandment with a passion.

What does Satan do through the papacy, the little horn, that shows his great hatred of the seventh day Sabbath commandment?

Daniel 7:25

25 “And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws...”

Daniel 8:12

12 “...it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practised, and prospered.”

Satan casts down the truth of the seventh-day Sabbath and replaces with a counterfeit “Sunday sabbath”, but at the same time still attacking all the commandments of God!

“Sunday is our Mark of authority....The church is ABOVE the Bible, and this transference of Sabbath observance is proof of that fact.” - Catholic Record, September 1, 1923

The seventh-day is the “mark of God” and the enforcement of the counterfeit, Sunday “sabbath” is the mark of the beast crisis.

Who does Satan use most effectively in attacking the commandments of God and the seventh day Sabbath?

2 Corinthians 11:13-15

13 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.

14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

15 Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

Satan uses professed ministers of the gospel with great success in teaching others to reject the law of God and the seventh day Sabbath! If ministers taught his congregation to break the laws of the land, he would be

deemed a rebel and an enemy of the state! Instead of being rejected as false teachers, many ministers today are praised and worshiped by others who teach that God's law is not valid especially the seventh day Sabbath!

What does the Bible say about those who reject and teach others to break the law of God?

Matthew 5:19

19 Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Why do many ministers teach others to break the law of God?

2 Peter 2:2-3

2 And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.

3 And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.

Covetousness (Greek) = greedy desire to have more, avarice (extreme greed for wealth or material gain) – Thayer Greek Dictionary

Covetousness is the root of ALL sin! This is the bottom line why many ministers don't give the whole truth of God's Word. Many ministers today are selfishness and covetousness. Covetousness is one of the main reasons why many professed Christians listen to these ministers.

Many of these professed ministers teach that the abundance of things and wealth is a sign of favor and blessings from God. In other words, "the more stuff and wealth you got, the more blessed and accepted by God you are." They teach that this is an "abundant life".

What does Jesus say about this?

Luke 12:15

15 And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

Jesus says...

John 10:10

10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.

Jesus abundant life is not the possession and accumulation of stuff on this earth. He came to give us abundance of His joy, peace, endurance, and happiness that can only come from Him.

Why does Satan suppress the TRUTH of the law of God and the seventh-day Sabbath?

"The iniquity and spiritual darkness that prevailed under the supremacy of Rome were the inevitable result of her suppression of the Scriptures; but where is to be found the cause of the widespread infidelity, the rejection of the law of God, and the consequent corruption, under the full blaze of gospel light in an age of religious freedom? Now that Satan can no longer keep the world under his control by withholding the Scriptures, he resorts to other means to accomplish the same object. To destroy faith in the Bible serves his purpose as well as

to destroy the Bible itself. By introducing the belief that God's law is not binding, he as effectually leads men to transgress as if they were wholly ignorant of its precepts." GC 586

The Word of God reveals truth and exposes Satan's lies. This is the reason why he tries to discredit the authenticity of the Bible. He also creates thousands distractions and attractions of worldly pleasure to keep professed people of God in darkness and away from investigating truths in the Bible for themselves.

What main lie does Satan use to deceive many professed Christians to reject the seventh-day Sabbath and the law of God?

Genesis 3:4

4 And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die (spiritualism).

"Clinging to the papal error of natural immortality and man's consciousness in death, they have rejected the only defense against the delusions of spiritualism. The doctrine of eternal torment has led many to disbelieve the Bible. And as the claims of the fourth commandment are urged upon the people, it is found that the observance of the seventh-day Sabbath is enjoined; and as the only way to free themselves from a duty which they are unwilling to perform, many popular teachers declare that the law of God is no longer binding. Thus they cast away the law and the Sabbath together." GC 586

Remember, Christian humanism, a main branch of spiritualism points to a false Jesus, not the Jesus of the Bible.

All those ministers who have embraced spiritualism and reject God's seventh day Sabbath, what will they enthusiastically promote?

"The teachings of religious leaders have opened the door to infidelity, to spiritualism, and to contempt for God's holy law; and upon these leaders rests a fearful responsibility for the iniquity that exists in the Christian world.

Yet this very class put forth the claim that the fast-spreading corruption is largely attributable to the desecration of the so-called "Christian sabbath," and that the enforcement of Sunday observance would greatly improve the morals of society. This claim is especially urged in America, where the doctrine of the true Sabbath has been most widely preached." GC 586 - 587

What is Satan using today to promote Sunday sacredness worldwide?

"Here the temperance work, one of the most prominent and important of moral reforms, is often combined with the Sunday movement, and the advocates of the latter represent themselves as laboring to promote the highest interest of society; and those who refuse to unite with them are denounced as the enemies of temperance and reform. But the fact that a movement to establish error is connected with a work which is in itself good, is not an argument in favor of the error." GC 587

Temperance = moderation or self-restraint in action, statement, etc.; self-control.

The modern "temperance work" that is promoting moral reforms for the health of the planet and human beings worldwide is the Paris Agreement on climate change which is a new world government structure lead by the papacy. On the surface it appears to be a great initiative for the planet, but in the shadows is a push for Sunday sacred and one authoritative rule.

Remember Pope Francis and the papacy directly influenced of the world Paris Agreement on "climate change." Francis encyclical letter, Laudato Si' "On Care For Our Common Home" is the standard in which the Paris

Agreement is being structured. Even though the Paris Agreement is NOW enforcement, the rules and laws now being formulated and in place.

“177. Given the real potential for a misuse of human abilities, individual states can no longer ignore their responsibility for planning, coordination, oversight and enforcement within their respective borders. How can a society plan and protect its future amid constantly developing technological innovations? One authoritative source of oversight and coordination is the law, which lays down rules for admissible conduct in the light of the common good.”

“237. On Sunday, our participation in the Eucharist has special importance. Sunday, like the Jewish Sabbath, is meant to be a day which heals our relationships with God, with ourselves, with others and with the world. Sunday is the day of the Resurrection, the “first day” of the new creation, whose first fruits are the Lord’s risen humanity, the pledge of the final transfiguration of all created reality. It also proclaims “man’s eternal rest in God”... Rest opens our eyes to the larger picture and gives us renewed sensitivity to the rights of others. And so the day of rest, centred on the Eucharist, sheds its light on the whole week, and motivates us to greater concern for nature and the poor.”

“Pope Francis sends letter to COP23 climate conference in Bonn”, Vatican Radio, November 16, 2017

http://en.radiovaticana.va/news/2017/11/16/pope_franzis_sends_letter_to_cop23_climate_conference_in_bon/1349337

(Vatican Radio) Pope Francis has sent a letter to participants in the COP-23 UN Convention on climate change, taking place in Bonn, Germany on 6-17 November.

The letter was sent to Prime Minister Frank Bainimarama of the Fiji Islands, which is officially hosting the event, and was read out to COP-23 participants.

Finally, Pope Francis sent his well-wishes that the COP-23 would be "inspired by the same collaborative and prophetic spirit manifested during the COP-21" event at which the historic Paris agreement was signed.

Excerpts of letter to COP23:

“Moreover, we cannot limit ourselves only to the economic and technological dimension: technical solutions are necessary but not sufficient; it is essential and desirable to carefully consider the ethical and social impacts and impacts of the new paradigm of development and progress in the short, medium and long term.

It is useful to remember that the Agreement recalls the “grave ... ethical and moral responsibility to act without delay, in a manner as free as possible from political and economic pressures, setting aside particular interests and behaviour” (cf. Message to COP-22). This means, in effect, propagating a “responsible awareness” towards our common home (cf. Encyclical *Laudato si’*, 202; 231) through the contribution of all, in explaining the different forms of action and partnership between the various stakeholders, some of whom do not lack to highlight the ingenuity of the human being in favour of the common good.

Jesuits at COP23 to continue to press the papacy’s agenda

Ecojesuit at COP23, Jesuit European Social Centre, Posted by JESC On November 1st, 2017

<http://jesc.eu/ecojesuit-at-cop23/>

“Between 6 to 17 November, over 30 Jesuits and partners will hold events during the UN COP23 climate change conference in Bonn, Germany.

The inspiration for Ecojesuit's presence at COP23 is Pope Francis' call in *Laudato Si'* for "a new and universal solidarity".

The temperance work of those working with climate change also includes plant based eating....

COP23 Interfaith Statement: http://www.interfaithclimatestatement.org/the_statement

"We represent the world's family of spiritualities, faiths and religions who share a profound gratitude for our precious planet.

As religious and spiritual leaders, we are committing to make changes in our own lives, and to support the members of our communities in doing the same. Together, we come to you with an invitation to embark on a journey towards compassionate simplicity for the sake of the climate, the human family, and the community of life. For many of us, changes in three areas make the greatest impact: dramatically reducing emissions from our home energy use, adopting a plant-based diet and reducing food waste, and minimizing automobile and air travel."

"We may disguise poison by mingling it with wholesome food, but we do not change its nature. On the contrary, it is rendered more dangerous, as it is more likely to be taken unawares. It is one of Satan's devices to combine with falsehood just enough truth to give it plausibility. The leaders of the Sunday movement may advocate reforms which the people need, principles which are in harmony with the Bible; yet while there is with these a requirement which is contrary to God's law, His servants cannot unite with them. Nothing can justify them in setting aside the commandments of God for the precepts of men." GC 587 – 588

What are the two great errors that will bring the world under Satan's deceptions?

"Through the two great errors, the immortality of the soul and Sunday sacredness, Satan will bring the people under his deceptions. While the former lays the foundation of spiritualism, the latter creates a bond of sympathy with Rome. The Protestants of the United States will be foremost in stretching their hands across the gulf to grasp the hand of spiritualism; they will reach over the abyss to clasp hands with the Roman power; and under the influence of this threefold union, this country will follow in the steps of Rome in trampling on the rights of conscience." GC 588

Beware: Satan will come as an angel of light through the merging of spiritualism and nominal Christianity.

2 Corinthians 11:14

14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

"As spiritualism more closely imitates the nominal Christianity of the day, it has greater power to deceive and ensnare. Satan himself is converted, after the modern order of things. He will appear in the character of an angel of light. Through the agency of spiritualism, miracles will be wrought, the sick will be healed, and many undeniable wonders will be performed. And as the spirits will profess faith in the Bible, and manifest respect for the institutions of the church, their work will be accepted as a manifestation of divine power." GC 588

"The line of distinction between professed Christians and the ungodly is now hardly distinguishable. Church members love what the world loves and are ready to join with them, and Satan determines to unite them in one body and thus strengthen his cause by sweeping all into the ranks of spiritualism. Papists, who boast of miracles as a certain sign of the true church, will be readily deceived by this wonder-working power; and Protestants, having cast away the shield of truth, will also be deluded." GC 588

Satan in the end says as an "angel light" that he is here to benefit the world, but at the same time causing its destruction.

“Satan works through the elements also to garner his harvest of unprepared souls. He has studied the secrets of the laboratories of nature, and he uses all his power to control the elements as far as God allows.” While appearing to the children of men as a great physician who can heal all their maladies, he will bring disease and disaster, until populous cities are reduced to ruin and desolation. Even now he is at work. In accidents and calamities by sea and by land, in great conflagrations, in fierce tornadoes and terrific hailstorms, in tempests, floods, cyclones, tidal waves, and earthquakes, in every place and in a thousand forms, Satan is exercising his power. He sweeps away the ripening harvest, and famine and distress follow. He imparts to the air a deadly taint, and thousands perish by the pestilence. These visitations are to become more and more frequent and disastrous. GC 589-590

Who is Satan’s going to attack and blame for the world’s disasters?

Revelation 12:17

17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Who did king Ahab blame for its disasters?

1 Kings 18:17-18

17 And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel?

What was Elijah’s answer and the real reason for Israel disasters?

18 And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the LORD, and thou hast followed Baalim.

What is really causing the world’s “climate change” disasters in Satan is behind?

Isaiah 24:4-5

4 The earth mourneth and fadeth away, the world languisheth and fadeth away, the haughty people of the earth do languish.

5 The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant.

Satan will use spiritualism to impersonate dead prophets to promote Sunday sacredness and to denounce those who are obedient to God’s truth as terrorist and trouble makers. They will be blame them for the increased disasters on the earth because they refuse to follow the “common good” of Sunday sacredness.

“Those who honor the Bible Sabbath will be denounced as enemies of law and order, as breaking down the moral restraints of society, causing anarchy and corruption, and calling down the judgments of God upon the earth. Their conscientious scruples will be pronounced obstinacy, stubbornness, and contempt of authority. They will be accused of disaffection toward the government. Ministers who deny the obligation of the divine law will present from the pulpit the duty of yielding obedience to the civil authorities as ordained of God. In legislative halls and courts of justice, commandment keepers will be misrepresented and condemned. A false coloring will be given to their words; the worst construction will be put upon their motives.” {GC 592.1}

What is the reality for being faithful to the truth of Jesus and His law in the last days?

John 16:2

2 They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service.

Matthew 24:9

9 Then shall they deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake.

Revelation 13:15-17

15 And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.

16 And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:

17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

Appeal: GPS testimony