## Torah Teachings

**Biblical Definitions: "Law"** 

**Source:** "Messiah – Volume 1 – Understanding His Life and Teachings In Hebraic Context" by Avi Ben Mordechai. This book is no longer available from Millennium 7000 Communications.

**NOTE:** I have added my comments in square brackets as such [ ].

This was addressed under the definition of WORD. According to our biblical dictionary, *Tanakh*, the "law" of G-d is always connected to the "Word of G-d" as it is expressed in these passages of the Bible:

...For from Zion will go forth the law, even the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. (Micah 4:2)

Hear the word of the Lord, You rulers of Sodom; give ear to the instruction [law] of our God, you people of Gomorrah. (Yeshayahu [Isaiah] 1:10)

And many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that He may teach us concerning His ways, and that we may walk in His paths." For the law will go forth from Zion, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. (Yeshayahu [Isaiah] 2:3)

...for they have rejected the law of the Lord of hosts, and despised the word of the Holy One of Israel. (Yeshayahu [Isaiah] 5:24)

The Law—G-d's Word, is nothing more than G-d's instructions which are to give us abundant life on this earth. Again, "law" and "grace" are not mutually exclusive terms. Rather, they go together. See the illustration below:

Walking in darkness The Law is Grace
(Proverbs 31:26)
The Law is Light
(Proverbs 6:23)
The Law is Freedom
(Psalm 119:45)
Fence

Out here you can get hurt

Bind up the testimony, <u>seal the law</u> among my disciples...should not a people seek unto their God?...To <u>the law and to the testimony</u>: if they speak not <u>according to this word</u>, it is because <u>there is no light in them</u>. (Yeshayahu [Isaiah] 8:16-20, KJV)

When we walk in the Laws of G-d, we are protected from an outside environment that can hurt us. G-d wants us to be happy and filled with abundant life; therefore, He gives us true freedom within the boundaries of His instructions. Y'shua HaMashiach came to bring us back to the Torah through His life. He came with grace and mercy to lead us to repentance and return us back to the Torah, all the while breathing life and joy into it. Torah (the Law) is not bondage; it is freedom and light. On this basis that the Law of G-d is light, Y'shua, G-d's Anointed teacher of Torah made this statement:

Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him. (Yochanan [John] 11:9-10)

If we choose to walk in the light of the Torah we are pleasing G-d and living according to His will. By walking in the Torah we prove our salvation, not earn it! No one can earn the free gift of G-d, which is grace that leads us back to the Torah. Grace (mercy) is a free gift. If we choose to accept it, then we will naturally choose to live within the guidelines of the Torah. This is G-d's way.