



*PURSUE: Women Pursuing Christ Through His Word*  
*Fall 2025-2026*  
*Acts Lesson 20 & 21 Lecture Notes*  
*March 3, 2026*

*“...You see, brother, how many thousands there are among the Jews of those who have believed, and they are all zealous for the Law, and they have been told about you, that you are teaching all the Jews who are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, telling them not to circumcise their children nor to walk according to the customs....We have four men who are under a vow; take them and purify yourself along with them, and pay their expenses so that they may shave their heads; and all will know that there is nothing to the things which they have been told about you, but that you walk orderly, keeping the Law.” Acts 21:20b, 23-24*

*“Behold, I, Paul, say to you that if you receive circumcision, Christ will be of no \_\_\_\_\_ to you. And I testify again to every man who receives circumcision, that he is under obligation to keep the whole Law. You have been \_\_\_\_\_ from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace.” Galatians 5:2-4*

*I. Problem #1 Difference in concept of \_\_\_\_\_.*  
*Jewish belief- Humans are born \_\_\_\_\_ in regard to sin and have the power within to live out \_\_\_\_\_ by following the Laws standards.*  
*Jewish Learning Institute*

*Paul’s teaching- “Therefore, just as through one man \_\_\_\_\_ entered the world, and \_\_\_\_\_ through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned—for until the Law sin was in the world, but sin is not imputed when there is no law. Romans 5:12-13*

*II. Problem #2 Difference in defining the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of the Law*

*A. Demand of the Law*

*Jewish belief- we can do the \_\_\_\_\_ we can to keep the Law, but when we fail, \_\_\_\_\_ can be the solution to \_\_\_\_\_ the problem. JLI*

*God’s statements- \_\_\_\_\_ fulfillment of the Law is the only way to \_\_\_\_\_ Deuteronomy 30:11-14; Ezekiel 20:11; Leviticus 18:5; Luke 10:25-28; Mark 10-21;*

*Paul’s teaching- The Law can only \_\_\_\_\_ not justify  
“For all who have sinned without the Law will also perish without the Law, and all who have sinned under the Law will be \_\_\_\_\_ by the Law, for it is not the hearers of the Law who are just before God, but the doers of the Law will be justified.” Romans 2:12-13; see also James 2:10*

B. \_\_\_\_\_ of the Law

Jewish belief- The Law is a comprehensive framework for religious \_\_\_\_\_, ethical guidelines, and \_\_\_\_\_ norms that governed the lives of the Jewish people. The law was considered a divine gift, offering a sense of purpose, unity, and a direct \_\_\_\_\_ to God. (LawShun)

Paul's teaching- By the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Law, no flesh will be \_\_\_\_\_ before God but will come to the knowledge of \_\_\_\_\_. Romans 3:20

The Law can't make a person \_\_\_\_\_ - Jews are not more righteous than others, because both Jews and Greeks are under the \_\_\_\_\_ of sin. Romans 3:10-18; Psalm 14:1-3; Galatians 2:16

III. Problem # 3 The \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

Jewish belief- Rabbinic thought introduces the concept of the yetzer hara (evil inclination) and yetzer hatov (good inclination) as forces within the human soul that \_\_\_\_\_ moral decision-making. The yetzer hara is not inherently \_\_\_\_\_ but represents \_\_\_\_\_ desires and impulses that, if left unchecked, can \_\_\_\_\_ to sin. The rabbis emphasize the importance of self-discipline, Torah study, and communal support in overcoming the yetzer hara and cultivating the yetzer hatov. A central innovation of rabbinic theology is the emphasis on teshuvah (repentance) as a means of \_\_\_\_\_ sin and restoring the relationship with God. The process of teshuvah involves three key steps: \_\_\_\_\_ of the sin (hakara), \_\_\_\_\_ (charatah), and a commitment to \_\_\_\_\_ (kabalat ha'tid). Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, serves as the culmination of this process, providing an annual opportunity for communal and individual reflection and reconciliation.

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Paul's teaching- sin equals \_\_\_\_\_. "Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned... Romans 5:12

"I was once alive apart from the Law; but when the commandment came, \_\_\_\_\_ became alive and I \_\_\_\_\_... Romans 7:9