

# **Dual Modality of Salvation**

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Layman's Foundation

# What Is a Modality

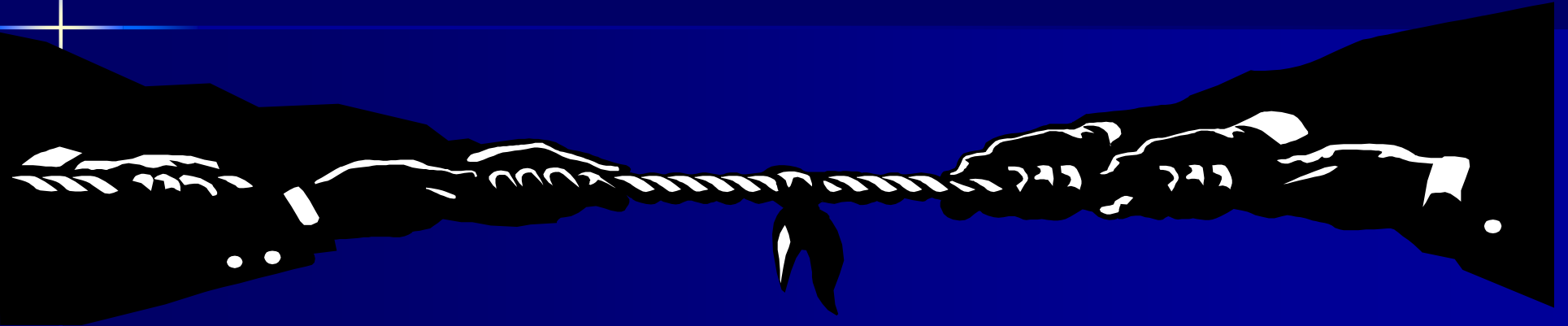
- Also called mode. Logic. the classification of propositions according to whether they are contingently true or false, possible, impossible, or necessary

# Does How You Live Matter?

- Can I live anyway I want and still go to heaven?
- What is the role of obedience and/or works for salvation?
- Can you be certain that you are saved?
- Is it once saved always saved, or can you lose your salvation?

# The Tension Between Grace and Works

(selected verses not exhaustive)



## Grace

Ephesians 2:8-9

1 Corinthians 3:10

2 Peter 1:3-4

Philippians 2:13

Hebrews 4:16

1 John 1:7,9 2:1b

## Works

James 2:24 / Gal 6:7

1 Corinthians 3:10-15

2 Peter 1:5-11

Philippians 2:12

Hebrews 5:9

1 John 1:6,8,10

# Ephesians and James

## Grace

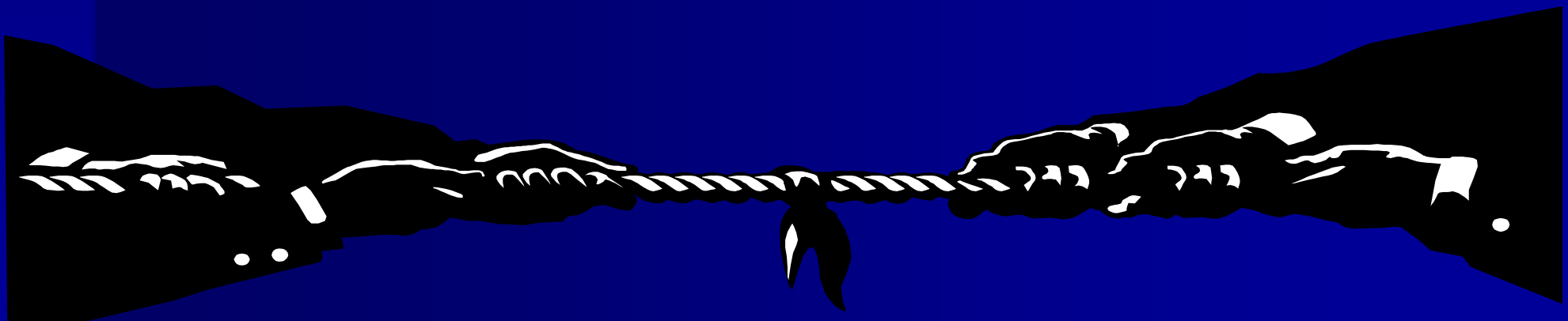
Ephesians 2:8-9

For by **grace you have been saved through faith** ; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God ; **not as a result of works**, so that no one may boast.

## Works

James 2:24

You see that a man is **justified by works and not by faith alone.**



# 1 Corinthians 3

## Grace

1 Corinthians 3:10-11  
According to the **grace of God** which was given to me, like a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and another is building on it. But each man must be careful how he builds on it. For no man can lay a foundation other than the one which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

## Works

1 Corinthians 3:12-15  
Now if any man builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each man's work will become evident ; for the day will show it because it is to be revealed with fire, and **the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work**. If any man's work which he has built on it remains, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss ; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire.



# II Peter 1

## Grace

II Peter 1:3-4

Seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.

For by these **He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises**, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.

## Works

II Peter 1:5...10-11

(5) Now for this very reason also, applying all diligence, in your faith supply moral excellence, and in your moral excellence, knowledge....

(10-11) Therefore, brethren, **be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you**; for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble ; **for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you.**



# Philippians 2

## Grace

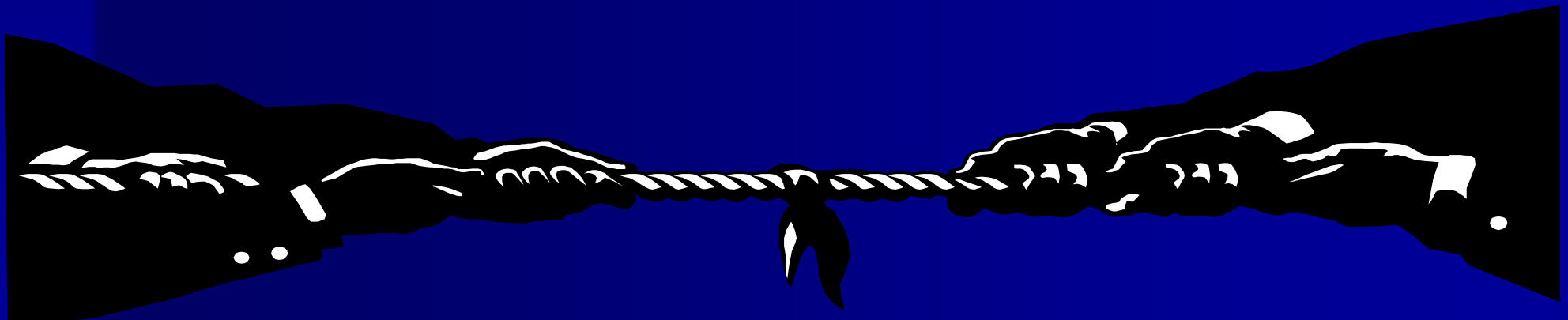
Philippians 2:13

...for it is God who is at work in you,  
both to will and to work for His good  
pleasure

## Works

Philippians 2:12

So then, my beloved, **just as you  
have always obeyed**, not as in my  
presence only, but now much more in  
my absence, work out your salvation  
with fear and trembling





# Hebrews

## Grace

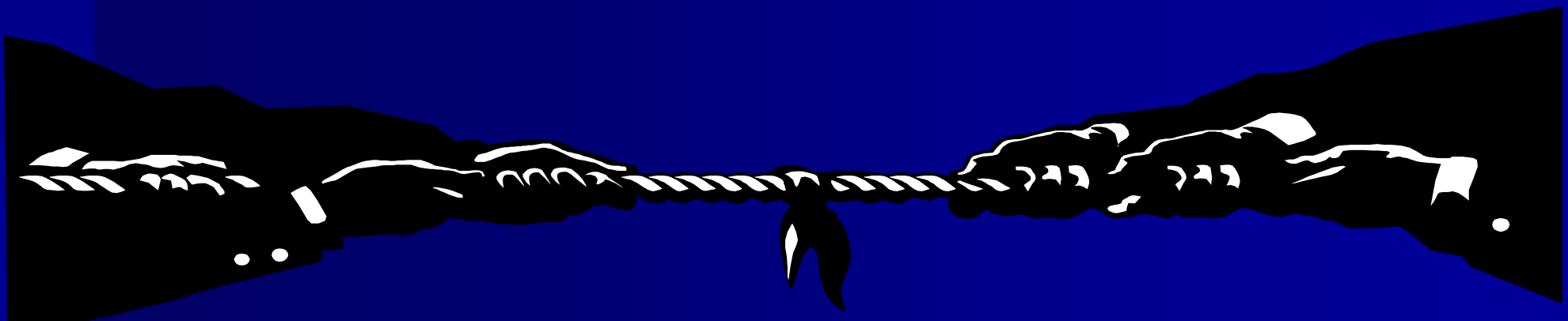
Hebrews 4:16

Therefore let us draw near with confidence to **the throne of grace**, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

## Works

Hebrews 5:9

And having been made perfect, He became **to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation**



# The Tension in 1 John 1

Verse 5 **Guiding Principle: Pos → God is Light**

**Neg → In Him there is no darkness at all**

## Implications of this principle:

<p><b><i>vs.6 If we say...</i></b></p> <p>vs. 7 But if we...</p>	<p>We have fellowship with HIM yet walk in darkness</p> <p>Walk in the Light as He is in Light</p>	<p>We lie and do not practice the truth</p> <p>1) We have fellowship with one another 2) Blood of Jesus cleanses us from sin</p>
<p><b><i>vs. 8 If we say...</i></b></p> <p>vs. 9 If we ...</p>	<p>We have no sin</p> <p>Confess our sins</p>	<p>We deceive ourselves, truth is not in us</p> <p>1) He is faithful to forgive our sins 2) Cleanse us from unrighteousness</p>
<p><b><i>Vs. 10 If we say...</i></b></p> <p>Vs 2:1b If anyone</p>	<p>We have not sinned</p> <p>Does sin</p>	<p>We make Him a liar, His word is not in us</p> <p>1) We have an advocate, Jesus</p>

**Conclusion** → 2:3 By this we know that we have come to know Him,

**IF WE KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS**

# Other Verses That Support Works (not exhaustive)

- 1 Corinthians 9:24-27
- Matthew 7:21
- John 14:21
- 1 John 2:3-4, 3:24

# Law of the Harvest

## Galatians 6:7

- Do not be deceived, God is not mocked ; for **whatever a man sows, this he will also reap**
  
- Other Verses
  - Hebrews 1:9
  - Romans 2:9-11
  - I Peter 4:17
  - II Corinthians 5:10
  - 2 John 8

# Hebrews 1:9

- "You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness ; therefore god, your god, has anointed you with the oil of gladness above your companions"

# Romans 2:9-11

- There will be tribulation and distress for every soul of man who does evil, of the Jew first and also of the Greek, but glory and honor and peace to everyone who does good, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For there is no partiality with God.

# I Peter 4:17

- For it is time for judgment to begin with the household of God ; and if it begins with us first, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God?

## 2 John 8

- Watch yourselves, that you do not lose what we have accomplished, but that you may receive a full reward.



# Explanations to the Duality Modality of Salvation

1. Saved by Grace for Works – Southern Baptist
2. Two Justifications - Dr. Stanley Toussaint
3. Reward Theology - Zane Hodges
4. Antinomy Theology - Ken Boa

# 1. Saved by Grace for Works

## Salvation by Grace...

Ephesians 2:8-9

For by **grace you have been saved through faith** ; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God ; **not as a result of works**, so that no one may boast.

## ...For Works

Ephesians 2:10

For we are His workmanship, **created in Christ Jesus for good works**, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

## 2. Two Justifications - Abraham

### By Grace

Genesis 15:6

Then he believed in the LORD ; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Rom 4:2,5

2) For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God.

5) But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is reckoned as righteousness.

### By Works

Genesis 22:15-18

Then the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, and said, "By Myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, **because you have done this thing** and have not withheld your son, your only son, indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens and as the sand which is on the seashore ; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies. "In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."

James 2:21-23

Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up Isaac his son on the altar ? **You see that faith was working with his works, and as a result of the works, faith was perfected** ; and the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "AND ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS RECKONED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS," and he was called the friend of God.

# 3. Rewards

## II Corinthians 5:10

- For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.

## Revelations 22:12

- Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done .

# 3. Rewards

Matthew 6: 19-21

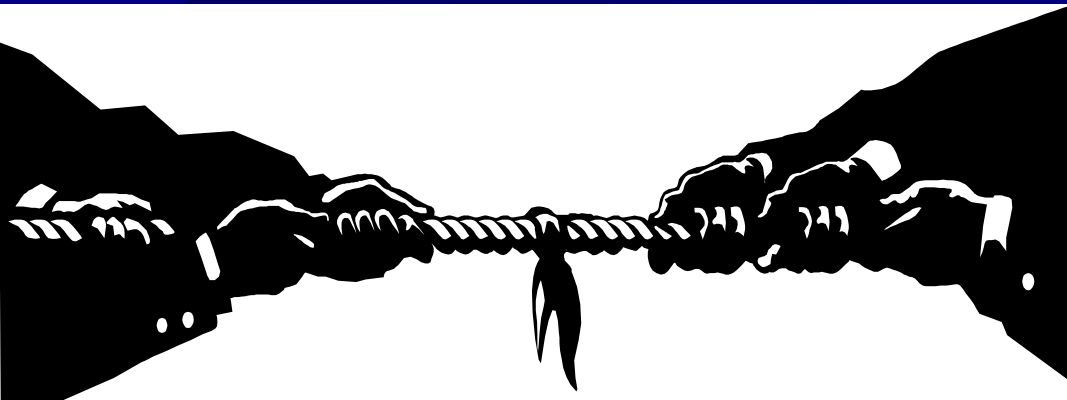
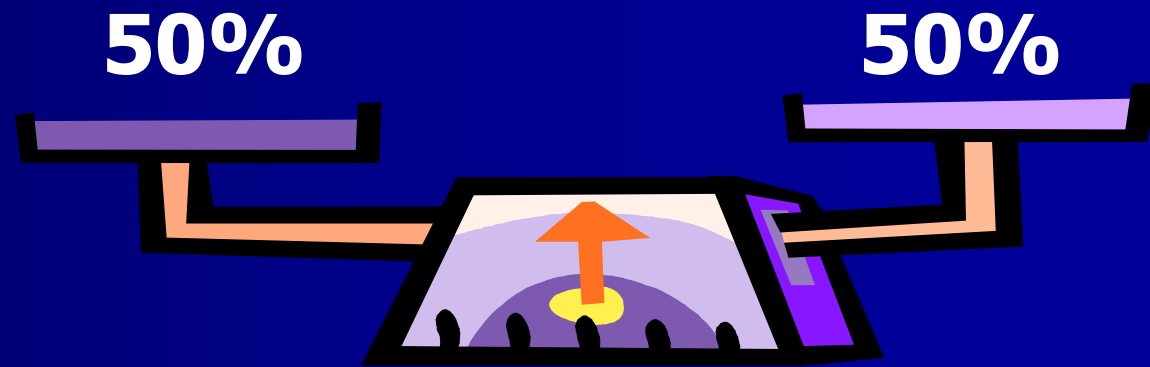
- Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

# 4. Recognizing Antimonies

- Antimony = "Anti" (against) + "Nomos" (law)
- Unlike paradoxes, you cannot reconcile these
- Paul uses the word "mysterion" in Ephesians
- Many examples:
  - Trinity
  - Hypostatic Union
  - Bible written by man and God
  - Old Self vs. New Self
  - Time
  - Space
- This antinomy is God's Sovereignty vs. Man's Free Will

# Antinomies are about Tension, Not Balance

Not about  
*balancing* them....



...But holding them  
in ***TENSION***

# Understanding Legalism

- 1) Regarding one's works as adding to your relationship with God (meritoriousness)
- 2) Adding to the commandments of God.



# Two Quotes

- “Obedience cannot save you, but you cannot be saved if you are disobedient”
- “I'm saved by grace, but God help me if I am not obedient”

# Faith without obedience is a house without a foundation



# Faith without obedience

≠ **Faith**

(it's just theoretical)

Obedience brings

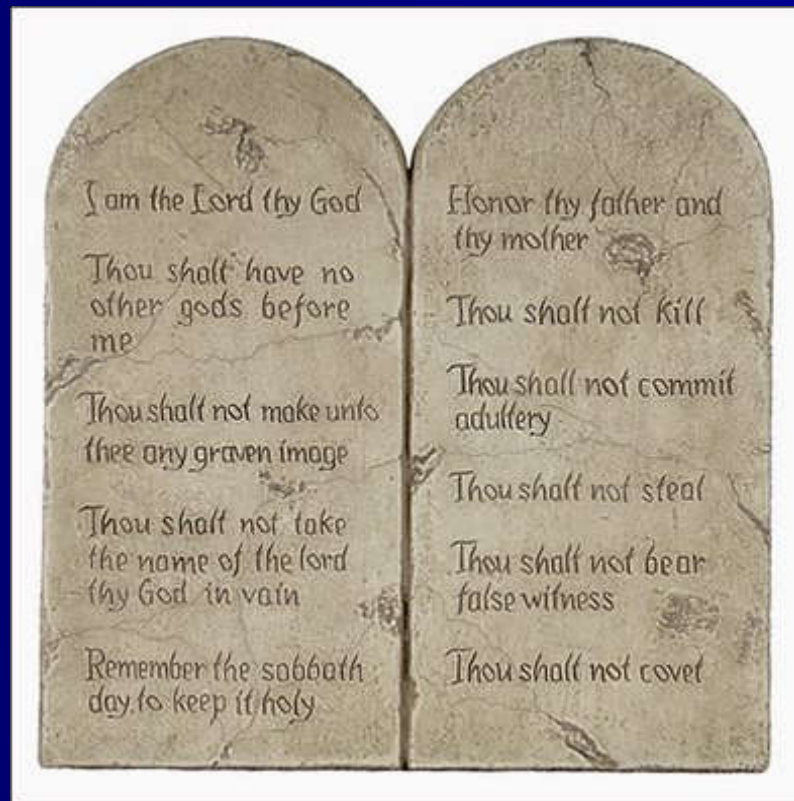
life to faith,

and faith to life.

# Reasons for not obeying:

- 1. Don't believe it is important
- 2. Lazy
- 3. Don't want to, don't agree

# 10 Suggestions?



# 10 Commandments



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Baldwin



**"I do. But not literally."**



# How do we fall into these errors today?

- “I don’t have to be obedient to be a follower of Jesus Christ”
- “God loves me just the way I am, I don’t have to perform or do works to be saved”
- “I will only obey when I agree with it”

# Obedience ≠ Agreement

“Although He was a Son,  
He **learned obedience** from  
the things which He suffered.”

(Heb 5:8)

# What is the surefire way to grow as a Christian?

"He who has  
**My commandments and keeps them**  
is the one who loves Me;  
and he who loves Me  
will be loved by My Father, and  
I will love him and  
will disclose Myself to him."

(John 14:21)

The Word is **not** given to you  
to make you **smarter,**

**but to make you holier.**

# Faith that is manipulative ≠ Faith

- Obedience on their own terms

# Delayed obedience $\neq$ obedience



# You name the price, I name the terms



# Manipulation of obedience: Presumption

“For certain persons have crept in unnoticed, those who were long beforehand marked out for this condemnation, ungodly persons who turn the grace of our God into licentiousness and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.”

(Jude 1:4)



# How do we turn grace of God into licentiousness?

- By ignoring God's commands under the guise of grace.
- "I know I shouldn't do it, but I also know He will forgive me."
- "I am sure God is not the kind of God who would want me to suffer or not be happy."

# For example:

God's forgiveness covers  
my willful disobedience to:

- Marry an unbeliever
- Be promiscuous
- Commit adultery
- Get divorced

**The battle cry is:**

**“God wants me to be happy.”**

**He wants you to be holy,  
which will make you happiest  
(in eternity).**

**Does God ever ask you to do something you cannot do?**



**“God puts me in an impossible situation.  
I can’t keep His standards.”**





“God knows I  
can’t keep His  
standards and  
He doesn’t  
expect me  
to.”

**“I relate to God on the basis of grace & not law, so I don’t have to concern myself w/ keeping NT commandments.”**



“No one in heaven will say  
that they are glad  
they did not do  
what God commanded.”