(Topics, Lead-in, and Lead-in Devotional Reading below)

## Christ Fulfills the Law

Matthew 5:17; 7:12; 12:1-14; Romans 8:1-4; 10:4



TOPICS: Holiness; Life of Christ; Living in Christ

LEAD-IN: "Do not presume that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish, but to fulfill." (Matthew 5:17, NASB)

There is now no condemnation at all for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. (Romans 8:1-2, NASB)

## LEAD-IN DEVOTIONAL READING:

## **Christ Our Rightness**

If our rightness depended on us keeping a set of rules, we'd be doomed. Consistent keeping of rules requires will-power. And a creature who is inherently sinful – that is, US simply doesn't have the ability to be consistently good on our own power. We try. We fail. We try harder. We fail again and keep failing. We can point out the faults of the people around us, but we cannot obey any better than they. Rules teach us right from wrong, but by themselves, they are weak because we are weak. But God sent His own holy, perfect Son and made Him as human as we are. Yet He lived a holy, perfect life here among us, in this evil world. So now, as we simply trust Him, He gives us His life, His Spirit, His rightness, His loving, trusting relationship with the Father. He wipes away all our past sins and all our present sinfulness. As we trust Him step by step, He gives us the power to obey, to do what is right The Spirit of Jesus Christ makes us right from the inside out. His life within us gives us the power and the freedom to be the persons our loving God has always wanted us to be.

There is now no condemnation at all for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. (Romans 8:1-2, NASB)

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