

# 2 Chronicles 15:3—Part 3

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**By Dave Havir**

BIG SANDY, Texas—Recently, I gave a sermon using 2 Chronicles 15:3 as an outline. In that sermon, I identified three main concepts.

*2 Chronicles 15:3*—"For a long time Israel has been without the true God, without a teaching priest, and without law."

This article is the third of a three-part series. It will discuss the third concept—they were without law.

## **Trickle-down effect**

On the secular front, many institutions in our modern world have difficulties because they do not respect law and order.

- Nations do not respect their own laws. Notice the problem of the three governmental branches within the United States.

The legislative branch passes laws that do not apply to them. The executive branch overtly violates laws that are established by the legislative branch. The judicial branch is plagued by activist judges who overstep their boundaries.

- Many families do not base their lives upon law and order.
- Many individuals are not basing their lives upon law and order.

## **Expectations because of grace**

On the religious front, many people (including professing Christians) seem to have a problem correlating the subjects of grace and law.

- Some people are so focused upon their version of grace that they often have trouble finding the right connection for God's expectations (which include aspects of His law).
- Other people are so focused upon understanding the subject of God's expectations (which are often aspects of God's law) that they forget that God's grace is the foundation for our efforts of obedience.

Notice some scriptures that demonstrate grace and expectations.

*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 of works, lest anyone should boast."

*Ephesians 2:10*—“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”

*Titus 3:3-7*—“For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful and hating one another. But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, [which] He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.”

*Titus 3:8*—“This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works. These things are good and profitable to men.”

*Romans 3:31*—“Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law.”

*Romans 6:1-2*—“What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?”

*Romans 6:15*—“What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not!”

### **Lamp unto our feet**

Many Bible students enjoy reading about God’s law in Psalm 119. Here are a few examples.

*Psalm 119:97*—“Oh, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day.”

*Psalm 119:105*—“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”