

## James 2:8-13: No One is Above the Law of God

### Introduction

In verses 8-12, the word “*law*” appears in every verse, marking it as a key word in this section.

In verse 13, the word is not used, but instead we see the root word for “*mercy*” used 3 times in the context of salvation and final judgment.

### Reasons No One is Above the Law of God:

1. **It is the King’s Law For All His Subjects (v. 8a).**
  - a. It also adds the phrase “*according to the Scripture.*”
  - b. When the Jewish Christian readers of James heard the word “*law*,” they would naturally think of the *Torah*, the first 5 books of the OT (Genesis-Deuteronomy).
  - c. The King’s Law is not suggestions. “*Royal*” indicates sovereignty and the right of the ruler over all in His Kingdom.
  - d. “*Royal/kingly*” may emphasize the law as supreme, over all law, or the fact that the law is over all people.
2. **The Heart of the Law is Love For All People (v. 8b).**
  - a. Besides loving God, there is no higher law than love for your fellow man.
  - b. Galatians 5:14
  - c. Galatians 6:2
  - d. Romans 13:8-10
  - e. Leviticus 19:9-19
3. **Law Shows God’s Character and Where We All Fall Short (v.9).**
  - a. Romans 3:19
  - b. James 2:9
  - c. James 1:25
  - d. Deuteronomy 10:17-19
  - e. Exodus 20:1-3

4. **Law Convicts All of Sin Before God (v. 10-11).**
  - a. Galatians 3:10
  - b. Habakkuk 1:13
  - c. James 2:10-11
  - d. James 5:4-5
  - e. Matthew 5:17-29
  
5. **Law Gives Liberty and Leads to Mercy (v. 12-13).**
  - a. Mathew 19:16-21
  - b. Mark 12:21-22
  - c. Leviticus 19:18
  - d. Luke 10:25-37

Years I spent in vanity and pride,  
Caring not my Lord was crucified,  
Knowing not it was for me He died  
On Calvary.

Mercy there was great, and grace was free;  
Pardon there was multiplied to me;  
There my burdened soul found liberty at Calvary.

By God's Word at last my sin I learned;  
Then I trembled at the law I'd spurned,  
Till my guilty soul imploring turned to Calvary.

Now I've giv'n to Jesus everything,  
Now I gladly own Him as my King,  
Now my raptured soul can only sing  
Of Calvary!

Oh, the love that drew salvation's plan!  
Oh, the grace that brought it down to man!  
Oh, the mighty gulf that God did span at Calvary!

Mercy there was great, and grace was free;  
Pardon there was multiplied to me;  
There my burdened soul found liberty at Calvary.