

# “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.” John 14:15

## What I'm not saying:

We are saved by works. (2 Timothy 1:9)  
Our good deeds are impressive (Ro. 3:20, Isaiah 64:6)  
Jews are more righteous (Ro. 3:22)

## What I am saying:

I have considered and prayed about how to lay this out, and I believe that it's best to go broad to narrow.

## Broadest category

### Ankle deep:



Mt. 22: 37 Jesus replied: “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ 38 This is the first and greatest commandment. 39 And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ 40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

Luke 23: 42 Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” 43 Jesus answered him, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

Mt. 5:17 “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.

Acts 16:31 They replied, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved—you and your household.”

Acts 15:28 It seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us not to burden you with anything beyond the following requirements: 29 You are to abstain from food sacrificed to idols, from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from sexual immorality. You will do well to avoid these things.

### Knee Deep:



What is missing from Acts 15 that you might teach to your children? Wives submitting to their husbands? Stealing the tithe from God? Many others.

Acts 15: 21 For the law of Moses has been preached in every city from the earliest times and is read in the synagogues on every Sabbath.”

Mt. 5:18-19 18 For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. 19 Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. 20 For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

Jer. 33: 19 The word of the Lord came to Jeremiah: 20 “This is what the Lord says: ‘If you can break my covenant with the day and my covenant with the night, so that day and night no longer come at their appointed time, 21 then my covenant with David my servant—and my covenant with the Levites who are priests ministering before me—can be broken and David will no longer have a descendant to reign on his throne.

Lev. 3:17 It shall be a statute forever throughout your generations, in all your dwelling places, that you eat neither fat nor blood.

Lev. 21:31 You shall do no work at all. This is to be a lasting ordinance for the generations to come, wherever you live.

Lev. 19:17 “Do not hate a fellow Israelite in your heart. Rebuke your neighbor frankly so you will not share in their guilt. 18 Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbor as yourself. I am the Lord. 19 Keep my decrees. Do not mate different kinds of animals. Do not plant your field with two kinds of seed. Do not wear clothing woven of two kinds of material.

Luke 13: “Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to.

2 Peter 1: 10 Therefore, my brothers and sisters, make every effort to confirm your calling and election.

# “If you love me, you will keep my commandments.” John 14:15

**Waist deep:**  
(Luke 21:24)



James 2: 14 What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them? ... 26As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.

Romans 4:2 If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about—but not before God. 3What does Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.”

Genesis 26:4 I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and will give them all these lands, and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, 5because Abraham obeyed me and did everything I required of him, keeping my commands, my decrees and my instructions.”

See also the books of 1 John (esp. 3:4) and Jude.

**Neck deep!**

(Psalm 119!)



1 Kings 2: 2 “I am about to go the way of all the earth,” he said. “So be strong, act like a man, 3and observe what the Lord your God requires: Walk in obedience to him, and keep his decrees and commands, his laws and regulations, as written in the Law of Moses.

Ps. 1: 1 Blessed is the one who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, 2but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night.

Ps. 19: 7 The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul. The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple. 8The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart.

Mal 3: 6 “I the Lord do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed. 7Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you,” says the Lord Almighty.

**Underwater!!**

Mt. 7:23 ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you workers of lawlessness!’

Westcott and Hort 1881

καὶ τότε ὁμολογήσω αὐτοῖς ὅτι Οὐδέποτε ἔγνων ὑμᾶς· ἀποχωρεῖτε ἀπ' ἐμοῦ οἱ ἐργαζόμενοι τὴν ἀνομίαν.



## 458. anomia

**Original Word:** ἀνομία, ας, ἡ

**anomia: lawlessness**

**Definition:** lawlessness

**Usage:** lawlessness, iniquity, disobedience, sin.

*lawlessness*; the utter disregard for God's law (His written and living Word).

### Explanation:

Although we are saved by grace alone through faith alone, not all faith is equal. We expect to see fruit.

John 15:2 He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.

Faith and works are not mutually exclusive. They work in tandem. There is a new covenant (Heb. 9:15), and the old wineskins are set aside. (Luke 5:39) The new covenant does not abolish the Law of God.

Deep water can also be paralleled with the shape of the temple. Jerusalem -> Holy of Holies. (Isa. 66:18-23)

### Objection:

People who hear this and have read the New Testament will say that Paul said that it's not about the Law, about food, about circumcision. My answer is that Paul was telling the Jews who had the Law that they needed Jesus. The rumor was that Paul rejected the law.

Acts 21: 21 But they are under the impression that you teach all the Jews who live among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, telling them not to circumcise their children or observe our customs. ... 24 Take these men, purify yourself along with them, and pay their expenses so they can have their heads shaved. Then everyone will know that there is no truth to these rumors about you, but that you also live in obedience to the law.

### Final Verse:

Isaiah 2:3 Many peoples will come and say, “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the temple of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths.” The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.