

Biblical Notes – Romans 10:4

4 – For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. (4. τέλος γὰρ νόμου Χριστὸς εἰς δικαιοσύνην παντὶ τῷ πιστεύοντι)

“The word commonly translated “end” (telos) in the statement of 10:4 can be understood in the sense of “termination” or “conclusion,” or “goal” or “result.” The alternatives are not entirely disparate.”

—— David K. Lowery, Christ the End of the Law in Romans 10:4 in *Dispensationalism, Israel and the Church: The Search for Definition*, eds. Craig A. Blaising and Darrell L. Bock (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1992), 235.

“Telos occurs thirteen times in literature traditionally regarded as Pauline, but only once (1 Tim. 1:5) does it clearly mean “goal.””

—— David K. Lowery, Christ the End of the Law in Romans 10:4 in *Dispensationalism, Israel and the Church: The Search for Definition*, eds. Craig A. Blaising and Darrell L. Bock (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1992), 235 (fn).

“The affirmation that “Christ is the end of the law” has been variously understood. The word “end” (telos) can mean “goal” or “terminus,” and here it probably means both. Christ, for Paul, was the goal of the law in the sense that the law was a temporary provision introduced by God until the coming of Abraham’s offspring in whom the promise made to Abraham was consummated; the law, in other words, “was our custodian until Christ came, that we might be justified by faith” (Gal. iii.19, 24). But Christ was also, for that reason, the terminus of the law; if, as Paul says, the law was a temporary provision, the coming of Christ meant that the period of its validity was now at an end.”

—— F.F. Bruce, *Paul and the Law of Moses*, 264.