

Romans 4:13-16

From the book "Take Hold" by Ariel, and D'vorah Berkowitz

"For the promise to Avraham and to his seed that he should be heir of the world wasn't through the law, but through the righteousness of faith. For if those who are of the law are heirs, faith is made void, and the promise is made of no effect. For the law works wrath, for where there is no law, neither is there disobedience. For this cause it is of faith, that it may be according to grace, to the end that the promise may be sure to all the seed, not to that only which is of the law, but to that also which is of the faith of Avraham, who is the father of us all."

Here is another passage that appears to teach the purpose of the Torah. Like the previous section from Romans, many Bible students read, "for the law brings about wrath" and assume that, along with revealing sin, the purpose of the Torah is to bring about wrath. Our comments for this passage are similar to those made for Romans 3. The only things the Torah can do for an unbeliever who relies upon his adherence to a set of rules in order to earn his righteousness, is help to reveal his sin, warn him of the impending judgement of God's wrath, and point him to the Messiah.

This passage is not in a context that speaks about following the Torah as a lifestyle for believers. Like most of the passages in Romans, the context is a refute against the attempt to use the Torah as a means of justification.