Bultmann distinguishes between the law as Paul understands it as a Jew, and as he understands gentiles also to understand it, on the one hand, and the law as the Greeks understand it, on the other, as either the law of the cosmos or as the law of the polis, both of which, in their ways, serve life.

But Bultmann is also quite clear that the law in the sense in which the Greeks understand it is also properly understood by Christian faith to belong to the law of God whose intention is to lead to life. This why he can hold that the relation between Christian faith, on the one hand, and the Greeks' idealistic-humanistic faith in the Spirit, on the other, is to be understood as the relation between gospel and law.

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