

Books of the Bible – Old Testament

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Week 4 – The Law



The Law

- Does the Old Testament Law (the Torah) apply to the believer of today?
- We **MUST** base our decision upon:
 - The Word of God,
 - The Word of God, and
 - The Word of God
- We cannot answer this question based upon:
 - Our culture
 - Our denominational doctrine
 - Our tradition



The Law

Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed *is* every one that hangeth on a tree

- Galatians 3:13



The Law

Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill.

- Matthew 5:17

For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

- Matthew 5:18



The Law

And it is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one tittle of the law to fail.

- Luke 16:17



The Law

We *who are Jews* by nature, and not sinners of the Gentiles, ¹⁶ Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.

- Galatians 2:15-16



Does the Law Apply?

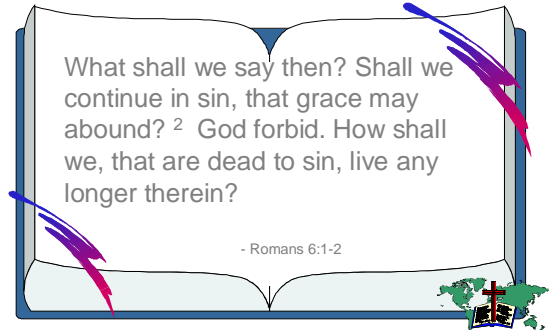
- We haven't been created for the law, the law has been created for us.
 - It exists to help and teach
 - Every commandment that God has given us is for our benefit
- God is not legalistic



Does the Law Apply?

What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? ² God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

- Romans 6:1-2



Does the Law Apply?

- Really, to ask if the Old Testament Law applies to the New Testament believer is too general a question, we need to break the law down into categories:
- The Law can apply in 3 ways:
 - The letter of the law (literally)
 - The spirit of the law (example)
 - Symbolically



When is it Symbolic?

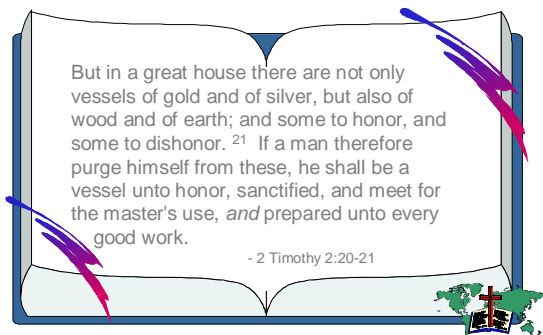
- If something can be understood literally, take it literally:
 - Jonah and the fish
 - Peter finding a coin in the mouth of a fish
 - Jesus walking on water
- Just because it can be understood literally, doesn't mean there isn't a symbolic meaning as well.
- If it can't be understood literally, it must be symbolic.



When is it Symbolic?

But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honor, and some to dishonor. ²¹ If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honor, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, *and* prepared unto every good work.

- 2 Timothy 2:20-21



Categories of the Law

- The 10 Commandments?
- General laws and commandments (that speak of morality)
- Dietary laws
- Laws about the priesthood
- The sacrificial system
- Laws that apply to the temple



Does the Law Apply?

- The 10 Commandments?
 - Literally applies to the believer of today
- General laws and commandments (that speak of morality)
 - Some are literal application
 - Many are symbolic
- Dietary laws



Dietary Laws

And into whatsoever city ye enter, and they receive you, eat such things as are set before you:

- Luke 10:8



Dietary Laws

And he saith unto them, Are ye so without understanding also? Do ye not perceive, that whatsoever thing from without entereth into the man, *it* cannot defile him;

¹⁹ Because it entereth not into his heart, but into the belly, and goeth out into the draught, purging all meats? (by this He declared all food clean)

- Mark 7:18-19



Dietary Laws

For one believeth that he may eat all things: another, who is weak, eateth herbs. ³ Let not him that eateth despise him that eateth not; and let not him which eateth not judge him that eateth: for God hath received him... ²³ And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because *he eateth* not of faith: for whatsoever *is* not of faith is sin.

- Romans 14:2-23



Does the Law Apply?

- The 10 Commandments?
- General laws and commandments (that speak of morality)
- Dietary laws
- Laws about the priesthood
 - Yes, in a symbolic manner



Laws About the Priesthood

And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and a holy nation. These *are* the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.

- Exodus 19:6

And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him *be* glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

- Revelations 1:6



Does the Law Apply?

- The 10 Commandments?
- General laws and commandments (that speak of morality)
- Dietary laws
- Laws about the priesthood
- The sacrificial system
 - If we don't understand the Old Testament sacrificial system, we can't fully understand what Jesus did for us on the cross.



Does the Law Apply?

- The 10 Commandments?
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Temple Laws

- The temple teaches us much about our walk with the Lord
- The temple teaches us much about God's desire to be in fellowship with us
- The temple symbolizes our worship
- The temple symbolizes Jesus' sacrifice
- The temple speaks of holiness



Temple Laws

- What is "clean" and "unclean"?
 - "clean" = Holy = Set apart for God
 - "unclean" = Common
 - "unclean" in Spanish is "inmundo"
 - "inmundo" = "asqueroso" = "detestable to the point of making you want to vomit"
- What happens when you take something "clean" and use it for "unclean" purposes?



How the Law Helps Us

- Shows us what sin is
- Shows us the price Jesus paid on the cross for us
- Shows us the character of God
- Shows us how to follow in God's footsteps
- Gives us the terms of the covenant we have with God
- Acts as a mirror of our hearts
- Many commandments have symbolic meanings



How the Law Helps Us

Then said he unto them, Therefore every scribe (master of the law) which is instructed unto the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is a householder, which bringeth forth out of his treasure things (treasures) new and old.

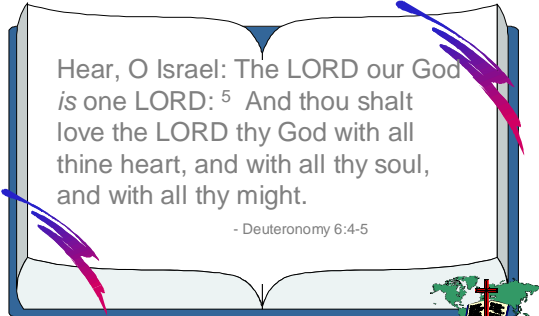
- Matthew 13:52



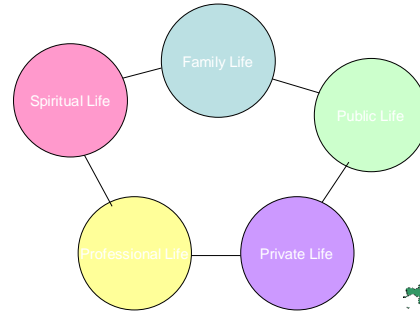
The Greatest Commandment

Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: ⁵ And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

- Deuteronomy 6:4-5



Where is Our Christianity?



Where is Our Christianity?

