

THE LAW OF GOD

PERFECT AND EVERLASTING



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THE LAW OF GOD

Perfect and Everlasting

Introduction

“For the law made nothing perfect.....” These were the words of Paul in his letter to Hebrews telling them of a better way and hope through Christ (**Hebrews 7:18, 19**). This seems contrary to what David once said in Psalms 19:7, *“The law of the Lord is perfect...!”* It's good for us to harmonize the two scriptures since both are from the inspired word of God. What could they have meant by these conflicting statements? Could they really be referring to the same law? If yes, then one of them could be right and the other wrong. Could they be referring to different types of laws? We find the same conflicting statements-with a little bit of clarity- mentioned by God Himself in **Ezekiel 20:11, 25**, saying one of the laws (statutes) was not good for life and the other was good for life!

The Imperfect Law

First, in Hebrews, the law being spoken of is that which is comparable with Christ's coming. He said in part 2, *“For in Christ, there is a better way...”* and in **10:8-10** he pointed out that Christ abolished the first in order to establish the second. Meaning that; this is the law that was indeed replaced by Yahshua. Note what Paul said in **Galatians 3:10-14** that, *‘Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law’* and that; *‘No man is justified before God by the law’*. In other books we read that, we are not saved by the law, but by grace and faith in Jesus! It is good for you, dear reader, to know this law which wasn't perfect, which led to the coming of Yahshua, to bring the most perfect way of serving God and redeem us from its curse. Could this law actually be the Ten Commandments? Let's see!

This imperfect law was added due to transgressions of the perfect law of God and had its duration. Paul said, *“Till the offspring should come to whom the promise had been made...”* (**Galatians 3:19-20**). Thus, it was a temporary law! It was not everlasting. This law commonly called ‘Mosaic law’ was added by Moses-who wrote them in a book- to put the Israelites on checks for transgressing God's perfect law (**Deuteronomy 31:24-27**). Note what He said in verses 26-27, *“Put this book by the side of the Ark of*

the Covenant so that it may be there as a witness against you, for I know how rebellious and stubborn you are...” It Was to be against them, due to their rebellion!

The Feasts of The Lord

This book of the law contained more than 600 laws and ordinances which God himself said were not good and could not give them life! (**Ezekiel 20:25**). Included in these ordinances were the feasts of the Lord as recorded in **Leviticus 23rd chapter**, which were introduced to be memorials of various events during their journey to Canaan and through Levitical priesthood, giving sacrifices to God for cleansing of their sins at specific appointed times. Listed in the book of **Numbers 29:12-38**, are various offerings which were mandatory to be offered during every appointed feast day-they were very many! No wonder Peter noted in **Acts 15:10** that the entire law was a burden which was and even now is impossible to bear. It is good to note that; these feasts were included in the book of the law which was replaced by Christ as read in **Nehemiah 8:1, 13-**. The laws for these feasts were either memorial of certain events or shadows of things that were to come as noted in **Hebrews 10:1-**.

The Feast of Atonement

The feast of atonement as recorded in **Leviticus 23:12** for instance, was a shadow of the real atonement done by God himself through His Lamb! It became null and void when Jesus, the real and perfect Lamb for atonement was killed once and for all! (**John 1:29 & Hebrews 9:6-14**) **Romans 5:12** says, ‘*Not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement*’ as opposed to the annual feast in which the priest would do the atonement of sins through animal’s blood, the real atonement by God himself, through Christ His lamb, was done once and for all (**Hebrews 9:24-28**). Indeed, the blood of animals could not be able to perfectly take away our sins as does that of Christ, the Lamb of God (**Hebrews 10:1-4**) who entered once into the holy of holies with his own blood! Dear reader, continuing with the Old Testament feast of atonement to date, insinuates that Christ, the perfect Lamb of God has not been killed for our sins! It is an injustice to his blood shed for our sins!

The Passover Feast

The Passover feast as recorded in **Exodus 12** also became null and void when Christ, our Passover lamb, was slain on the same day the Passover lamb could be slaughtered (**I Corinthians 5:7-8**). It was a shadow for this, and as the blood of the Passover lamb

saved the Israelites from the destruction in Egypt, the blood of Christ our saviour, will save us from the coming destruction (**John 6:54-57, and I Corinthians 11:23-26**). However, Passover only remains as a memorial for the Israelites' Exodus and journey from Egypt, but not in any way relevant or needed for the current salvation through Jesus who now saves us through his blood.

The Feast of Tabernacles/Booths

The feast of tabernacles in **Leviticus 23:34 & 43** was a memorial of their stay in booths/tabernacles during their journey! Note what God said as a reason for this, "...*That your generation may know that I made the children of Israel dwell in booths when I brought them out of Egypt...*" It has no implications or relevance to Christian/Messianic faith as constituted by Christ and the apostles; otherwise, we would be having very good examples to follow from the New Testament writers after Christ ascension. Further, the specific requirements for doing this feast were so many that it would not be possible in the current gospel age! (**Nehemiah 8:13-**)

The Purim Feast

The Purim feast was as well a memorial of the days of Ester when the Jews were to be exterminated by Haman, but God saved them (**Ester 9th chapter**). Native Jews may do this to commemorate this historic milestone of their ancestors as any other tribe or nation might have their various milestones. It, however, has no relevance and is not necessary for our salvation by Jesus and the current gospel dispensation. It does not in any way qualify to be a requirement for the kingdom of God or a characteristic of His people.

The ordinances which were against us

All these ordinances and their associated yearly Sabbaths were done away with when Yahshua came. Paul, in **Colossians 2:14**, observed that 'He (*Christ*) *blotted out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us which was contrary to us*', adding that this was nailed to the cross. It was really against the people as it was indeed written to be so! Dear reader, why follow something that is against you? This imperfect law, in which these feasts are contained, was just but a schoolmaster (leader) then as **Galatians 3:24** shows, which led people to the coming of the Messiah, that they may be justified by faith. "*But after that faith has come, we are no longer under the schoolmaster*" **Galatians 3:25**. We were delivered by Christ our saviour, from this imperfect law with all its details-

which God said they were not good and could not give life as noted in **Romans 7:6** and **Ezekiel 20:25**.

The Perfect and Perpetual law

There is however a perfect law of God, spoken of by David as sure and able to convert the Soul! There is a law spoken of by Christ that he did not come to destroy and that it stays till heaven and earth pass! It is the law that he came to strengthen and fulfil its intended aim to make people more righteous and closer to God the almighty-(**Psalms 19:7; Mathew 5:17-18**). It's the law that defines sin, as noted by **1 John 3:4** and further elaborated in **Romans 7:7-9**. All those who hate the sin love keeping this law! Christ taught some examples of this perfect law in detail in **Matthew 5:19-32** stressing that whoever keeps and teaches them shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

This law is none other than the Ten Commandments law! It is the perfect law of God, written by God Himself with His own finger and handwriting! (**Exodus 32:15**) Note what **Exodus 31:18** says,; *'And he gave unto Moses when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone written with the finger of God'* and in Deuteronomy 4:13, He repeated this clarifying that; what was written by the finger of God in two tables of stone, were indeed the Ten Commandments as listed in **Exodus 20:1-17**.

A Necessity for everlasting life

The fact that this perfect law, the Ten Commandments, was written in stone as opposed to a book, and placed inside the ark, shows that they were, and even now are, permanent and everlasting! No wonder Christ said, *"Verily I say unto you, heaven and earth shall pass but not a jot (one little) in this law..."*(**Mathew 5:18**). No wonder, he demonstrated its necessity for entering everlasting life in **Matthew 19:16-19** making it basic by saying, *"...if you want to enter life, keep the commandments..."* giving examples of the Ten Commandments. John noted that these commandments are not burdensome and distinguish those who love God from those who do not (**1 John 2:3-5; 5:3**).

The Law of Love

As opposed to the other laws of ordinances which were against us, these Ten Commandments foster love to God and love amongst ourselves as illustrated by Christ in **Mark 12:28-31**. It is not against us! It unifies us through love! The principle of love used

in writing this law of God makes it absolutely important in serving God and doing his will. Paul notes in **Romans 13:9-10** that, love is the fulfilment of this law and as you know dear reader, love is perpetual! We read in **1 Corinthians 13:1-13** that there's nothing comparable to Love! It is paramount and will never cease! Committing Murder or adultery, for instance, is sin and remains so forever; they won't cease being sin! Hence, these Ten Commandments remain relevant, defining sin and applicable to God's people now and in future until Christ comes. The Angel notes this in **Revelation 14:12** saying, "*Here are the patients of the saints...that keep the Commandments of God and the faith of Jesus*" and **Revelation 12:17**, clarifies that; indeed keeping the commandments of God and Faith of Jesus is an important characteristic of true saints of the church of God-The daughter of Zion

Conclusion

Dear reader, may I conclude this article by noting that; it is your sole responsibility to keep this perfect and everlasting law of God which is His Testimony, the Ten Commandments, written by God himself on two tablets of stone, for you to be among the saints of the church of God as announced by the Angel, and as **Psalms 19:7** puts it, they will convert your soul and it is sure to make you wise and enter the everlasting life as Christ said. Shalom

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