

God's Law

This tract has been created to introduce those who are searching for truth set forth in God's word. This tract is not based on the traditions of men and pagan religions.

As children of God, we must look for truth in what the scriptures teach us on God's Law. Today Churches teach that the ten commandments, God's Law, were nailed to the cross when Jesus was crucified. Is that what Jesus and his apostles taught? We will first look to our saviour's teaching on the subject.

Matthew 5:17, 18

Verse 17 Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

Verse 18 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.

This is one of the worst interpreted scriptures in all God's word. Churches use this scripture to prove that God's Law has been fulfilled, in other words done away with. Jesus says that he did not come to destroy the law; but to fulfill it. The second verse gives us the complete understanding to know this is not true. "Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law." In the Hebrew language each time a jot or tittle is added or taken away from a word the whole meaning of the word is changed. So, what Jesus is saying is that while this heaven and earth remain nothing will change in the law of God, and to the best of our knowledge this heaven and earth have not passed since the days of Jesus. Many of the churches also say that Jesus fulfilled everything at the cross. Is this true?

Acts 3:21

Verse 21 Whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began.

The key words here are "*until the time of restitution of all things*", all cannot be fulfilled if Jesus must remain in heaven until everything is restored. So, what has Jesus fulfilled? That which Adam could not, Adam fell to sin by disobeying God's word, and thereby did not fulfill God's will on earth. Jesus came and fulfilled to the death the will of God. Thereby being able to be the perfect sacrifice for all humankind.

The Churches of the world would have us believe that the law was first given to Israel at Mount Sinai after the exodus; but this is not true. We find in the book of Genesis, approximately four hundred and fifty years before the exodus, that the commandments of God were given verbally to Abraham.

Genesis 26:5

Verse 5 Because that Abraham obeyed my voice, and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws.

It is not unreasonable to believe that they were known by all God's people from the beginning of creation. Let us consider what was nailed to the cross in Colossians.

Colossians 2:14

Verse 14 Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;

If the handwriting ordinances is not God's commandments, then it only really leaves the mosaic laws. Now let us look at the differences between the Law given by God at Mount Sinai, and the law written by Moses at that time and added to over the centuries.

Exodus 24:12

Verse 12 And the LORD said unto Moses, Come up to me into the mount, and be there: and I will give thee tables of stone, and a law, and commandments which I have written; that thou mayest teach them.

Exodus 31:18

Verse 18 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.

Exodus 32:15, 16

Verse 15 And Moses turned, and went down from the mount, and the two tables of the testimony were in his hand: the tables were written on both their sides; on the one side and on the other were they written.

Verse 16 And the tables were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, graven upon the tables.

It is very clear that the ten commandments are the work of God and written by him on stone, showing they are eternal. Let us compare them to Moses' writings.

Exodus 24:4

Verse 4 And Moses wrote all the words of the LORD, and rose up early in the morning, and builded an altar under the hill, and twelve pillars, according to the twelve tribes of Israel.

Deuteronomy 31:24 -26

Verse 24 And it came to pass, when Moses had made an end of writing the words of this law in a book, until they were finished,

Verse 25 That Moses commanded the Levites, which bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD, saying,

Verse 26 Take this book of the law, and put it in the side of the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, that it may be there for a witness against thee.

Moses' law is written in a book and set against the outside of the ark; while God's tablets lay inside the ark.

Exodus 40:20

Verse 20 And he took and put the testimony into the ark, and set the staves on the ark, and put the mercy seat above upon the ark:

There is a clear difference in the two laws, one written by God and one by man. Not to diminish man's writings that have been inspired by God; but to realize that Jesus has put an end to such things, because they took away the true purpose of God's will. Before we go on let us consider what we have at this point; Jesus telling us that he has come to fulfill God's law in the flesh, and that he did not come to end or change the law of God while this heaven and earth remain. We have seen the laws, commandments, ordinances and statutes of God at least four hundred and fifty years before Israel received them at Mount Sinai. Lastly, we have seen symbolically that which is eternal of the law and that which is temporal, that which is written on tables of stone verses that which is written in a book. Now it is true that in Moses' book he had written the ten commandments of God; but that does not change that the original is by the very hand of God written on stone. The point we are making is that the Mosaic writings, those which taught how to keep God's ten commandments, were changed with every new priest or Judge; but God's law has never changed. Here is an example of a change made to the law.

Joshua 24: 25, 26

Verse 25 So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and set them a statute and an ordinance in Shechem.

Verse 26 And Joshua wrote these words in the book of the law of God, and took a great stone, and set it up there under an oak, that was by the sanctuary of the LORD.

Here we have seen that Joshua adds to the book of Moses and this is why it was temporary. The instructions telling us how to keep God's law are no longer valid, as we are called to a higher standard today or we should say since Jesus came. Let us pick back up with what Jesus was teaching.

Matthew 5:19-22

Verse 19 Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Verse 20 For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Verse 21 Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment:

Verse 22 But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.

Those who truly fear God should tremble with fear if they have taught that God's law, his Ten Commandments, were nailed to the cross and are no longer the means in which to know God's righteousness. Jesus says they will be called the least in the kingdom of heaven. We know which commandments he is speaking of because he quotes two of them. He then tells us what the spiritual side of the law is and that by no means does the spiritual side of the law do away with the spoken and written law. What does Paul say about the law?

Romans 13:9, 10

Verse 9 For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

Verse 10 Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law,

Romans 3:28, 31

Verse 28 Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law.

Verse 31 Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law.

Paul quotes five of the commandments to show us what love is, and that having love for one another fulfils the law. If we tie this in with what James teaches, we see that God's word harmonizes.

James 2:8

Verse 8 If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well:

We are called to know the conduct in which we are to live, and this comes by way of God's testimony as Paul has put forward. Now let us look at what John has to say about the law of God.

I John 2:3-10

Verse 3 And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments.

Verse 4 He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

Verse 5 But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him.

Verse 6 He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked.

Verse 7 Brethren, I write no new commandment unto you, but an old commandment which ye had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which ye have heard from the beginning.

Verse 8 Again, a new commandment I write unto you, which thing is true in him and in you: because the darkness is past, and the true light now shineth.

Verse 9 He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now.

Verse 10 He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him

I John 3:4

Verse 4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

II John 1:6

Verse 6 And this is love, that we walk after his commandments. This is the commandment, That, as ye have heard from the beginning, ye should walk in it.

These scriptures were written in about 90 A.D. which is approximately sixty years after Christ's death. John still refers to the same law Jesus taught and even refers to what you have heard from the beginning, meaning before Jesus. In I John 3:4-10 we know that John is speaking of the ten Commandments, as he gives us an example when he speaks of a new commandment, and then refers to brotherly love just as Jesus did in Matthew 5:22. Let us look at two more scriptures to prove that God's last day church will be commandment keepers.

Rev.12: 17

Verse 17 And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Rev 14:12

Verse 12 Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

Dear reader we pray that you have been moved by God's Spirit to see that God's righteousness is revealed to mankind through his commandments. One of the biggest problems today is man believes he can rewrite God's law or not acknowledge it at all. We have seen that the scriptures teach differently.

James 2:10

Verse 10 For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.

Created by the Church of God
Headquarters Oshawa, Ontario
www.thechurchofgod.info
postmaster@cogsd.org