

The Law Nailed at the Cross

My Journey With God series

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Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

There was a law that was abolished when Christ died on the cross. It had to do with ordinances concerning meats and drinks, special holy days, religious festivals, and annual Sabbaths. Instruction concerning the yearly feasts and their related ritual Sabbaths is specifically given in Leviticus 23. Since these yearly feasts were used for worship and they occurred on certain fixed days of the month, these ritual Sabbaths also fell on various days of the week as does Christmas. These annual or ritual Sabbaths were separate from the weekly Sabbath which always fell on the seventh day of the week.

What was the purpose of these ordinances contained in the law of Moses?

“Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days: Which are a _____ of things to come; but the body is of Christ” (Colossians 2:16, 17).

Note: This law was one of types and shadows pointing the Jewish people to a coming event. John saw Christ as a fulfillment of the sacrificial lamb as a type of Christ. Read John 1:29. When Christ died type met antitype and for that reason we do not keep the yearly Passover, its ritual Sabbaths, and other festivals.

Of what is the weekly Sabbath a reminder?

“For in six days the LORD _____ heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it” (Exodus 20:11).

Note: The fourth commandment is preceded by the word “Remember.” Read Exodus 20:8-11. The weekly Sabbath was set up by God as a memorial of creation. Read Genesis 2:1-3.

What was done to the ritual law at the cross?

“Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in _____; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace” (Ephesians 2:15).

Note: In this text Paul refers to ceremonial ordinances given for a time and then abolished at the cross. This law was temporary and served only until the fulfillment of its types on the cross. Its purpose was to teach Israel the gospel truths and to point them to the coming Messiah. With the actual coming of Christ, the typical rituals no longer had a purpose to exist.

Conclusion

God’s great moral ten commandment law is as eternal as God Himself. This law was in existence at creation. It was “ordained to life.” Romans 7:10. This law pointed out sin. Read Romans 7:7.

The ritual law of sacrifices had its origin with Adam, was practiced by the patriarchs, and expanded by God at Mt. Sinai into the sanctuary worship. Its purpose was to point to Christ and His great plan of salvation.

I believe that when Jesus died on the cross, the moral law was reinforced and the ceremonial laws, those that pointed to His sacrifice, were abolished.

Because Jesus loves me and I love Him, I will keep His commandments (John 14:15).

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