



*The Christian's View Of The
Old Testament*

Gal. 4:21-26

Introduction...

- Common Question:
 - Why don't you believe in the Old Testament?
 - You're that church that doesn't believe in the O.T.
 - I hear you don't study the O.T. , and only carry the N.T., etc.
- How do you respond to those who question the Christian's view of the Old Testament?

All Of The Bible Is Inspired By God, And There Is Great Benefit To O. T. Study...

- 2Ti 3:15-17 → 15 And that from a child thou hast known ***the holy scriptures***, which are able to make thee ***wise unto salvation*** through faith which is in Christ Jesus. 16 ***All scripture is given by inspiration of God***, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: 17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.
- 2Pe 1:21 KJV → 21 For the prophecy ***came not in old time by the will of man***: but ***holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost***.

All Of The Bible Is Inspired By God, And There Is Great Benefit To O. T. Study...

- Rom 15:4 → 4 For whatsoever things were written aforetime were **written for our learning**, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.
- 1Co 10:11 → 11 Now all these things happened unto them for **examples**: and they **are written for our admonition**, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

Refining The Question...

- Why do you not practice things that we see in the Old Testament? Instrumental music, a separate priesthood, tithing, dietary laws, the Sabbath Day, holy days, etc.
 - Varying beliefs: Almost all (except animal sacrifices) to be kept...to those who cherry pick a few things.
 - Are we commanded to keep the Old Testament today?
 - Does the Old Testament provide authority for what we do today?

Refining The Question...

- Does God expect all men today to obey every command that he has ever given?
 - Are we to build an ark of gopher wood today?
 - Are we to take our child into a mountain and offer him for a sacrifice?
 - Are we to offer animal sacrifices today?
- Those commands were given to specific people at special times in history under specific circumstances. Never intended for all men everywhere to keep.
- Did God intend for the Law of Moses to be binding today, or was it given to specific people at a special time in history, under specific circumstances, and was not intended to be permanent for all?

Begin By Getting The Big Picture Of The Law of Moses In God's Plan → Gal. 3

- To fully understand this question, consider the scope of God's plan of redemption.
- ***Galatians Chapter 3***
 - Saved by works of the law or the gospel? (v-2,3,5)
 - They which are of faith...are the children of Abraham. (v-7)
 - The gospel was preached unto Abraham. (v-8; Gen. 12:1-7; 22:18)
 - None is justified by the law. (v-11)
 - The law which was later added 430 years later did not disannul or make the promise of none effect. (v-17,19)
 - Added till the seed should come. (v-19,16)
 - Law was a schoolmaster; after faith came no longer under the schoolmaster. (v -24-25)
 - Those who are Abraham's seed (spiritually) are the heirs of the promise. (v26-29)

The Old Testament Law Was Given Only To The Jews...

- Deut. 5:1 → And Moses called all Israel, and said unto them, ***Hear, O Israel***, the statutes and judgments which I speak in your ears this day, that ye may learn them, and keep, and do them.
- Ex. 34:27 → 27 And the LORD said unto Moses, Write thou these words: for after the tenor of these words I have ***made a covenant with thee and with Israel***.
- Deut. 5:2-3 → 2 The LORD our God made a covenant with us in Horeb. 3 The LORD made not this covenant with our fathers, but with us, even us, who are all of us here alive this day.

The New Testament Teaches That The Old Testament Was Taken Away

- ***“Better” Things In The New Testament (Hebrews):***
 - Heb. 1:4 → 4 Being made **so much better than the angels...**
 - Heb. 7:7 → 7And without all contradiction **the less is blessed of the better.**
 - Heb. 7:19 → 19For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of **a better hope** did; by the which we draw nigh unto God.
 - Heb. 7:22 → 22By so much was Jesus made a surety of **a better testament.**
 - Heb. 8:6 → 6 But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also **he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises.**

The New Testament Teaches That The Old Testament Was Taken Away

- ***“Better” Things In The New Testament (Hebrews):***
 - Heb. 9:23 → 23 It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with **better sacrifices than these.**
 - Heb. 10:34 → 34 For ye had compassion of me in my bonds, and took joyfully the spoiling of your goods, knowing in yourselves that ye have **in heaven a better and an enduring substance.**
 - Heb. 11:16 → 16 But now they desire **a better country**, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city. ...
 - Heb. 7:40 → God having provided **some better thing for us**, that they without us should not be made perfect.
 - Heb 12:24 → 24 And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the **blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.**

The Old Testament In The Book Of Hebrews

- Heb. 7:12 → 12 For the priesthood being changed, there is made *of necessity a change also of the law.*
- Heb. 7:18 → *For there is verily a disannulling of the commandment going before* for the weakness and unprofitableness thereof.

The Old Testament In The Book Of Hebrews

- Heb. 8:7-13 → **7 For if that first [covenant] had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second.** 8 For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when **I will make a new covenant** with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: 9 Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt...12 For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more. 13 ***In that he saith, A new [covenant], he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old [is] ready to vanish away.***

The Old Testament In The Book Of Hebrews

- Heb. 10:9 → 9 Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. ***He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.***

Gal. 4:21-31 → Sarah and Hagar

- **Gal. 4:21-31** → The Allegory of Sarah and Hagar.
 - 21 Tell me, ye that desire to be under the law, do ye not hear the law?
 - 25 For this Hagar is mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in **bondage** with her children. But Jerusalem which is above is **free**, which is the mother of us all.
 - (v-30-31) 30 Nevertheless what saith the scripture? Cast out the bondwoman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman. 31 **So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman, but of the free.**

Ministration of Death or Ministration of Righteousness?

- ***II Cor. 3:7-11*** → 7 But if the ministration of death, written and engraven in stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not stedfastly behold the face of Moses for the glory of his countenance; which glory was to be done away:
- 8 How shall not **the ministration of the spirit** be rather glorious?
- 9 For if the ministration of condemnation be glory, much more doth the ministration of righteousness exceed in glory.
- 10 For even that which was made glorious had no glory in this respect, by reason of the glory that excelleth.
- ***11 For if that which is done away was glorious, much more that which remaineth is glorious.***

Dead To The Law By The Body Of Christ

- Rom. 7:1-6 → 1 Know ye not, brethren, (for I speak to them that know the law,) how that the law hath dominion over a man as long as he liveth?
- 2 For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband.
- 3 So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man.
- 4 Wherefore, my brethren, **ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another,** even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God.

The Law of Moses – Abolished...

- ***Eph. 2:11-16*** → 11 Wherefore remember, that ye being in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands;
- 12 That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:
- 13 But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.
- 14 For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down ***the middle wall of partition between us;***
- 15 ***Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances;*** for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace;
- 16 And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby:

Nailing It To His Cross...

- **Col. 2:12-17** → 12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead.
- 13 And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses;
- 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;**
- 15 [And] having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.
- 16 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:
- 17 Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body [is] of Christ.

Objections Considered...

- The Bible says that God does not change. (Heb. 13:8)
 - His nature, character, Deity.
 - His laws have changed.
- Jesus said that he did not come to destroy the law. (Matt. 5:17)
 - He kept it, fulfilled it – then took it out of the way.
- The Law consists of the ceremonial (done away) and the moral (retained) parts.
 - Rom. 7:7

Galatians 3:26-27

- 26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.
- 27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

REFERENCES TO ISRAEL'S YEARS IN EGYPT

