

The Law of Moses Doesn't Apply to Christ's Church
By Travis Main

Perhaps the subject of this article strikes you as something that is very obvious. However, there are many religious bodies, proclaiming to be the Church Christ founded, which validate some of their religious practices not from Christ's new covenant, nor from the eternal principles of God, but from the Law of Moses. God gave the Law of Moses to Moses upon Mt. Sinai. Part of the law involved what the world knows as the "Ten Commandments" (Exodus 20). These are held up by society and many religions as the laws to live by today, but do they still have the authority of God? In truth, much like the Pharisees of Jesus time (Matthew 15:1-9), many entities promoting practices from the Law of Moses do not even follow them, but a form of them devised by the traditions of men. Such is the ground they stand upon, leading many to faithfully follow, though the foundation has been swept away by the hand of God. The covenant of Christ cannot be properly followed while the authority of an old law vanished away is still sought after. The Law of Moses was given to physical Israel.

Malachi 3:8 – *"Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it."*

The passage above demonstrates the neglect of the people of God. Under the Law of Moses they were to bring forth tithes and offerings. Deuteronomy 14:23-29 notes tithes of corn, wine, oil, firstlings of herds and flocks, and tithes of increase. Note: If the Law of Moses applies to the faithful of God today and we are not obeying it, then His words in Malachi 3:8 are applicable to us. We are robbing God! However, if one undertakes deeper examination they will read Malachi 1:1 and Malachi 4:4. In these verses it is found that the words of God which Malachi shares are to the nation of Israel. Additionally, it is seen that the Law of Moses was given to the nation of Israel and no one else. The ten commandments? They were God's law given to a specific people 3400 years ago.

The Law was given to Israel. There is no example of Christ's Church following the Law by the authority of God. Contrary to those who would follow the Law, the apostle Paul wrote the Galatian Church to follow only the Gospel which he had previously delivered to them (Galatians 1). He told the Christians *"a man is not justified by the works of the law"* (Galatians 2:16). He declared *"for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain."* (Galatians 2:21). Why? Paul stated, *"Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made,"* (Galatians 3:19). He would later say the Law of Moses was a schoolmaster. The word here comes from the Greek *pahee-dag-o-gos* and references one who takes a student from point A to point B. The Law of Moses took the children of Israel from their wanderings in the wilderness to the final fulfillment of the promise to Abraham by God – Jesus the Christ, the seed to bless all nations. The Law was not created to last forever. This is another reason that the Church does not follow it today.

We do not follow the Law of Moses today because it was not given to us, the first century church did not follow it, and it was not made to last forever. Long before the New Testament was written, the Old Testament declared the end of the Old was coming.

Jeremiah 31:31 "Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah,

Jeremiah is quoted in Hebrews 8:8-13 and it is made clear that the Law of Moses by Jeremiah's prophecy was already old and vanishing away. This is not the only Old Testament reference to a new covenant to be given. In the messianic passage of Isaiah 42, Jesus, the messiah that Israel was looking to arrive would be given as a *"covenant"* to the people (Israel) and to the nations (non-Israel) (verse 6). In Isaiah 61, a chapter which also sees messianic text and from which Jesus applies scripture to Himself, it is declared a covenant would be given to the *"offspring"* of God. Daniel 9:27 speaks of the Messiah establishing a new covenant. Hosea 2:18 speaks of a new covenant. There are other passages, but the point should be clear that those in generations long before the establishment of the Church knew the Law of Moses was temporary.

Once Jesus arrived upon the earth he shared the Good News given him by the Father. That is the *"one faith"* of the gospel (Ephesians 4). He did so knowing His mission upon this earth was short and He was on the way to the cross to be crucified for the sins of mankind. He did so, was buried in a tomb, and arose after three days to be seen over a period of time by many before ascending into heaven (Acts 1). When he died upon the cross, the Law of Moses itself was figuratively nailed to the cross as well (Colossians 2:14) taking away the ordinances of condemnation upon those whom it held in its grasp. Jesus shared the Gospel in His ministry (Mark 1:1). His focus was not the instruction of the Law of Moses. After his resurrection, but before his ascension, He told his disciples to baptize in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and to teach the disciples to follow the things He taught them. Jesus did not teach the Law. He nailed the Law to the cross. He brought a new covenant to mankind. On the day of Pentecost, when Christians were added to the Church (Acts 2:47), they were not added to the kingdom of God by following a covenant of circumcision, but rather a new covenant in Christ. The Law of Moses could not forgive sins (Hebrews 10:1-4). But Christ's blood brought about forgiveness and a new covenant of eternal inheritance (Hebrews 9:15). Christ came to take away the first covenant and establish the second (Hebrews 10:9).

Why would the Church of today follow something that was never intended for them? It makes no sense at all to follow something that the Church when it was formed not only did not follow, but was warned against following. The Law was not created to last forever and ample proclamation declared it would end and another covenant would be coming. Only the New Covenant based upon the sacrifice and Gospel of Christ can provide eternal life. It is the words of His covenant that will judge us in the last day (John 12:48). Knowing these things, why would anyone choose to follow any other teaching and jeopardize their soul for an eternity?

Things you should know about!

We would like to send donations to the Disaster Relief Fund quarterly. If you want to contribute, mark it as "DRF" or give the money to Jason.

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Chris Miller 6/12 Evelyn Lam 6/14 Carol Kemp 6/21

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Happy Anniversary

Curt & Shandar Thompson 6/19
Rick & Lois Ferris 6/25

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Please stay to eat and fellowship with us after service this morning!

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There's Safety in the Ark - VBS
Saturday, June 25th ~ Registration 9am

Please invite your family and friends to come to VBS with you!

If you are helping, please plan to stay after AM service next Sunday for a quick meeting.

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There will be a brief Men's meeting after AM service *next* Sunday. If you have items to be discussed, please let John or Jason know.

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Serving today and next Sunday:

Sunday AM Rotation	June 12, 2022	June 19, 2022
Announcements		Tom Muter
Song Leading	Duane Kemp	Owen Whittington
Opening Prayer/Greeter/Usher	Jason Bang	Tim Bang
Lord's Supper Comments		Duane Kemp
Scripture Reading	Owen Whittington	Chris McGiffin
Sermon	John McGiffin	John McGiffin
Closing Prayer/Usher		Jerry Thompson

Please call John or email him at jmcgiffin.yayo@gmail.com with any prayer requests or announcements you may have for the congregation.

Bible Verse of the Week

"For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace." Romans 6:14



Lord's Supper Reflection

You have been bought with a Price

"For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's." 1 Corinthians 6:20

Offering Meditation

God gave us His Son. We can give back to Him a small portion of our earning to spread the Gospel.

"Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!" 2 Corinthians 9:15



Remember in Prayer:

- *Our Country & leaders, Ukraine crisis
- *Phyllis Caldwell - encouragement
- *Rena Morgan - Shut in, health
- *Ernst & Helen Sherrill (Bro/Sis in Christ from TN) - shut ins with ongoing health issues
- *Larry Bey - asked for prayers for his Parkinson's
- *Laura McGiffin's - back pain and healing of the incision on her leg
- *Don Allen (Bryan Allen's brother) - needs prayer
- *Amy Hicks (Tammy Seiber's friend) - has brain cancer, hospice has been called in for her care
- *Greg Wilcox (Kemp's neighbor) - is struggling
- *Residents and Staff at Brookdale (where Laura McGiffin works) - dealing with COVID cases increasing within the facility

- *Nancy Wilson (friend of Stephanie Bang) - for comfort as hospice has been called in for her care, as well as prayer for her family/friends.
- *Deborah Mellinek (friend of Amie Allen) - in ICU with a mass on her cerebellum.
- *The Muter's and Thompson families are traveling this week.

How can we be praying for YOU?



Attendance and Contribution Record

Sunday, June 5

Bible Classes 39
 AM Attendance 46
 PM Attendance 25

Wednesday, June 8

Bible Classes 22
 Contribution \$1,090.00

Welcome to the Greenville Church of Christ



June 12, 2022

Worship Times:

- Sunday Morning Bible class: 9:30am
- Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30am
- Sunday Evening Worship: 6:00pm
- Wednesday Evening Bible Study: 7:00pm

Minister, John McGiffin

4599 Children's Home Bradford Rd
 Greenville, OH 45331

www.greenvillecoc.org

We are blessed that you have chosen to worship with us today!
 If you are visiting, we would love to have you back with us again. Please take a moment to fill out a visitor's card and let us get to know you.