



Basic Bible Course

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Christians are NOT Governed by the OLD Testament (PART TWO)



Lesson Five

INTRODUCTION: In our first study of Christians not being governed by the Old Testament, we learned many things:

(1) That Jesus taught a “NEW garment” piece is NOT PUT UPON AN “OLD”; neither is “NEW wine” put into “OLD bottles” (Luke 5:36-39).

(2) That Christians have been made “DEAD TO” the law as well as “DELIVERED FROM” it (Romans 7:1-7).

NOTE: Verse 7 says WHICH law—the law that said, “THOU SHALT NOT COVET.”

(3) Whereas the FIRST LAW was written with the “FINGER” of God ON STONE, Christians are written, NOT WITH INK OR ON STONE, but with the “SPIRIT” of God “in fleshly tables of the HEART” (2 Corinthians 3).

(4) The law that was “WRITTEN AND ENGRAVEN IN STONES” was “GLORIOUS.”

(5) What was “GLORIOUS” Paul declares was “DONE AWAY,” “ABOLISHED.”

(6) What “REMAINS” is NOT what was “GLORIOUS,” but what is “RATHER GLORIOUS” or “MUCH MORE...GLORIOUS,” i.e., the NEW testament, of which Christians are said to be “ministers.”

(7) From Galatians 4 through 6 we learned that Christ “REDEEMED” them that were under the law.

(8) The LAW FROM MOUNT SINAI, we identified as “THE BONDWOMAN”; and Galatians 4:30 said, “CAST OUT THE BONDWOMAN.”

(9) Christians are children not of the “bondwoman” (old testament but of the “FREE” (NEW TESTAMENT).

(10) EPHESIANS 2 showed us that the “MIDDLEWALL,” which was “THE LAW OF COMMANDMENTS CONTAINED IN ORDINANCES” (verse 15) has been “BROKEN DOWN,” “ABOLISHED,” “SLAIN.”

(11) This same HANDWRITING OF ORDINANCES, THE LAW, Colossians 2 said, was “BLOTTED OUT,” “TAKEN OUT OF THE WAY,” and “NAILED TO THE CROSS.”

In TODAY’S study, we shall COMPLETE OUR INVESTIGATION of the New Testament teaching that CHRISTIANS ARE NOT GOVERNED BY THE OLD TESTAMENT...

I. HEBREWS 6 Through 10:9—

A. The writer speaks of those who, through faith, “INHERIT THE PROMISES” (Hebrews 6:12).

1. The “PROMISES” were made to Abraham (verse 13).

2. God’s “PROMISE” unto Abraham’s “HEIRS” was confirmed by an oath (verse 17).

3. In fulfilling this “PROMISE” we have an HIGH PRIEST, even JESUS, whose priesthood is “after the order of Melchisedec,” who is our fore-runner into heaven, i.e., “that within the veil” (verse 20).

4. Melchisedec and his priesthood are described (7:1-10).

- B. *Perfection* is NOT BY THE LEVITICAL PRIESTHOOD (verse 11).
1. Under this priesthood “THE LAW” was received.
 2. However this priesthood was INSUFFICIENT, because there was “FURTHER need” for “ANOTHER PRIEST” *after the order of Melchisedec* and *not after the order of Aaron* (i.e., not after the Levitical priesthood).
- C. Because the *priesthood* was changed, “THE LAW” of necessity ALSO WAS CHANGED (verse 12).
1. The reason for this was that the OLD TESTAMENT LAW was administered by priests *out of the tribe of Levi*.
 2. This was *ordained by God* through Moses.
 3. Our Lord, Jesus Christ, sprang out of JUDA, *not out of Levi* (verse 14).
 4. Of the tribe of JUDA, Moses spoke NOTHING concerning priesthood.
 5. So, since God made Jesus our “*high priest*”—and *Jesus could not be a priest under the ten-commandment law* given by God through Moses—this CHANGE IN THE PRIESTHOOD necessitated *also* A CHANGE OF THE LAW.
- D. The “COMMANDMENT GOING BEFORE” (i.e., THE LAW) was DISANNULLED (verse 18).
1. Three reasons are ascribed (verse 19):
 - a. The law was weak.
 - b. The law was unprofitable.
 - c. The law made nothing perfect.
- E. Although “THE LAW made NOTHING PERFECT,” verse 19 says the “BRINGING IN OF A BETTER HOPE” DID (MAKE PERFECT).
NOTE: A “BETTER HOPE” than WHAT?—than the hope extended by the TEN-COMMANDMENT LAW.
- F. We “DRAW NIGH UNTO GOD” by the “BETTER HOPE,” not by the law (verse 19).
NOTE: Let us fasten our attention on the word “BETTER.” No contention is made that the law which came from God via Moses was *not good*—rather that what God gave through Christ is *BETTER*. Why anyone should cling avidly to something *only good*, when he *could* exchange it for something that is *BETTER* is hard to understand. Yet many exhaust themselves trying to prove that Christians are governed by the *Old* testament. From the foregoing we see actually, that CHRISTIANS DRAW NIGH UNTO GOD by a “BETTER” hope than the hope offered by the *old-testament, ten-commandment law*.
- G. Jesus, being made a priest FOREVER with an OATH, is our surety of a “BETTER” covenant (verse 22).
1. The *Levitical priesthood* was “*changeable*” by reason of *death* (verse 23).
 2. *Jesus’* priesthood is “*unchangeable*” (verse 24).
 3. Jesus was made a priest by the “word of the oath” (verse 28—compare verse 21).
 - a. The “word of the oath” was SINCE the law (verse 28).
NOTE: The word “SINCE” in “SINCE THE LAW” implies that the TEN-COMMANDMENT LAW HAD ENDED BEFORE THE “WORD OF THE OATH” WAS GIVEN.
- H. JESUS CHRIST is OUR high priest (8:1).
1. As such, He is a minister of the “TRUE” TABERNACLE (verse 2).
 2. The Lord (not man) pitched this tabernacle.
 3. The Levitical priests served unto the “*example*” and “*shadow*” of heavenly things (verse 5).
 4. CHRIST’S ministry is “MORE EXCELLENT” than theirs (verse 6).
 5. Two reasons are given:
 - a. He is mediator of a “BETTER COVENANT” (verse 6).
 - b. This covenant is established upon “BETTER PROMISES” (verse 6).

- I. IF the FIRST covenant (i.e., the TEN-COMMANDMENT LAW) had been FAULTLESS, then NO PLACE SHOULD HAVE BEEN SOUGHT FOR THE SECOND (verse 7).
1. God found fault with those under the FIRST covenant.
 2. God promised to make a NEW covenant (verse 8).
 3. The NEW covenant was NOT TO BE ACCORDING TO THE FIRST COVENANT (verse 9).
 4. By saying “a NEW covenant,” God made the FIRST covenant “OLD” (verse 13).

NOTE: The writer of Hebrews, thus, has led the Hebrew mind along carefully, patiently, and painstakingly, until by this point he can announce that the “OLD” was ready to “VANISH AWAY” (verse 13). Next he describes many things pertaining to the “old” or “first” covenant, which he wishes understood as vanished away..

- J. The first covenant had (9:1-5)—
1. Ordinances of divine service
 2. a worldly sanctuary
 3. tabernacle
 4. candlestick
 5. shewbread
 6. second veil
 7. golden censer
 8. ark of the covenant
 9. manna
 10. Aaron’s rod
 11. tables of the covenant
 12. cherubims
 13. mercy seat
 14. blood

NOTE THIS PARTICULARLY! Remember that the TEN COMMANDMENTS WERE ON THOSE TABLES OF COVENANT!

- K. The way into the “holiest of all” was not yet made manifest while the first tabernacle was yet standing (verse 8).
1. The tabernacle was a “figure” for the time then present (verse 9).
 2. Gifts and sacrifices were offered in this tabernacle.
 3. These could not make the conscience “perfect” (verse 9).
 4. They could only in
 - a. meats
 - b. drinks
 - c. divers washings
 - d. carnal ordinances
 5. These continued UNTIL THE TIME OF REFORMATION.
- L. Christ, however, became an high priest by a “GREATER” and “MORE PERFECT” tabernacle (verse 11).
1. He entered into the holy place BY HIS OWN BLOOD (verse 12).
 2. CHRIST’S BLOOD is FAR SUPERIOR to the blood of bulls and goats, as under the first covenant (verses 13-14).
- M. Christ is the mediator of the NEW testament (verse 15).
1. His death redeemed the transgressions committed under the FIRST testament (verse 15).
 2. This NEW TESTAMENT was NOT IN FORCE until AFTER CHRIST’S DEATH (verses 16-17).

- N. The law which came by Moses was dedicated with blood (verses 18-22).
1. “Every precept” was first spoken.
 2. Then it was dedicated with blood.
 3. GOD (NOT MOSES ONLY, as some content) enjoined every word of this testament in ALL ITS PARTS—MORAL, CIVIL, RELIGIOUS, CEREMONIAL—ALL.
 4. THE LAW contained only PATTERNS of heavenly things.
 - a. These PATTERNS were purified by *animal’s* blood.
 - b. The HEAVENLY THINGS THEMSELVES had to be purified with “BETTER sacrifices” (verse 23).
 5. HOLY PLACES MADE BY HANDS were only FIGURES of the true (verse 24).
- O. Christ is entered INTO HEAVEN ITSELF now to appear before God for us (verse 24).
1. Christ has offered Himself ONCE FOR ALL.
 - a. NOT as a high priest under the law—once a year.
- P. The law (by Moses) had a “SHADOW” of good things to come.
1. Sacrifices under it could not make its worshipers perfect (10:1).
 2. Blood of bulls and goats (as under the law) could not take away sins (verse 4).
 3. God had no pleasure in sacrifice and offering, which were offered by the law (verses 5-8).
- Q. God therefore TOOK AWAY the “FIRST” (law, testament, or covenant) that He might ESTABLISH the “SECOND” (verse 9).

RECAPITULATION: From our study of TODAY’S lesson, in addition to what we have already learned in Lesson 4, please observe the following salient points:

- (1) The “heirs” of God’s promise to Abraham (i.e., Christians) have a high priest, Jesus Christ.
- (2) Jesus sprang out of the tribe of Juda.
- (3) Because the law was administered by priests out of the tribe of Levi, not Juda, in order for Jesus to be a priest, a change also of the law became necessary.
- (4) Therefore the “commandment going before” (i.e., the law) was “disannulled.”
- (5) This was all right inasmuch as the law “made nothing perfect.”
- (6) The “bringing in of a BETTER HOPE” did (make perfect).
- (7) Christians draw high unto God by the “BETTER HOPE,” rather than by the law.
- (8) This “BETTER HOPE” was brought in by Jesus Christ, who, being made a priest forever with an oath, is our surety of a “BETTER COVENANT.”
- (9) This “word of the oath” was SINCE the law.
- (10) Whereas the Levitical priests served only the “example” and “shadow” of heavenly things, Christ’s ministry is “MORE EXCELLENT” than theirs, since He is the mediator of a “BETTER COVENANT,” established on “BETTER PROMISES.”
- (11) If the FIRST covenant had been faultless, no place should have been sought for the SECOND.
- (12) The SECOND was not to be according to the FIRST.
- (13) The first covenant contained many things, including the “TABLES OF THE COVENANT” upon which was written the TEN COMMANDMENTS.
- (14) These continued until “the time of reformation.”
- (15) But when Christ became a high priest and mediator of the NEW testament, He TOOK AWAY the “first” (law, testament, or covenant) that He might ESTABLISH the “second.”