

Till Heaven and Earth Pass Away

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

John 1:14

“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth!”

1st 5 books of the Bible
= 613 Commandments / Laws

Leviticus 20: 7-8

7 ‘Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am the LORD your God.

8 ‘And you shall keep My statutes, and perform them: I am the LORD who sanctifies you.

Joshua 1:8 “Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right.

Luke 1: 68-70, 74-75

68 “Praise the Lord, the God of Israel, Because he has visited and redeemed his people.

69 He has sent us a mighty Savior
From the royal line of his servant David,
70 just as he promised
Through his holy prophets long ago.

74 We have been rescued from our enemies So we can serve God without fear,
75 in holiness and righteousness
For as long as we live.

1 Peter 1: 21-25

21 Through Christ you have come to trust in God. And you have placed your faith and hope in God because he raised Christ from the dead and gave him great glory.

22 You were cleansed from your sins when you obeyed the truth, so now you must show sincere love to each other as brothers and sisters. Love each other deeply with all your heart.

23 For you have been born again, but not to a life that will quickly end. Your new life will last forever because it comes from the eternal, living word of God.

24 As the Scriptures say,

“People are like grass;
Their beauty is like a flower in the field.
The grass withers and the flower fades.
25 But the word of the Lord remains forever. ”And that word is the Good News that was
preached to you.

And is being preached to you today!

Proverbs 4: 18-23

18 The way of the righteous is like the first gleam of dawn,
Which shines ever brighter until the full light of day.
19 But the way of the wicked is like total darkness.
They have no idea what they are stumbling over.
20 My child, pay attention to what I say.
Listen carefully to my words.
21 Don't lose sight of them.
Let them penetrate deep into your heart,
22 for they bring life to those who find them,
And healing to their whole body.
23 Guard your heart above all else,
For it determines the course of your life.

Ezekiel 12:25 For I am the LORD! If I say it, it will happen....

Matthew 5:17-20

Teaching about the Law

17 “Don't misunderstand why I have come. I did not come to abolish the law of Moses
or the writings of the prophets. No, I came to accomplish their purpose.
18 I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not even the smallest detail of
God's law will disappear until its purpose is achieved.
19 So if you ignore the least commandment and teach others to do the same, you will
be called the least in the Kingdom of Heaven. But anyone who obeys God's laws and
teaches them will be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven.
20 “But I warn you—unless your righteousness is better than the righteousness of the
teachers of religious law and the Pharisees, you will never enter the Kingdom of
Heaven!

Matthew 24:35

“Heaven and earth will disappear, but my words will never disappear.”

In Matthew 5:18, Jesus is emphasizing the enduring nature of the Law, stating that "until
heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke (jot or tittle) shall pass
from the Law until all is accomplished".

Here's a more detailed explanation:

- **Context:**
Jesus had just stated that he came not to abolish the Law and the Prophets, but to fulfill them.
- **Emphasis on Permanence:**
The phrase "until heaven and earth pass away" signifies a strong, unbreakable commitment, implying that the Law will remain valid until the ultimate end of things.
- **"Not the Smallest Letter or Stroke":**
This refers to the Hebrew writing system where even the smallest marks (like a "jot" or "tittle") were significant, indicating that even the smallest or minutest details of the Law would remain in effect until its complete fulfillment.
- **Fulfillment:**
Jesus' statement suggests that the Law will be fully realized, not through human efforts, but through His own actions and teachings, which are the ultimate fulfillment of the Law.
- **Jesus is the fulfillment of the Law**
Jesus does not nullify it, but comes so that everything in it will be accomplished

"Truly I say to you that sooner would heaven and earth pass away than for one smallest letter or one stroke of a letter to pass away from the Law until all things take place."

To understand it, we have to read it in the context of the surrounding verses. The whole passage has to be read together in order to grasp the full meaning. So, let's read from verse 17 to verse 20:

17 "Do not think I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I came, not to destroy, but to fulfill. 18 Truly I say to you that sooner would heaven and earth pass away than for one smallest letter or one stroke of a letter to pass away from the Law until all things take place. 19 Whoever, therefore, breaks one of these least commandments and teaches others to do so will be called least in relation to the Kingdom of the heavens. But whoever does them and teaches them will be called **great** in relation to the Kingdom of the heavens. 20 For I say to you that if your righteousness does not surpass that of the scribes and the Pharisees, you will by no means enter into the Kingdom of the heavens. (NWT)

Jesus was there referring to the Law which Jehovah (Father God) gave to the nation of Israel through the prophet, Moses, which constituted 613 commandment statutes. He was also referring to the writings of the prophets from Isaiah through to Malachi and many prophecies found in the Psalms.

He was teaching His listeners that just as it was impossible for heaven and earth to pass away, in the same manner, it was impossible for any part of God's word to pass away until it is fulfilled.

In verse 17, Jesus emphasizes that he has not come to destroy the law, but to fulfill it, and this fact is also brought out at Luke 24:44:

He then said to them: “These are My words that I spoke to you while I was yet with you, that all the things written about Me in the Law of Moses and in the Prophets and Psalms **must** be fulfilled.”

As we continue to verse 19, we see Jesus emphasizing the importance of teaching the truth as it is found in God’s written word. Jesus’ words must be understood against the background that the nation of Israel was God’s covenant people. They were to become a nation of kings and priests, and from them would be selected those who would rule in the kingdom of heaven under their Chief, the Messiah. In order to do that and become great in relation to the kingdom of heaven they had to recognize the Messiah from the accounts prophesied about Him and teach this to others.

Verse 20 shows that the Scribes and Pharisees, (the religious leaders of Jesus’ day) were not teaching the truth from God’s word.

Matthew 15: 2–11:

The Pharisees spoke to Jesus, asking Him a question at v.2, then Jesus admonishes them at v. 3-9

2 “Why do your disciples disobey our age-old tradition? For they ignore our tradition of ceremonial hand washing before they eat.”

3 Jesus replied, “And why do you, by your traditions, violate the direct commandments of God?

4 For instance, God says, ‘Honor your father and mother,’ and ‘Anyone who speaks disrespectfully of father or mother must be put to death.’ (Leviticus 20:9)

5 But you say it is all right for people to say to their parents, ‘Sorry, I can’t help you. For I have vowed to give to God what I would have given to you.’

6 In this way, you say they don’t need to honor their parents. And so you cancel the word of God for the sake of your own tradition.

7 You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you, for he wrote,

8 ‘These people honor me with their lips,

But their hearts are far from me.

9 Their worship is a farce,

For they teach man-made ideas as commands from God.”

10 Then Jesus called to the crowd to come and hear.

“Listen,” he said, “and try to understand.

11 It’s not what goes into your mouth that defiles you; you are defiled by the words that come out of your mouth.”

So in Matthew 5:20 Jesus was teaching His listeners at the time, and by extension, (meaning ‘fast-forward’ to us alive today,) that we should not teach the traditional **man-made** doctrines taught by the religious leaders but instead we should only believe and teach that which may be authenticated by God’s inspired and written word. If not, we “will by no means enter the kingdom of the heavens.” By that Jesus meant the kingdom of

heaven in which He is King alongside 144 thousand corulers (Revelation 7:4, 14:3-5) and countless numbers living forever on a paradise earth.

Yes, everything in the Bible comes back to that pivotal point: God's kingdom ruled by His King-Son Lord Jesus Christ and those taken from earth; ruling over a cleansed earth, free from sickness, suffering or death.

The second part of all of this poses the question: Has this happened?

Well, heaven and earth has not yet passed away but Jesus Christ has indeed fulfilled the law and put it out of the way:

Romans 10:4

For Christ is the end of the Law, so that everyone exercising faith may have righteousness.

So, when heaven and earth as we know it does pass away, there is a great hope and comfort revealed in

Revelation 21:1 NKJV — it says:

“Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away.”

The Bible, while outlining the certainty of Jesus' return, states that no one, including Jesus himself, knows the exact time of His second coming. “Only the Father knows. (Matthew 24:36, Mark 13:32).

Ladies and Gentlemen, Brothers and Sisters, Believers, and all who are pursuing Truth, Righteousness and Relationship with the Father through Jesus, learn of Him through His word, offer repentance for your sins, believe and trust in Him, walk faithfully and obediently in your Salvation, being ready at all times, because we do not know the day, date or time of His calling or coming.

Believe Him, and believe it when He says: “For I am the LORD! If I say it, it will happen.”

Father God did not send His Son so a Bible could be written;
The Bible is written **because** He sent His Son.

The Way, The Truth and The Life, the Sacrificial Lamb, Crucified on our behalf, that we may be shown and guided through a narrow, difficult path, to an eternal relationship and life with God in heaven.