

# Why Did Jesus Take Away the Law? Sunday AM 03/28/21

## Introduction:

Jesus spoke of His mission while here on earth in a number of ways, i.e. to reveal the Father, to heal the spiritually sick, to fulfill the law. *"Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. 18 "For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled." (Matthew 5:17-18)* Yet what does fulfilling the law mean? *"And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, 14 having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. 15 Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it. 16 So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, 17 which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ. (Colossians 2:13-17)* Even the most casual reader of the Bible can see there are at least two parts, the Old Testament and New Testament. Yet many today do not seem to understand the Old Testament Law has been taken away, or made void. This lesson will deal with three main points; Some Law was taken away, the identity of that law, and why it was taken away?

### I) The Bible Says Some Law Was Taken Away

#### A) Passages and phrases describing this event or fact.

1. **Colossians 2.14** *"wiped out the handwriting of requirements", "taken it out of the way", "nailed it to the cross"*
2. **Hebrews 7:12** *For the priesthood being changed, of necessity there is also a change of the law.*

3. **Hebrews 10:9** then He said, "**Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God.**" He takes away the first that He may establish the second.
4. **Ephesians 2** speaks of the Gentiles being excluded from the commonwealth of Israel and makes this point. **Ephesians 2:14** For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation,

B) A new law implies there was an old law.

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

1. If I was to speak of my "new car" then one would be correct in thinking I had a previous car.
2. A new law implies there had been an old law.

## II) What Law Was Taken Away?

A) Identified in various ways

1. The way it was recorded originally

**2 Corinthians 3:7** But if the ministry of death, written and engraved on stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of the glory of his countenance, which glory was passing away,

- a. Was there a law written on tablets of stone?
- b. **Exodus 31:18** And when He had made an end of speaking with him on Mount Sinai, He gave Moses

two tablets of the Testimony, tablets of stone, written with the finger of God.

c. **Exodus 34:27** Then the LORD said to Moses, "Write these words, for according to the tenor of these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel."... **29** Now it was so, when Moses came down from Mount Sinai (and the two tablets of the Testimony were in Moses' hand when he came down from the mountain), that Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone while he talked with Him.

2. The Law God made with the children of Israel when He brought them out of Egypt.

a. **Hebrews 8:8** Because finding fault with them, He says: "Behold, the days are coming, says 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; because they did not continue in My covenant, and I disregarded them, says the LORD.

b. This excludes any other covenant God made with any other people.

3. The covenant which forbid lying.

**Romans 7:4** Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another--to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God... **7**

***What shall we say then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, "You shall not covet."***

- a. Notice Paul uses an illustration which applied to coveting but it also applied to the rest of the law.
- b. Not worshipping any other gods, making images of God, keeping the Sabbath, taking the Lord's name in vain, etc.

**B) The covenant which was abolished.**

***Ephesians 2:14 For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, 15 having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace,***

1. There can be no other law referred to in these passages except the law of Moses.
2. Not the Koran, or the Book of Mormon, etc.

**III) Why Did Christ Take Away the Law?**

**A) It was faulty**

***Hebrews 8:7 For if that first covenant had been faultless, then no place would have been sought for a second.***

1. What is meant by "faulty"? If I say my car is faulty in regards to moving trees, you would understand it might be a good car but it was not intended to be used as a bulldozer.

2. The Law of Moses was intended to do certain things but it was not intended to do certain things. Limited in certain aspects.
3. Not intended to take away sin, it was inadequate or faulty in that regards.

***Hebrews 10:4*** *For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins.*

B) It was only to last until “the SEED should come.

***Galatians 3:19*** *What purpose then does the law serve? It was added because of transgressions, till the Seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was appointed through angels by the hand of a mediator. **20** Now a mediator does not mediate for one only, but God is one. **21** Is the law then against the promises of God? Certainly not! For if there had been a law given which could have given life, truly righteousness would have been by the law. **22** But the Scripture has confined all under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe. **23** But before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed. **24** Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. **25** But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor.*

1. The seed of woman which would crush the head of Satan, ***Genesis 3.15.***
2. The seed promised to Abraham, ***Gal. 3.16; Genesis 22.18*** *"In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."*

3. The law was a schoolmaster or tutor to bring us to Christ.

**C) It was a yoke of bondage.**

***Acts 15:10*** "Now therefore, why do you test God by putting a yoke on the neck of the disciples which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?"

1. The Law of Moses contained various ordinances, washings, dietary requirements, and they sinned by violating it.
2. What if you tell your children they will be punished every time they did something wrong. They would feel the burden of the law.

***Galatians 5:1*** Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.

**D) It was only for the Jews, the nation of Israel.**

***Ephesians 2:12*** that at that time you 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.

1. Gentiles were not at Mount Sinai when the law was ratified, did not have the sprinkling of blood.
2. They were excluded from the law of Moses. It was a wall of division between Jews and gentiles. That wall had to be torn down.
3. The law of Christ includes Jews, Gentiles, free men, slaves, etc.

**E) It could not justify man**

1. One of the problems is how could God pardon sinful man and still Himself be just.
2. The Law of Moses condemned the sinner, man could not justify himself, sacrifices were inadequate.

***Acts 13:38 "Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through this Man is preached to you the forgiveness of sins; 39 "and by Him everyone who believes is justified from all things from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses.***

3. Only through the sacrifice of Christ is redemption possible.

### **Conclusion:**

Why try to serve God under a law that has been taken away? ***2 Corinthians 9:15 Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!***