

Beacon Bible Church
Pastor L. A. Radtke

THE DOCTRINE OF THE LAW

The Law of Moses has within it 613 facets and is divided into three distinct parts. It was given as one Law and was never to be divided.

- No. 1 The Commandments (Moral phase) Ex. 20:1-17
- No. 2 The Judgements (Social phase) Deals with diet, marriage, quarantine, military responsibilities. Ex. 21:1-23, 33
- No. 3 Ordinances (Spiritual phase) Delt with; priest hood, offerings, structure of worship, furniture, Sabbaths.

ONLY FOR ISRAEL Law was God's exclusive covenant with Israel. (Mk. 12:29-30; Deut. 4:8; 5:1-3; Rom. 9:4-5)

Gentiles were never given the Law of Moses. (Deut. 9:11; Rom. 2:14; Eph. 27:1-12). John 18:31 - Pilate said unto them (Jews) take Him and judge Him according to your (Jewish) Law.

The Law was never imposed upon any people before it was given to Israel at the hand of Moses. Deut 5:1-3.

RECEIVED BY CHOICE

When the Law was proposed, the children of Israel deliberately forsook their position under the Grace of God, which had been their relationship to God until the day they placed themselves under the Law. They requested to be put under the Law. Ex. 19:3-8.

They should have said when hearing the impossible Law, "none of these things can we do" instead of "All that the Lord hath spoken, we will do". Israel "fell from Grace". The tendency of every believer is to move towards works instead of growing in Grace. By nature we like rules, listed down, for ourselves and for others so we can see what we have accomplished and to pride ourselves in our own works. Gal. 4:21

Quotation from Dr. L. S. Chafer concerning the purpose of the Law.

"Its purpose is defined as that of a child disciplinarian to lead to Christ (Gal. 3:24). The immediate service of the Law of Moses was to provide a redeemed people, who are under covenants, with divine instruction for their civil, religious, and moral life. Two truths are of primary importance, namely, (1) that the Mosaic Law was never addressed to Gentiles, except those who became Israelites as proselytes, and (2) that the Law of Moses did not serve to institute right relations between an Israelite and God. The law was instruction to people concerning God's will for them who are elect, redeemed, under covenants and, by so much, basically in right relation with God.

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THE DOCTRINE OF THE LAW (Continued)

In case of failure to do the law, sacrifices were accepted as a means to restoration. As the Christian may be forgiven and cleansed on the ground of confession of his sin to God (I John 1:9), so Israelites both individually and nationally were restored by sacrifices. Too much importance cannot be placed on the fact that an Israelite was physically born into an elect race, a redeemed nation, and made an heir of the everlasting covenants."

WHAT THE LAW CAN DO:

1. The Law teaches us we are all guilty sinners and lawless. Rom. 3:19; II Tim 1:9-10
2. The Law gives us a knowledge of sin. Rom. 3:20
3. The Law entered that offence may abound. Rom 5:20
4. The Law makes sin exceeding sinful. Rom 7:7, 13; 5:20
5. The Law works wrath. Rom 4:5
6. The Law is the ministration of death. II Cor. 3:7-9
7. The Law curses everyone. Gal. 3:10
8. The Law puts us in jail. Gal. 3:23
9. The Law is our school master to bring us to Christ. Gal. 3:24

WHAT THE LAW CANNOT DO:

1. The Law cannot justify. Gal. 2:16
2. The Law cannot give life. Gal 3:21
3. The Law cannot give someone the Holy Spirit. Gal. 3:2
4. The Law is not of Faith. Gal. 3:12
5. The Law cannot sanctify the Believer. Gal. 3:3
6. The Law cannot work miracles. Gal. 3:5
7. The Law of Moses cannot reproduce the Law of the Spirit. Rom 8:4
8. The Law of Moses cannot reproduce the fruit of the Spirit. Gal. 5:21, 22

THE BELIEVER IS NOT UNDER THE LAW OF MOSES:

Jn 1:17 - Christ in contrast to Moses came to bring Grace.

Rom 6:14 - Paul says ye are not under law but under Grace.

Rom 7:4 - Believer is dead to the Law.

Rom 7:6 - Believer serves in newness of the Spirit and in the oldness of the Law.

Rom 7:7 - The Seventh Day Advents say we are not under the ceremonial law, but we are under the moral law. This verse proves that Paul is referring to the Ten Commandments when he says we are not under law. He knew the law could not be divided. Gal 3:10

Rom 8:2-4 - Believers are not lawless, but are under a higher law, the law of the Spirit.

Gal. 3:19, 20 - Because of our position in Christ, we are dead to the law, because we died in Christ.

Gal 5:18 - Being filled with the Spirit is the key. If a Believer is not filled with the Spirit, he is a legalist.

II Cor 3:6-13 - Only the Grace of God can conform the believer to Christ. Titus 2:12
Any adjustment made apart from being motivated by Grace, is phony and unexceptable by God.

THE DESTRUCTIVENESS OF LEGALISM AS SET FORTH IN THE BOOK OF GALATIANS

Legalism .. a required submission to an external set of standards or rules.

Legalism is manifested in two areas or forms.

(1) Salvation - to get or to keep saved.

(2) Sanctification - for separation or for service.

1. Gal. 1:6-9 Legalism destroys the Gospel.
2. Gal. 2:15-18 Legalism destroys the basis of Justification.
3. Gal. 2:21 Legalism destroys the work of Christ.
4. Gal. 3:1-5;22-25 Legalism destroys Faith.
5. Gal. 3:5 Legalism destroys Spirituality.
6. Gal. 3:10 Legalism brings a curse.
7. Gal. 3:18 Legalism Destroys Promise(Grace).
8. Gal. 3:25-29;4:1-5 Legalism destroys our Position in Christ.
9. Gal. 4:8-10 Legalism destroys Internality.
10. Gal. 4:15 Legalism Destroys the Joy of Christian Service.
11. Gal. 4:19 Legalism Destroys the Image of Christ in the Believer.
12. Gal. 5:1;2:4 Legalism Destroys Liberty.
13. Gal. 5:4 Legalism destroys Grace.
14. Gal. 5:6 Legalism destroys Love!
15. Gal. 5:9 Legalism Destroys the Vitality of the Church.
16. Gal. 5:11 Legalism Destroys the Offence of the Cross.
- ✓ 17. Gal. 5:13 Legalism Destroys Individual Initiative.
- ✓ 18. Gal. 5:22 Legalism Destroys the Fruit of the Spirit.
19. Gal. 6:1 Legalism Destroys the Opportunity of Biblical Restoration.
20. Gal. 6:6 Legalism Destroys the Pastor/People Relationship.
21. Gal. 6:9 Legalism Destroys the Spiritual Harvest.
22. Gal. 6:12 Legalism Destroys Suffering for Christ.
23. Gal. 6:13, 14 Legalism Destroys God's Glory.