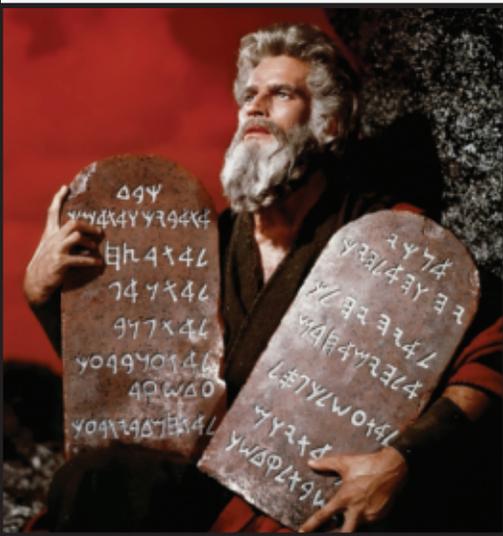


Scripture of the Quarter

“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.” 2nd Timothy 3:16 NKJV

Is the Old Testament Obsolete as Some are Proclaiming?



law's fault they did not obey the speed limit? NO, it is our fault. God wrote the “Law” or commandments (Torah - Instruction) to protect us because He loves us. The speed limit laws are to protect us. This verse is misunderstood: Jesus said in **Matthew 5:17** ***“Don't think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill.”*** (NKJV) This is where many people get confused and say we are no longer under the “Law”, because it has been fulfilled by Jesus. People use this verse to say all the Law has been done away with. So if all of the laws of God have been fulfilled (done away with), then I can go murder someone, commit adultery, steal, take the Lord's name in vain etcetera, never repent and suffer no consequences from God Almighty. So let's find out the context of **Matthew 5:17**, Fulfill in Greek is pleroo: to be filled, make full, and complete. Now the question we must answer is; What did Jesus fulfill or complete? The answer is very simple: Jesus fulfilled (or completed) the sacrificial law. The blood of bulls and goats and lambs could only atone (cover) our sins, but the precious blood that Jesus shed on the cross cleansed us of our sins. In **Hebrews 9:12**(NKJV) ***12Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.***

Because Jesus was sacrificed for our sins we no longer have to sacrifice animals for our sins. I assure you Jesus did not do away with the other portions of the Law (Torah).

In **John 14:15** Jesus said, ***“If you love Me, keep My commandments.”*** Again we must remember Jesus is talking about God's commandments in

the OLD TESTAMENT! John the disciple that Jesus loved wrote in **1 John 5:3** ***For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments (Torah) are not burdensome.*** When Jesus was asked about the greatest commandment in **Matthew 22:36-39**(NIV) ***36“Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?” 37Jesus replied: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ 38This is the first and greatest commandment. 39And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’***

Jesus was not making up new commandments. He was speaking about two which are found in **Deuteronomy 6:4-5** and **Leviticus 19:18**. Jesus was not replacing the commandments he was stating the two most important commandments. He didn't say these are the only two commandments you must obey. He said that all the laws “hang” on those two commandments. In other words, when we obey the commandments we will show God and our neighbor that we love them. And in **Matthew 19:17b-19**(NKJV) ***17[b]“But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.” 18He said to Him, “Which ones?” Jesus said, ““You shall not murder,’ ‘You shall not commit adultery,’ ‘You shall not steal,’ ‘You shall not bear false witness,’ 19‘Honor your father and your mother,’ [c] and, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’”***

Jesus was going down the list found in **Exodus 20:12-17** and **Leviticus 19:18**. Did Jesus say keep the commandments only till I die? We are told by Jesus to love the LORD our God with all our hearts, our mind, and our souls. In **1 John 5:3** the definition of loving God is to keep God's commandments. Then it is not “legalism” to keep His commandments. Legalism takes the love out and places the “traditions of men” above God's commandments (His teachings). Read **Matthew 15:6**(NKJV) ***6then he need not honor his father or mother.’ Thus you have made the commandment of God of no effect by your tradition.***

We must remember the “All scripture” that the Apostle Paul was talking about is the Old Testament. The New Testament as we know it did not exist at that time. It was written approximately 60 A.D. and compiled later. The Old Testament is made up of the Torah, the Prophets and the Writings. The first five books of the Bible were written by Moses and is referred to as the Torah. Torah is a Hebrew word meaning teachings and instructions, many refer to it as the “Law” and it does include the laws of God. God's “Torah teachings” the “Law” consisted of three parts: Ceremonial Laws, Sacrificial Laws, and Moral Laws. The “Moral Law” includes the Ten Commandments, and they are still relevant today for our society! The word “Law” has a negative connotation for people in our society today. Why? People do not want to obey the law of God or man. For instance, people speed and get a speeding ticket, then get all upset. Is it the

The Lord put this on our hearts because many Christians are being deceived because they have been taught that they no longer have to stay in the boundaries of **“God’s instruction”** “the Law”. **2 Peter 2:18-19**^(NLT) ¹⁸They brag about themselves with empty, foolish boasting. With an appeal to twisted sexual desires, they lure back into sin those who have barely escaped from a lifestyle of deception. ¹⁹They promise freedom, but they themselves are slaves of sin and corruption. For you are a slave to whatever controls you.

Many believe, now I’m saved, so I’m under grace so I can do whatever I want because Jesus got rid of the law of God. This is called **“Hyper-grace”**. We are under grace. So what did Jesus tell John in Revelation to warn the “churches” (the Christians) about? Turn to **Revelation** and read chapter 2 verses **2, 13, 19, 23** and in chapter 3 verses **1-2, 15-16**. Jesus said He knows our works! Now what happens, if the “Christians (born again believers)” do not repent (ask for forgiveness and stop their wicked ways)? Jesus tells us read **Rev. chapter 2** verses **5, 16, 20-23**, and chapter **3** verses **2-5** (wow, even blot out their names from the **Lambs Book of Life**), and verses **16-19** vomit them out (are you lukewarm). Study! Be a Berean! **2nd Timothy 2:15** **“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”**

Another scripture that is misunderstood and is used to justify not following the instructions in the old testament is found in **Hebrews 8:13**^(NKJV) ¹³**In that He says, “A new covenant,” He has made the first obsolete.** Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away. Most people would say He is talking about the Old Testament (Torah) which is a covenant. When you read and study the Bible you must keep the scriptures in context. The first thing you must realize is the book of Hebrews, is addressing the priesthood. **Hebrews 7:20-22**^(NKJV) ²⁰And inasmuch as He was not made priest without an oath ²¹(for they have become priests without an oath, but He with an oath by Him who said to Him: “The LORD has sworn And will not relent, ‘You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek’” ²²by so much more Jesus has become a surety of a better covenant.

A better covenant is in the new order of priesthood! Why was He doing away with the old order of priesthood? Because from Aaron on the priests were all sinners themselves and their sins were atoned for (covered not cleansed) by the animals sacrificed for them. **Jesus had never sinned and His blood washed away our sins, as if they never happened.**

Hebrews 7:24-25^(NKJV) ²⁴But He, because He continues forever, has an unchangeable priest-

hood. ²⁵Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

If we don’t have to follow the commandments of God any longer why does Jesus have to make intercession for us? What does “The Law” do? **The law of God “Defines Sin”, it Blesses, and it Curses.** Are you continually breaking the commandments because you think they are obsolete? Do you wonder why you are not getting a break through? If you continue to break God’s law you are in rebellion and you are cursing yourself!

1st John 1:8-10^(NKJV) ⁸**If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.** ⁹**If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** ¹⁰**If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.**

You have heard, “The Old Testament is things concealed and the New Testament is things revealed.” A man named Melchizedek, the first priest mentioned in the Bible. **Genesis 14:18**^(NKJV) ¹⁸**Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High.**

The name Melchizedek is comprised of two parts Mele means King and Zedic which means righteousness. Put together it is King of Righteousness. He was also King of Salem which means King of Peace. **Hebrews 7:3** reads **“Without a father, without a mother, without genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but Who was made like the Son of God, remains a priest forever.”** Melchizedek was a picture of Jesus. Jesus is the “beginning and the end” the Alpha and Omega. Jesus is referred to as the Prince of Peace in **Isaiah 9:6**. In **Hebrews 7:20-21**^(NKJV) ²⁰**And inasmuch as He was not made priest without an oath** ²¹**(for they have become priests without an oath, but He with an oath by Him who said to Him: “The LORD has sworn And will not relent, ‘You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek’”)**

Melchizedek was also King of Salem. When Jesus comes back to rule and reign on the earth during the millennial reign He will be the King over all the earth, in Jerusalem. It is written in **Revelation 17:14**^(NKJV) ¹⁴**These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful.”**

I pray that those of you who have heard the Old Testament is obsolete will open up your eyes of understanding and realize this is not true. Think about this, there are prophecies in the Old

Testament that have not been fulfilled. There are many but I would like to discuss a couple of these now. One of the prophecies is found in the book of **Zechariah 14:4** **“And in that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which faces Jerusalem on the east. And the Mount of Olives shall be split in two, from east to west. Making a very large valley; half of the mountain shall move toward the north and half of it to the south.”**^(NKJV) This is describing Jesus coming back in the Second Advent (second coming). Another prophecy that has not been fulfilled yet is found in **Isaiah 17**. Let’s read the first and last verse. **Isaiah 17:1** **“The burden against Damascus. “Behold, Damascus will cease from being a city, And it will be a ruinous heap. ¹⁴Then behold, at eventide, trouble! And before the morning, he is no more.**

Damascus has never been totally destroyed as it served as a stopping place for all traveling through the region and in the past paid taxes to any ruling country over them. I truly thought it was going to be destroyed when Syria threatened to send chemical rockets into Israel about three months ago. An Israeli official advised Syria, if they carried out this threat, Israel would destroy Damascus. Think about that. So God almighty even tells us through the prophet Isaiah the time of day when Damascus will be destroyed.

We need to talk about one more scripture from the Word of God to prove the Old Testament is valid for today and forever! Jesus said in **Matthew 5:18-19**^(NKJV) 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.** I would like to explain what a jot and tittle is for those of you who don’t know. In the Hebrew language a jot is yod which is the smallest letter in the Hebrew alphabet. The tittle is vav and is the second smallest letter in the Hebrew alphabet. **Matthew 5:19** ¹⁹**Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.**

Remember we are living in the last days and the Bible gives us a warning in **Colossians 2:8**^(NKJV) ⁸**Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of men, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ.**

Sheree and I pray, God will open your eyes of understanding. If anyone tells you the Old Testament is obsolete and we don’t go by the commandments, anymore they may be sincere but they are sincerely **WRONG!**