

YOU AND THE LAW

WHAT IS A BELIEVER'S RELATIONSHIP TO THE LAW

"... ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ..."

~ Romans 7:4

1. The Law Debate

- a. Titus 3:8-9, therefore, debate for millennia about the law and the Christian
- b. Players: Roman vs Reform, SDA, theonomy, NPP, and you!
- c. Judaizers ~*def.* Early heresy that you must keep the law to be saved. Acts 15:1
- d. Most Christians still think we must perform the law (if not only in part)
 - i. Jesus did not destroy the law – Matt 5:17, 5:18-20, 23:3, 23:23
 - ii. Hebrews says the law was changed – Heb 7:12
 - iii. Paul said you are not under the law – Rom 6:14
- e. The fear: how then do we live if not by the law? By what standard?

2. Wrongly Dividing the Law

- a. A confusing division: Moral vs. Ceremonial (and Civil!)
 - i. The "moral" laws are the hardest to keep; ceremonial are traditional (tithing, sabbath, food, marriage, baptism), and civil laws are good for political battles.
 - ii. What of Jam 1:27, usury, weights, oaths, court, property, modesty, kidnap?
- b. Wrong application: the law of Moses was to all – Rom 2:14, 3:19, 1 Cor 9:21
- c. Wrong conclusion: we are still under a part of the law – James 2:10, Heb 8:10, 10:16
- d. Wrong division: it is still in operation, God helps you do it – Matt 22:37, 1Jn 3:6, 5:3

3. Rightly Dividing the Law

- a. There is not just the OT and NT, there is the mystery of Christ given to Paul.
 - i. Both OT (Moses) and NT (changed) have the law (and Israel); we do not.
 - ii. What is our mandate, message, mission, dispensation?
- b. Law/works/flesh is not how we get blessed or cursed - Gal 3:2-3, 10
- c. Righteousness does not come by the law anymore – Rom 3:21, Gal 2:21, Phi 3:9
- d. The law is bondage due to sin - Gal 4:3, 9, 5:1, Rom 7:5,14, 8:3
- e. We are not under it – Rom 6:14-15, Gal 3:25, 4:21
- f. The body of Christ liberates us from the law - Eph 2:15, Gal 2:18-20, 4:5, 5:1
- g. We are dead to it, by his cross – Rom 7:4, Col 2:14
- h. Is it done away, taken out of the way, ended - 2 Cor 3:11, Col 2:15, Rom 10:4
- i. All things are lawful – 1 Cor 6:12, 10:23
- j. The law is useful revelation, but is not our rule of life, nor God's operation today.

4. How We Can Use the Law

- a. We can use it to learn (holy, just, good, spiritual) – Rom 15:4, 7:7,12,14
- b. We can use it as reproof and admonition - 1 Cor 10:6,11, 2 Tim 3:16, Eph 6:2
- c. We can use it for the knowledge of sin - 1Ti 1:8, Gal 5:21, 1Cor 6:9, Rom 3:19
- d. We can use it as witness to Christ's righteousness – Rom 3:21, Gal 3:18- 25
- e. We can use it to teach the righteousness of salvation – Rom 3:26-27, 7:1
- f. We can use it for opportunity to evangelize – Acts 16:3, 1 Cor 9:19-22, 10:23,33