

# THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE OLD TESTAMENT AND THE NEW TESTAMENT

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GREEN LAWN CHURCH OF CHRIST

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IN THIS LESSON WE PROPOSE TO DISCUSS THE RELATIONSHIP WHICH EXISTS BETWEEN THE TWO COVENANTS THAT GOD HAS GIVEN--THAT WHICH IS REFERRED TO AS THE OLD COVENANT (THE MOSAIC COVENANT) AND THAT WHICH IS REFERRED TO AS THE NEW. MOST OF THE TROUBLES THAT TROUBLE THE RELIGIOUS WORLD TODAY ARE CAUSED BY OUR FAILURE TO "RIGHTLY DIVIDE THE WORD OF TRUTH." IN II TIMOTHY 2:15 (AND WE SHALL HAVE MORE TO SAY OF THIS AS THE LESSON PROGRESSES) THE APOSTLE PAUL SAID, "STUDY TO SHEW THYSELF APPROVED UNTO GOD, A WORKMAN THAT NEEDETH NOT TO BE ASHAMED, HANDLING ARIGHT THE WORD OF TRUTH." THE KING JAMES READS, "RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH," BUT THIS IS TOO LIMITED IN ITS SCOPE. "HANDLING ARIGHT" NOT ONLY INCLUDES "RIGHTLY DIVIDING," BUT IT ALSO INCLUDES ALL OF THE OTHER RIGHT METHODS OF HANDLING AND STUDYING AND APPROACHING GOD'S ETERNAL WORD. OUR TASK NOW IS TO LEARN HOW TO MAKE THE PROPER DISTINCTIONS BETWEEN THE OLD COVENANT AND THE NEW, TO DETERMINE IF WE CAN, AND WE CAN, JUST EXACTLY WHAT USE THE CHRISTIAN IS TO MAKE OF THE OLD COVENANT.

IN DISCUSSING THE QUESTION OF THE OLD COVENANT AND IN DISCOVERING WHETHER OR NOT THAT COVENANT IS STILL BINDING ON THOSE WHO WOULD BE GOD'S PEOPLE TODAY, ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT THINGS WE CAN DO IS TO GO BACK AND TO DISCOVER JUST EXACTLY WHAT THE PURPOSE OF THE OLD COVENANT WAS. AS AN INDIVIDUAL MAKES A VERY CLOSE SCRUTINY OF THE OLD COVENANT HE WILL DISCOVER THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE OLD COVENANT WAS FOURFOLD. IN THE FIRST PLACE, GOD GAVE THAT WHICH IS REFERRED TO AS THE MOSAIC LAW TO SERVE NOT ONLY AS A SPIRITUAL LAW, BUT ALSO TO SERVE AS A CIVIL LAW. ISRAEL WAS A THEOCRACY WHICH MEANS THAT, ALONG WITH BEING THE PEOPLE OF GOD, THEY WERE A CIVIL NATION AND THEY NEEDED A CIVIL LAW. I THINK EVIDENCE OF THIS FACT IS FOUND IN MATTHEW 19:8 WHERE JESUS SAID, "MOSES, BECAUSE OF THE HARDNESS OF YOUR HEARTS, SUFFERED YOU TO PUT AWAY YOUR WIVES; BUT FROM THE BEGINNING IT WAS NOT SO." THE DUAL PURPOSE OF THE OLD LAW, THE FACT THAT IT WAS BOTH A RELIGIOUS AND A CIVIL LAW, EXPLAINS TO US THE REASON WHY UNDER THAT LAW GOD WOULD PERMIT MOSES TO PERMIT THE ISRAELITES TO PUT AWAY THEIR WIVES. IT WAS A CIVIL LAW CO-EXISTANT WITH A RELIGIOUS LAW.

IN THE SECOND PLACE, THE OLD COVENANT WAS GIVEN FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONVINCING MEN OF SIN, TO CONVICT THEM OF SIN, AND TO MAKE THEM KNOW THE EXCEEDING SINFULNESS OF SIN, THE MANNER BY WHICH THIS WAS DONE WAS TO PLACE BEFORE THEM A PERFECT STANDARD, OR WE MIGHT SAY A PERFECT CODE OF MORALITY. THE APOSTLE PAUL MENTIONS THIS FACT IN ROMANS 7 WHEN HE ASKED THE QUESTION, "WHAT SHALL WE SAY THEN? IS THE LAW SIN? GOD FORBID, NAY, I HAD NOT KNOWN SIN, BUT BY THE LAW; FOR I HAD NOT KNOWN LUST, EXCEPT THE LAW HAD SAID, 'THOU SHALT NOT COVET.'" THUS PAUL RELATES HIS KNOWLEDGE OF SIN AND HIS KNOWLEDGE OF WHAT IT MEANS TO BE COVETOUS WITH THE FACT THAT THE LAW PROHIBITED IT. IT PLACED BEFORE MAN A PERFECT STANDARD OR A PERFECT CODE OF MORALITY AND IMPRESSED UPON MAN WHEN HE HAD BROKEN THAT STANDARD AND FALLEN SHORT OF THAT CODE THAT HE WAS A SINNER AND WAS THEREBY UNDONE IN THE SIGHT OF ALMIGHTY GOD.

IN THE THIRD PLACE THE LAW WAS GIVEN IN ORDER THAT WE MIGHT HAVE A PICTORIAL OUTLINE OF THE SCHEME OF REDEMPTION, THAT IT MIGHT PRESENT IT TO US BY CERTAIN TYPES, THAT IT MIGHT PRESENT IT TO US THROUGH CERTAIN RITES AND CEREMONIES. SO TEACHES THE WRITER OF HEBREWS IN HEBREWS 10:1. "FOR THE LAW, HAVING A SHADOW OF GOOD THINGS TO COME, AND



NOT THE VERY IMAGE OF THE THINGS, CAN NEVER WITH THOSE SACRIFICES WHICH THEY OFFERED YEAR BY YEAR CONTINUALLY MAKE THE COMERS THEREUNTO PERFECT." THE WRITER IS SAYING THAT THE OLD LAW PREFIGURED THE THINGS THAT WERE TO BE UNDER JESUS CHRIST, THAT IT DID NOT HAVE THE VERY SUBSTANCE OF THE THINGS, THAT IT SHOWED THROUGH RITES AND CEREMONIES THE FACT THAT GOD HAD SOMETHING ELSE PLANNED WHICH WAS YET TO COME. WHAT THAT WAS IS REVEALED TO US IN COLOSSIANS 2:14. PAUL SAID, "BLOTTING OUT THE HANDWRITING OF ORDINANCES THAT WAS AGAINST US, WHICH WAS CONTRARY TO US, AND TOOK IT OUT OF THE WAY (REFERRING TO THE LAW) NAILING IT TO HIS CROSS, AND HAVING SPOILED PRINCIPALITIES AND POWERS, HE MADE A SHEW OF THEM OPENLY, TRIUMPHING OVER THEM IN IT (THAT IS OVER THESE PRINCIPALITIES AND POWERS IN HIS DEATH). AND THEN HE PROCEEDED TO ENUMERATE SOME OF THE THINGS OF THE LAW. "LET NO MAN THEREFORE JUDGE YOU IN MEAT, OR IN DRINK, OR IN RESPECT OF AN HOLY DAY, OR OF THE NEW MOON, OR OF THE SABBATH DAYS WHICH ARE A SHADOW OF THINGS TO COME; BUT THE BODY IS CHRIST." SO THE LAW WAS TO PREFIGURE OR TO FORESHADOW SOME OF THE THINGS FOR WHICH WE WERE TO FIND THE IMAGE IN JESUS CHRIST. WE MIGHT ILLUSTRATE BY THE PASSOVER LAMB WHICH WAS TYPICAL OF CHRIST IN SEVERAL RESPECTS. BOTH WERE WITHOUT BLEMISH. BOTH WERE KILLED BETWEEN THE TWO EVENINGS. THE BLOOD OF BOTH PROCURED SALVATION AND DELIVERANCE. NOT A BONE WAS BROKEN IN THE BODY OF EITHER. WE ALSO FIND TYPES IN THE TABERNACLE AND LATER IN THE TEMPLE THAT GOD GAVE TO MAN. THE HOLY PLACE WAS A TYPE OF THE CHURCH AND THE HOLY OF HOLIES A TYPE OF HEAVEN ITSELF. WE FIND TYPES IN THE HISTORY OF ISRAEL. EGYPT WAS A TYPE OF SIN. THE CROSSING OF THE RED SEA WAS A TYPE OF BAPTISM. THE WILDERNESS WANDERINGS WERE A TYPE OF THE CHURCH. THE CROSSING OF THE JORDAN A TYPE OF DEATH. (HOW OFTEN HAVE WE SPOKEN OF ONE'S CROSSING THE JORDAN). THE LAND OF CANAAN WAS A TYPE AGAIN OF HEAVEN. WE FIND, THEN, THAT THE OLD LAW AND THE THINGS THAT PERTAINED TO IT WERE TO TYPIFY AND FORESHADOW THE THINGS THAT WERE TO COME UNDER JESUS CHRIST.

FINALLY WE DISCOVER THAT THE LAW WAS GIVEN IN ORDER THAT IDOLATRY MIGHT BE PREVENTED AND IN ORDER THAT A TRUE KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICE OF TRUE RELIGION MIGHT BE MAINTAINED IN THE WORLD UNTIL JESUS CHRIST SHOULD COME. ALL OF THE HEATHEN WORLD HAD GONE OFF INTO IDOLATRY AND IF GOD WAS GOING TO PRESERVE A TRUE KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUE AND LIVING GOD, THEN HE MUST CHOOSE A PEOPLE AND TEACH THEN. THUS HE CHOSE ABRAHAM AND HE MADE A GREAT NATION OF ABRAHAM AND UNTO THE DESCENDENTS OF ABRAHAM HE GAVE THE LAW THROUGH MOSES IN ORDER THAT THIS TRUE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD AND GOD'S RELIGION MIGHT BE PRESERVED UNTIL THE TIME THAT JESUS CHRIST SHOULD COME. THIS IS ESTABLISHED IN GALATIANS 3:12: "AND THE LAW IS NOT OF FAITH: BUT, THE MAN THAT DOETH THEM SHALL LIVE IN THEM." DROPPING, THEN, TO THE 24TH AND 25TH VERSES, WE READ, "WHEREFORE THE LAW WAS OUR SCHOOLMASTER TO BRING US UNTO CHRIST, THAT WE MIGHT BE JUSTIFIED BY FAITH, BUT AFTER THAT FAITH IS COME, WE ARE NO LONGER UNDER A SCHOOLMASTER."

NOW IN ANSWERING THE QUESTION WHETHER OR NOT WE ARE UNDER THE LAW, WHETHER THE LAW IS STILL BINDING, WE JUST SIMPLY NEED TO LOOK AT THESE PURPOSES. WHEN A THING HAS FULFILLED THE PURPOSE FOR WHICH IT HAS BEEN GIVEN, THEN THERE IS NO LONGER ANY REASON FOR IT TO BE CONTINUED AS A VALID FORCE IN THE WORLD. HAVE THE PURPOSES OF THE LAW BEEN FULFILLED? LET US SEE.

WE SAY THAT FIRST OF ALL THAT THE LAW WAS GIVEN AS A CIVIL LAW IN ADDITION TO BEING A RELIGIOUS LAW. NOW WE DISCOVER THAT THERE IS NO LONGER A CIVIL NATION WHICH IS KNOWN AS THE "NATION OF GOD." THERE IS NO LONGER A THEOCRACY, AND SINCE THERE IS NO SUCH NATION THERE IS NO REASON FOR ITS CIVIL LAW TO CONTINUE. THE ONLY WAY THAT A CIVIL LAW CAN SURVIVE THE DEATH OF ITS NATION IS FOR IT TO BE INCORPORATED INTO THE LAW



OF A SURVIVING NATION. THUS, WHILE ROME IS DEAD, SOME OF ITS LEGAL PRINCIPLES ARE STILL LIVING BECAUSE THEY HAVE INFLUENCED THE LAWS OF THE POWERS WHICH FOLLOWED ROME.

IN THE SECOND PLACE WE SUGGESTED THAT THE LAW WAS GIVEN TO CONVINCE AND CONVICT MEN OF SIN BY SETTING BEFORE THEM A PERFECT STANDARD AND A PERFECT CODE OF MORALITY. HAS THIS PURPOSE BEEN FULFILLED? I THINK IT HAS. IN ROMANS 7 PAUL WAS CONVINCED AND HE CRIED OUT, "O WRETCHED MAN THAT I AM! WHO SHALL DELIVER ME FROM THE BODY OF THIS DEATH?" HE GAVE THE ANSWER WHICH HE GAVE IN GALATIANS 3:24,25 WHEN HE SAID, "I THANK GOD, THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD." SINCE MEN HAVE BEEN CONVICTED OF SIN AND OF THEIR NEED OF A SAVIOUR, THERE IS NO LONGER ANY NEED AS FAR AS THIS PURPOSE OF THE LAW IS CONCERNED FOR IT TO CONTINUE AS A LIVING, VALID FORCE IN GOD'S DEALING WITH MAN.

WE SUGGESTED IN THE THIRD PLACE THAT IT WAS TO BE A PICTORIAL OUTLINE OF GOD'S SCHEME OF REDEMPTION SHOWING US THOSE THINGS THAT WOULD BE IN JESUS CHRIST AND WE DISCOVERED THAT CHRIST IS COME. THEREFORE, THE IMAGE IS HERE AND WHO WOULD BE SATISFIED WITH THE SHADOW WHEN THE IMAGE HAS COME AND WE MAY REACH OUT AND LAY HOLD UPON IT.

FINALLY WE SUGGESTED THAT IT WAS TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF IDOLATRY AND TO PRESERVE IN THE WORLD THE KNOWLEDGE OF A TRUE AND LIVING GOD UNTIL JESUS CHRIST SHOULD COME, AND PAUL SAYS NOW THAT FAITH HAS COME WE ARE NO LONGER UNDER THE SCHOOLMASTER. SO, ONE BY ONE, WE DISCOVER THAT EACH OF THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH THE LAW OF MOSES WAS GIVEN HAS BEEN FULFILLED AND IF EACH OF THE PURPOSES HAS BEEN FULFILLED THEN WHY WOULD GOD CONTINUE THE LAW IN FORCE? IT DID WHAT GOD INTENDED FOR IT TO DO. IT ACCOMPLISHED THAT WHICH GOD GAVE IT TO ACCOMPLISH AND WAS SUPERCEDED THEN BY SOMETHING ELSE.

IN SPITE OF THIS THERE ARE STILL A NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS WHO SAY THAT THE LAW IS STILL BINDING AND WE MUST BE GOVERNED BY THE LAW. LET US TAKE ANOTHER APPROACH THEN AND SEE IF WE CAN FIND SOME OTHER METHOD BY WHICH THE LAW WOULD STILL BE BINDING UPON US.

LET US ASK THE QUESTION "TO WHOM WAS THE LAW GIVEN?" WHEN GOD GAVE THE LAW, UNTO WHAT PEOPLE DID GOD GIVE IT? LET US GO BACK TO EXODUS 24:12 AND HERE GOD, SPEAKING TO MOSES, SAYS, "COME UP TO ME INTO THE MOUNT, AND BE THERE; AND I WILL GIVE THEE TABLES OF STONE, AND A LAW AND COMMANDMENTS WHICH I HAVE WRITTEN, THAT THOU MAYEST TEACH THEM." GOD WAS GOING TO GIVE IT TO MOSES--THAT'S THE FIRST STEP. NOW GO TO DEUTERONOMY 33:4 AND THERE WE FIND THIS SIMPLE STATEMENT, "MOSES COMMANDED US A LAW, EVEN THE INHERITANCE OF THE CONGREGATION OF JACOB." IN OTHER WORDS, IT WAS GIVEN TO THE CONGREGATION OF THE ISRAELITES. IT WAS NEVER, AT ANY TIME, GIVEN TO GENTILES. THE GENTILES WERE NEVER AT ANY TIME UNDER THE MOSAIC LAW. NOW CERTAINLY THERE WERE OCCASIONS WHEN GENTILES WOULD BE PROSELYTED TO THE JEWISH RELIGION, BUT THEN THEY WOULD NO LONGER BE LOOKED UPON AS GENTILES. GOD NEVER GAVE THE LAW TO GENTILES AND GOD NEVER INTENDED THAT GENTILES SHOULD BE UNDER IT. THAT THIS IS SO, CAN BE ESTABLISHED BY COMING OVER TO THE NEW TESTAMENT AND TURNING TO ROMANS 2. PAUL SAID THERE: "FOR AS MANY AS HAVE SINNED WITHOUT LAW, SHALL ALSO PERISH WITHOUT LAW; AND AS MANY AS HAVE SINNED IN THE LAW, SHALL BE JUDGED BY THE LAW; (FOR NOT THE HEARERS OF THE LAW ARE JUST BEFORE GOD, BUT THE DOERS OF THE LAW SHALL BE JUSTIFIED. FOR WHEN THE GENTILES WHICH HAVE NOT THE LAW, [NOW THAT IS PLAIN LANGUAGE] DO BY NATURE THE THINGS CONTAINED IN THE LAW, THESE, HAVING NOT THE LAW, ARE A LAW UNTO THEMSELVES: WHICH SHEW THE WORK OF THE LAW WRITTEN IN THEIR HEARTS, THEIR CONSCIENCE ALSO BEARING WITNESS, AND THEIR THOUGHTS THE MEANWHILE ACCUSING, OR ELSE EXCUSING, ONE ANOTHER;) IN THE DAY WHEN GOD SHALL JUDGE THE SECRETS OF MEN, BY JESUS CHRIST, ACCORDING TO MY GOSPEL." HERE PAUL STATES VERY EMPHATICALLY THAT THE GENTILES WERE NOT UNDER THE LAW. THEY DIDN'T HAVE IT, IT DIDN'T BELONG TO THEM. HE STATED THE SAME THING IN EPHESIANS 2:11,12: "WHEREFORE REMEMBER, THAT



YE BEING IN TIME PAST GENTILES IN THE FLESH WHO ARE CALLED UNCIRCUMCISION BY THAT WHICH IS CALLED THE CIRCUMCISION IN THE FLESH MADE BY HANDS; THAT AT THAT TIME YE WERE (AND HERE IS WHAT HE SAYS) WITHOUT CHRIST, BEING ALIENS FROM THE COMMONWEALTH OF ISRAEL (YOU DIDN'T BELONG TO THE NATION), AND STRANGERS FROM THE COVENANTS OF PROMISE, HAVING NO HOPE, AND WITHOUT GOD IN THE WORLD." THEY WERE STRANGERS FROM THE COVENANTS OF THE PROMISE. THEY WERE STRANGERS AS FAR AS THE LAW WAS CONCERNED. THEY DIDN'T BELONG TO THE LAW AND THE LAW DIDN'T BELONG TO THEM. WHEN ANY MAN WHO IS A GENTILE COMES ALONG TODAY AND SAYS HE WANTS TO BE UNDER THE LAW, HE WANTS TO DO SOMETHING WHICH GOD NEVER ORDAINED THAT HE DO AND HE WANTS TO BE SOMEWHERE GOD NEVER ORDAINED THAT HE BE. WHY, THEN, WOULD A GENTILE WANT TO LOOK BACK TO THE LAW OF MOSES WHICH NEVER PERTAINED TO HIM ANYWAY?

AGAIN WE LOOK AT THE PROPHETS AND ASK THE QUESTION, "HOW DID THE PROPHETS REGARD THE LAW?" CERTAINLY IF THE PROPHETS WHO LIVED AND PREACHED UNDER THE LAW REGARDED IT AS BEING SOMETHING PERMANENT AND ETERNAL, THEN CERTAINLY YOU AND I OUGHT TO HONOR THEIR THOUGHTS IN THE CASE BECAUSE THEY WERE INSPIRED OF GOD. DID THE PROPHETS SO REGARD IT? LET'S TAKE JEREMIAH. HE STANDS FIRST IN THE HEBREW CANON. IN JEREMIAH 3:16 HE SAYS: "IT SHALL COME TO PASS, WHEN YE BE MULTIPLIED AND INCREASED IN THE LAND, IN THOSE DAYS, SAITH THE LORD, THEY SHALL SAY NO MORE, THE ARK OF THE COVENANT OF THE LORD; NEITHER SHALL IT COME TO MIND, NEITHER SHALL THEY REMEMBER IT, NEITHER SHALL THEY VISIT IT, NEITHER SHALL THAT BE DONE ANY MORE." THAT SOUNDS RATHER CONCLUSIVE. IF THIS BE NOT CONVINCING READ JEREMIAH 31:31-34, QUOTED AS FULFILLED IN HEBREWS 8:7-13 AND HEBREWS 10:15-17.

MORE IMPORTANT LET'S TURN TO THE NEW TESTAMENT AND SEE WHAT THE NEW TESTAMENT SAYS ABOUT THE CHRISTIANS RELATIONSHIP TO THE LAW. HEAR THE WORDS OF JESUS, MATTHEW 5:17,18: "THINK NOT THAT I AM COME TO DESTROY THE LAW, OR THE PROPHETS; I AM NOT COME TO DESTROY, BUT TO FULFIL. FOR VERILY I SAY UNTO YOU, TILL HEAVEN AND EARTH PASS, ONE JOT OR ONE TITTLE SHALL IN NO WISE PASS FROM THE LAW, TILL ALL BE FULFILLED. (ACCOMPLISHED ASV)." WE HAVE SEEN THAT ALL THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH THE LAW WAS GIVEN WERE ACCOMPLISHED. THE ONLY DEDUCTION, THEN, IS THAT THE LAW HAS BEEN DONE AWAY. LET'S TURN AGAIN TO PAUL'S STATEMENT IN ROMANS 10:4 WHERE HE STATES THAT "FOR CHRIST IS THE END OF THE LAW FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS TO EVERYONE THAT BELIEVETH." IN EPHESIANS 2:15 WE READ THAT HE "HAVING ABOLISHED IN HIS FLESH THE ENMITY, EVEN THE LAW OF COMMANDMENT, (THERE'S A LAW AND HE, SPEAKING OF CHRIST, HAS ABOLISHED IT) CONTAINED IN ORDINANCES FOR TO MAKE HIMSELF OF TWAIN ONE NEW MAN, SO MAKING PEACE." READING AGAIN COLOSSIANS 2:14-17: "BLOTTING OUT THE HANDWRITING OF ORDINANCES THAT WAS AGAINST US, WHICH WAS CONTRARY TO US, AND TOOK IT OUT OF THE WAY, NAILING IT TO HIS CROSS." SO BY LANGUAGE PLAIN, WE DISCOVER THAT THE MOSAIC LAW WAS NAILED TO THE CROSS OF JESUS CHRIST.

ONE OF THE GREATEST BOOKS WE OUGHT TO READ IS THIS DISCUSSION IN THE HEBREW LETTER, FOR THESE WERE JEWS THAT WERE ABOUT TO APOSTITISE TO THE OLD LAW AND THE OVERRIDING PURPOSE OF THE WRITER WAS TO PREVENT THEIR DOING SO--TO POINT THEM AWAY FROM THAT TO WHICH THEY WOULD RETURN AND TO POINT THEM BACK TO JESUS CHRIST. IN HEBREWS 8:7 HE SAYS, "FOR IF THAT FIRST COVENANT HAD BEEN FAULTLESS, THEN SHOULD NO PLACE HAVE BEEN SOUGHT FOR THE SECOND." IN HEBREWS 10:9 HE SAYS, "HE TAKETH AWAY THE FIRST, THAT HE MAY ESTABLISH THE SECOND." HE SAYS HE TAKES THAT FIRST AWAY. IT'S GONE. IT'S ABOLISHED. IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH THE SECOND IT WAS NECESSARY THAT THE FIRST BE NEGATED. IF THE FIRST WAS NOT NEGATED BEFORE THE SECOND WAS ESTABLISHED THEN THERE ARE A NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO ARE GUILTY OF SPIRITUAL ADULTRY. IN FACT, IF THE LAW IS STILL BINDING,



WE ARE WASTING OUR TIME IN TRYING TO TEACH THE GOSPEL TO THOSE WHO ARE JEWS, FOR EVERY JEW THAT WE CONVERT TO JESUS CHRIST BECOMES NOT A CHRISTIAN BUT A SPIRITUAL ADULTERER. TURN TO ROMANS CHAPTER SEVEN. HERE PAUL SEEKS TO ESTABLISH A PRINCIPLE. HE COMPARES THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MAN AND THE LAW WITH THAT WHICH EXISTS BETWEEN A HUSBAND AND HIS WIFE. HE SAYS THAT THE ROMANS KNOW THAT AS LONG AS THE HUSBAND LIVES THE WIFE IS SUBJECT TO THE LAW OF THE HUSBAND SO THAT IF WHILE THE HUSBAND LIVES SHE SHALL BE JOINED TO ANOTHER, SHE SHALL BE CALLED AN ADULTRESS, BUT IF, ON THE OTHER HAND, THE HUSBAND IS DEAD SHE SHALL NOT BE CALLED AN ADULTRESS THOUGH SHE BE JOINED TO ANOTHER. HE SAID THAT THEY HAD BEEN FREED FROM THE LAW THAT IS FROM MOSES LAW, NOT IN ORDER THAT THEY MIGHT JUST BE FREED UNTO THEMSELVES, BUT IN ORDER THAT THEY MIGHT BE WED TO ANOTHER, IN ORDER THAT THEY MIGHT BE WED TO JESUS CHRIST. IF THEY ARE WED TO CHRIST WHILE THE OLD LAW IS STILL ALIVE THEN EVERY JEW WHO OBEYS THE GOSPEL AGAIN, I SAY, BECOMES NOT A CHRISTIAN, BUT A SPIRITUAL ADULTERER.

SO OFTEN WHEN THE TEACHING OF THE BIBLE ON THIS SUBJECT IS EXPOUNDED, PEOPLE ARE QUICK TO CHARGE THAT THE PROBLEM WITH MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS THAT THEY JUST DON'T BELIEVE ALL THE BIBLE. I DENY THAT. I DO BELIEVE THE OLD TESTAMENT. I BELIEVE THAT THE WHALE SWALLOWED JONAH AND IF THE BIBLE SAID THAT JONAH SWALLOWED THE WHALE, I'D BELIEVE THAT TOO BECAUSE I BELIEVE THAT THE BIBLE IS THE PRODUCT OF GOD, AND IF GOD SAID IT I'D BELIEVE IT. I WOULDN'T BELIEVE IT IF ANYBODY ELSE SAID IT, BUT IF GOD SAID IT I WOULD BELIEVE IT TO BE SO SIMPLY BECAUSE IT CAME FROM THE MOUTH OF GOD. BUT SOMEONE SAYS, "WE WANT ALL THE BIBLE." DO YOU REALLY? IF YOU WANT ALL THE BIBLE, THEN I SUGGEST YOU GO OUT AND BUY YOU SOME GOPHER WOOD AND START BUILDING AN ARK BECAUSE THERE IS GOING TO BE A FLOOD. "OH, WE DON'T WANT THAT PART." THEN WE HAVE DISCOVERED PART OF IT WE DON'T WANT, HAVEN'T WE? "BUT, THAT DOESN'T PERTAIN TO US." THAT IS WHAT WE'RE TRYING TO ESTABLISH CONCERNING ALL OF THE OLD COVENANT. "WELL, WE WANT ALL THAT PERTAINS TO WORSHIP." FINE, IF YOU WANT ALL THAT PERTAINS TO WORSHIP THEN I SUGGEST YOU GET ON A PLANE AND GO TO THE COAST AND GET ON A BOAT AND GO TO ANOTHER COAST AND GET ON ANOTHER PLANE OR AN AUTOMOBILE AND GET TO JERUSALEM TO WORSHIP. YOU'D BETTER TAKE WITH YOU A LAMB WITHOUT SPOT AND WITHOUT BLEMISH BECAUSE YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO OFFER SACRIFICE. BUT BEFORE YOU DO THAT, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO BUILD A TEMPLE BECAUSE THERE'S NOT A TEMPLE ANYMORE. "BUT, WE DON'T WANT THAT PART OF THE WORSHIP."

ULTIMATELY WHAT IT RESOLVES DOWN TO IS EACH MAN WANTS TO GO BACK TO THE OLD COVENANT TO GET THOSE THINGS THAT APPEAL TO HIM. THOSE THINGS THAT DO NOT APPEAL TO HIM HE JUST LETS GO BY. I SUGGEST WE NEED TO GO BACK AND READ GALATIANS 3:12 AGAIN. "THE LAW IS NOT OF FAITH, BUT HE THAT DOETH THEM SHALL LIVE IN THEM." IN ESSENCE WHAT THAT VERSE IS SAYING IS THAT IF YOU WANT PART OF THE LAW TAKE ALL OF THE LAW. AT LEAST BE CONSISTENT. DON'T GO BACK AND PICK IT TO PIECES PEACE-MEAL AND JUST TAKE THAT WHICH APPEALS TO YOU.

AS SUGGESTED IN THE OUTSET, THIS FAILURE TO RIGHTLY DIVIDE OR HANDLE ARIGHT THE WORD, THE FAILURE TO MAKE THE PROPER DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE OLD COVENANT AND THE NEW LIES AT THE BASIS OF MOST OF THE RELIGIOUS PROBLEMS THAT ARE THE BAIN OF THE WORLD TODAY. FOR EXAMPLE, YOU TALK WITH ONE GROUP OF RELIGIOUS PEOPLE ABOUT THE PRACTICE OF POLYGAMY. IMMEDIATELY THEY BEGIN TO POINT BACK TO THE OLD COVENANT AND SAY THAT ABRAHAM HAD SEVERAL WIVES. HE HAD SARAH FOR A WIFE AND THEN HE HAD HAGAR AS A CONCUBINE AND THEN AS AN OLDER MAN HE HAD KETURAH FOR HIS WIFE.

IF ABRAHAM CAN DO IT, THE ARGUMENT GOES, WHY CAN'T WE? WE COME PAST ABRAHAM AND LOOK AT JACOB WHO HAD LEAH AND RACHEL. THEN WE COME ON DOWN TO DAVID AT HEbron AND HIS MULTIPLE WIVES. IF WE WANT TO TAKE THE KING OF THEM ALL WE CAN LOOK AT



KING SOLOMON WHO HAD 700 WIVES AND 300 CONCUBINES. THESE MEN WERE IN RIGHT RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD IT IS SUGGESTED, AND SINCE THEY PRACTICED POLYGAMY, WHY CANNOT WE?

SIMPLY BECAUSE WHEN JESUS CHRIST CAME HE DID AWAY WITH THOSE THINGS THAT HAD BEEN UNDER THE LAW. HE ABOLISHED THEM, AND HE RECONSTITUTED THINGS AS THEY HAD BEEN FROM THE BEGINNING. "FOR THIS CAUSE SHALL A MAN LEAVE HIS FATHER AND MOTHER AND CLEAVE UNTO HIS WIFE AND THEY TWAIN SHALL BE ONE FLESH." ONE MAN, ONE WOMAN; ONE HUSBAND, ONE WIFE. A MAN IS ENTITLED TO JUST ONE WIFE AND A WOMAN IS ENTITLED TO JUST ONE HUSBAND ACCORDING TO THE TEACHING OF JESUS CHRIST.

THERE ARE A GREAT MANY PEOPLE WHO WOULD SAY TO THOSE WHO WANT TO GO TO THE OLD TESTAMENT TO DEFEND THEIR POLYGAMY THAT IT JUST CAN'T BE DONE. IT'S WRONG. AND JUST BECAUSE ABRAHAM HAD MORE THAN ONE WIFE IS NO REASON THAT YOU CAN HAVE MORE THAN ONE WIFE. BUT THEN WE BEGIN TO LOOK AT THEIR RELIGIOUS PRACTICES AND WE FIND THAT THEY OBSERVE THE SABBATH. YOU SEE THE PROBLEM IS THAT THEY GO BACK FOR THEIR SABBATH, BUT THEY WON'T ALLOW ANOTHER MAN TO DO EXACTLY THE SAME THING IN PRINCIPLE--TO GO BACK AND GET HIS POLYGAMY. LOGICALLY, IF A SABBATERIAN HAS THE RIGHT TO GO BACK AND GET THE SABBATH, THEN A POLYGAMIST HAS A RIGHT TO GO BACK AND GET HIS POLYGAMY AND A SABBATERIAN LOGICALLY AND ETHICALLY CANNOT SAY ONE THING AGAINST IT.

IS THE SABBATH TO BE OBSERVED TODAY? CAN WE GO BACK AND PICK UP THE SABBATH? I SUGGEST THAT YOU CAN'T KEEP IT. I KNOW THAT THE SABBATH AS IT WAS IN THE TIME OF CHRIST HAD BEEN PROFANED BY THE TRADITIONS OF THE PHARISEES. THEY HAD ADDED UNTO THE LAW OF GOD SO MANY OF THEIR OWN LAWS AND BOUND THEM AS THE LAWS OF GOD, IT SEEMED THAT NO MAN KNEW JUST EXACTLY HOW TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN THE TWO. BUT YET THERE WAS A GOD GIVEN LAW THAT COMMANDED TO KEEP THE SABBATH HOLY. IN OUR PRESENT SOCIETY I WOULD DEEM IT IMPOSSIBLE TO BE ABLE TO KEEP THAT LAW AND FOR THAT REASON THOSE WHO CLAIM TO BE KEEPING THE SABBATH OUGHT TO BE HAPPY THAT GOD NO LONGER BINDS IT UPON US. IN THE OLD COVENANT THOSE THAT VIOLATED THE SABBATH WERE TO BE TAKEN OUT AND STONED TO DEATH. IF YOU CAN'T (OR DON'T) KEEP IT TODAY AND YOU BELIEVE IT OUGHT TO BE KEPT THEN THE CONSEQUENCE OF YOUR FAITH, THE LOGICAL CONCLUSION THERE OF IS THAT WHEN YOU VIOLATE IT SOMEBODY OUGHT TO THROW SOME BIG ENOUGH ROCK AT YOU TO KILL YOU. YOU CANNOT KEEP THE SABBATH, AND IF YOU DO NOT KEEP IT YOU SHOULD BE PUT TO DEATH FOR IT.

SOMEONE ELSE ASKS, "DIDN'T SUNDAY TAKE THE PLACE OF THE SABBATH?" NO SIR! I HEAR INTELLIGENT MEN SPEAK OF THE "CHRISTIAN SABBATH." THERE IS JUST NOT ANY SUCH ANIMAL. THERE IS A JEWISH SABBATH, BUT THERE'S JUST NOT A CHRISTIAN SABBATH. I HEAR PREACHERS OVER THE RADIO PREACHING ON SUNDAY SAYING "ISN'T THIS A BEAUTIFUL SABBATH DAY," BUT IT'S NOT. IT'S SUNDAY--IT'S NOT SATURDAY. WHAT IS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SUNDAY AND THE SABBATH? THE ONLY ONE I CAN FIND IN THE NEW TESTAMENT IS ONE EXPRESSED IN MATTHEW 28:1: "IN THE END OF THE SABBATH, AS IT BEGAN TO DAWN TOWARD THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK." THAT RELATIONSHIP IS THAT SUNDAY COMES RIGHT AFTER SATURDAY, AND THAT IS THE ONLY ONE YOU'LL FIND ESTABLISHED IN THE NEW TESTAMENT.

SOMEONE ELSE SAYS "WELL, I JUST THINK WE OUGHT TO KEEP IT BECAUSE IT WAS KEPT THROUGH ALL OF THE OLD LAW AND THROUGH ALL OF THE EARLIER DISPENSATIONS," BUT I DEFY ANY MAN TO PROVE THAT. "DIDN'T GOD ORDAIN THE SABBATH BACK IN GENESIS CHAPTER 2?" YOU READ IT VERY CAREFULLY AND SEE IF YOU CAN SEE THE SABBATH MENTIONED. I KNOW THAT GOD RESTED ON THE 7TH DAY, BUT THE SABBATH IS NOT MENTIONED THERE. I KNOW THAT WHEN GOD DID ORDAIN THE SABBATH AND COMMAND HIS CHILDREN TO KEEP IT HOLY THAT HE DID SO BECAUSE HE HAD RESTED ON THE 7TH DAY. BUT IF BETWEEN GENESIS AND SINAI THE SABBATH WAS COMMANDED TO BE OBSERVED, IT'S VERY STRANGE THAT WE FIND NO REFERENCES TO IT. IT'S



VERY STRANGE THAT IN ALL THOSE YEARS WE NEVER FIND ANYBODY WHO WAS CRITICIZED FOR HAVING BROKEN IT. SUCH IS SURELY NOT THE CASE WHEN WE COME THIS SIDE OF SINAI. FINALLY, WE TURN TO NEHEMIAH 9:13-14 AND THERE WE FIND A VERY SIMPLE STATEMENT WHICH SAYS "THOU COMEST DOWN UPON MOUNT SINAI, AND SPAKEST WITH THEM FROM HEAVEN, AND GAVEST THEM RIGHT JUDGEMENTS AND TRUE LAWS, GOOD STATUTES AND COMMANDMENTS; AND MADEST KNOWN UNTO THEM THY HOLY SABBATH." IN OTHER WORDS GOD CAME DOWN ON SINAI AND GAVE THE SABBATH TO MAN. HE HAD NOT GIVEN IT BEFORE THAT TIME, AND BEFORE THAT TIME IT WAS NOT BINDING UPON A SINGLE INDIVIDUAL.

OTHERS SUGGEST THAT THE SABBATH IS SUPPOSED TO BE A PERPETUAL COVENANT BETWEEN GOD AND HIS PEOPLE. THEY POINT US TO EXODUS 31:16: "WHEREFORE THE CHILDREN OF ISREAL SHALL KEEP THE SABBATH, TO OBSERVE THE SABBATH THROUGHOUT THEIR GENERATIONS, FOR A PERPETUAL COVENANT." IT'S PERPETUAL, THEY SAY, AND IF IT'S TO BE PERPETUAL WE CAN'T STOP IT BACK AT THE CROSS. LET US NOTICE TWO THINGS: 1) LET US NOTICE THAT IT WAS TO BE PERPETUAL THROUGH THEIR GENERATIONS AND THE GENERATIONS OF THE JEWS ARE NO MORE. 2) LET'S NOTICE THAT THOSE WHO WANT TO KEEP THE PERPETUAL SABBATH DON'T WANT TO KEEP SOME OTHER PERPETUAL THINGS. TURN BACK TO EXODUS 30:8 AND READ: "AND WHEN AARON LIGHTETH THE LAMPS AT EVEN, HE SHALL BURN INCENSE UPON IT, A PERPETUAL INCENSE BEFORE THE LORD THROUGHOUT YOUR GENERATIONS." NOT ONLY DO WE HAVE A PERPETUAL SABBATH, BUT WE HAVE A PERPETUAL INCENSE, AND THOSE WHO, BECAUSE OF THE PERPETUAL SABBATH CONTINUE TO OBSERVE IT, OUGHT TO BE CONSISTANT ENOUGH TO BURN A PERPETUAL INCENSE.

OTHERS SAY, "DIDN'T CHRIST OBSERVE THE SABBATH DAY?" YES, HE DID. BUT YOU SEE CHRIST, ACCORDING TO GALATIANS 4:4, WAS MADE OF WOMAN, MADE UNDER THE LAW, AND IT WAS TO THE LAW OF MOSES THAT HE WAS SUBSERVANT AND IT WAS TO GOD THROUGH THE LAW OF MOSES THAT HE WAS ACCOUNTABLE UNTIL HIS DEATH UPON THE CROSS, WHERE HE NAILED IT AND LEFT IT.

FINALLY, SOME MAKE A DISTINCTION IN THE OLD TESTAMENT BETWEEN MOSES' LAW AND THE LAW OF GOD. THEY ALLOW THAT MOSES LAW, THE OLD CEREMONIAL LAW, ISN'T BINDING ANYMORE, BUT THE LAW THAT GOD GAVE IS STILL BINDING. THIS IS AN EFFORT TO GET RID OF THE SACRIFICES AND KEEP THE SABBATH. I SUGGEST YOU TURN TO ROMANS, CHAPTER 7. IN THAT CHAPTER PAUL, AS WE DISCUSSED A MOMENT AGO, IS IN A DETAIL DISCUSSION IN THE FIRST SEVEN VERSES ESTABLISHING THE FACT THE HUSBAND IS DEAD AND NOW WE CAN BE WED TO ANOTHER. THE ILLUSTRATION HE USES TO ESTABLISH THAT THE LAW OF MOSES IS NO LONGER BINDING IS NOT FROM THE CEREMONIAL LAW, BUT FROM THE DECALOGUE. "HOW BE IT I HAD NOT KNOWN LUST EXCEPT THE LAW SAID 'THOU SHALL NOT COVET.'" THAT IS ONE OF THE TEN COMMANDMENTS, AND IT WAS THIS THAT PAUL SAID "WAS NO MORE." SO THE LAW OF MOSES, THE CEREMONIAL LAW, IS GONE. ACTUALLY, THE BIBLE NOWHERE MAKES A DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE LAW OF GOD AND THE LAW OF MOSES.

THERE ARE SOME WHO SAY, "THIS IS ABSOLUTELY RIGHT. MAN DOESN'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO GO BACK TO THE OLD TESTAMENT TO GET POLYGAMY. IT'S JUST WRONG TO BE PRACTICED. MAN DOESN'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO GO BACK TO THE OLD LAW TO GET THE SABBATH DAY BECAUSE THE SABBATH DAY ISN'T TO BE OBSERVED ANYMORE, WE WORSHIP ON THE LORD'S DAY, THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK." THERE WE BEGIN TO LOOK AT THEIR RELIGIOUS PRACTICES AND WE DISCOVER THEY HAVE GONE BACK TO THE OLD LAW TO GET INFANT MEMBERSHIP AND SPRINKLING. "LOOK AT ABRAHAM AND THE PROMISE TO ABRAHAM. WEREN'T CHILDREN A PART OF THAT? LOOK AT THE LAW OF MOSES, WERE NOT THE INFANTS A PART OF THE NATION OF ISRAEL, AND PART OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD? WAS NOT CIRCUMCISION THE SIGN THEREOF?" THEY EQUATE INFANT MEMBERSHIP WITH THE ACT OF CIRCUMCISION. YOU KNOW THAT WHICH PROVES TOO MUCH WINDS UP PROVING ABSOLUTELY NOTHING. IF THEY WANT TO USE CIRCUMCISION AS AN ARGUMENT FOR INFANT MEMBERSHIP, IN REALITY ALL THEY CAN ESTABLISH IS MALE INFANT MEMBERSHIP. THEY ESTABLISH THAT THE FEMALE BABIES



ARE LEFT OUT BECAUSE CIRCUMCISION WAS NEVER GIVEN TO THEM. IN THE SECOND PLACE CIRCUMCISION WAS NOT GIVEN TO THE INFANT MALE IN ORDER TO MAKE HIM SOMETHING. IT WAS GIVEN TO HIM BECAUSE HE WAS SOMETHING. IT WAS GIVEN TO HIM BECAUSE HE WAS ALREADY A JEW AND A PART OF THE JEWISH NATION. BAPTISM, ACCORDING TO THE NEW TESTAMENT, IS NOT GIVEN TO INFANTS AND IT IS GIVEN TO A BELIEVER NOT BECAUSE HE IS SOMETHING, BUT IN ORDER TO MAKE HIM SOMETHING--IN ORDER THAT HE MIGHT BE BORN INTO THE FAMILY OF GOD. THUS, INFANT MEMBERSHIP IN THE CHURCH CANNOT BE ESTABLISHED BY THE OLD COVENANT. WHEN ONE WANTS TO ESTABLISH INFANT MEMBERSHIP, IT IS NOT TO THE OLD LAW THAT WAS NEVER GIVEN TO HIM THAT HE OUGHT TO GO, BUT TO THE NEW COVENANT--THE LAW THAT CAME BY JESUS CHRIST. IT IS BY THIS LAW THAT HE OUGHT TO ESTABLISH HIS RELIGIOUS ACTS IN THE PRESENT DAY WHICH IS THE CHRISTIAN DISPENSATION.

WHAT ABOUT THE MATTER OF SPRINKLING? AGAIN, MEN GO TO THE OLD LAW FOR THEIR AUTHORITY. THEY TURN TO EZZKIEL 36:24,25 WHERE GOD MAKES A PROMISE TO HIS PEOPLE: "FOR I WILL TAKE YOU FROM AMONG THE HEATHEN, AND GATHER YOU OUT OF ALL THE COUNTRIES, AND WILL BRING YOU INTO YOUR OWN LAND. THEN WILL I SPRINKLE CLEAN WATER UPON YOU, AND YE SHALL BE CLEAN: FROM ALL YOUR FILTHINESS, AND FROM ALL YOUR IDOLS, WILL I CLEANSE YOU." "IS NOT THIS AN EXAMPLE OF SPRINKLING," THEY ASK. "AND IF GOD COULD SPRINKLE PEOPLE UNDER THE OLD COVENANT CAN WE NOT SPRINKLE PEOPLE UNDER THE NEW?" BEFORE WE REACH A CONCLUSION, LET'S TAKE A CLOSER LOOK AND SEE THAT WITH WHICH THEY WERE SPRINKLED. "I WILL SPRINKLE YOU WITH CLEAN WATER," VERSE 25 SAYS. "YE SHALL BE CLEAN," WHAT IS CLEAN WATER? IT'S THE WATER IN THE OLD TESTAMENT THAT IS REFERRED TO AS THE "WATER OF PURIFICATION" AS THE "WATER OF CLEANSING." IN NUMBERS 19 YOU WILL FIND DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS AS TO HOW THE WATER OF PURIFICATION, OR THE CLEAN WATER, WAS TO BE MADE. IT IS ANYTHING BUT "CLEAN" WATER, AS YOU WOULD BE USING THAT TERM. IN FACT, THERE IS NO EXAMPLE IN THE OLD TESTAMENT EITHER IN PATRIARCHAL OR MOSIAC DISPENSATIONS WHERE WATER ALONE, PURE WATER WITHOUT ANYTHING ADDED TO IT, WAS EVER SPRINKLED UPON ANYBODY FOR ANY PURPOSE. THE CLEAN WATER IN NUMBERS 19 FOR THE WATER OF PURIFICATION WAS MADE BY BRINGING A RED HEIFER TO THE HIGH PRIEST, IN THIS CASE IT WAS ELEAZAR. THE HEIFER WOULD BE SLAIN BEFORE HIS FACE AND WITH HIS FINGER, HE WOULD SPRINKLE THE BLOOD OF THE HEIFER BEFORE THE TABERNACLE SEVEN TIMES. THEN, THE HEIFER WOULD BE BURNED--WITH HER SKINS, WITH HER FLESH, WITH HER BONES, AND WITH HER DUNG, AND THEN THE PRIEST WOULD MIX IN SCARLET AND HISSOP AND CEDAR WOOD AND ALL OF THIS WOULD BE MIXED TOGETHER WITH THE WATER. THEY WOULD VERY CAREFULLY PUT IT ASIDE AND WHEN PEOPLE WERE CEREMONIALLY IMPURE, THEY WOULD TAKE SOME OF THE WATER OF CLEANSING AND SPRINKLE IT ON THEM IN ORDER THAT THEY MIGHT BE "CLEAN" OR "PURE" AGAIN. I DON'T BELIEVE THAT YOU WANT CLEAN WATER SPRINKLED UPON YOU. WITH ALL OF THAT MIXTURE YOU OUGHT TO BE THANKFUL THAT THIS IS NOT GOD'S LAW OF CLEANSING, CEREMONIAL OR OTHERWISE, IN THIS DISPENSATION. NO, BY THE OLD COVENANT NEITHER INFANT MEMBERSHIP NOR SPRINKLING CAN BE ESTABLISHED.

A MAN WILL SAY, "THAT'S RIGHT PREACHER! WE CAN'T GO BACK TO THE OLD LAW FOR POLYGYAMY; IT'S WRONG. WE CAN'T GO BACK TO THE OLD LAW FOR THE SABBATH DAY; WE DON'T OBSERVE IT. WE CAN'T GO BACK TO THE OLD LAW FOR INFANT MEMBERSHIP, NEITHER CAN WE GO THERE FOR SPRINKLING." THEN, WE GO AND ATTEND WORSHIP WITH HIM AND WE NOTICE IN HIS WORSHIP SERVICE THE PIANO AND THE ORGAN ARE BEING PLAYED. WE ASK WHY? THE ANSWER? "GO BACK TO THE OLD COVENANT, GO BACK TO THE OLD LAW. THERE DAVID HAD HIS INSTRUMENTS." BUT YOU SEE HE IS DOING THE SAME THING FOR WHICH HE HAS CONDEMNED OTHERS. HE IS OPERATING ON EXACTLY THE SAME PRINCIPLE WHICH HE HAS REFUSED TO GRANT TO OTHERS, AND IF HE IS GOING TO THE OLD COVENANT FOR AN INSTRUMENT, HE OUGHT AT LEAST TO BE HONEST WITH THE MAN WHO



GOES FOR TWO OR MORE WIVES. HE OUGHT NOT TO SAY ANYTHING TO THE SABBATERIAN. HE OUGHT NOT TO SAY ANYTHING TO THOSE WHO HAVE INFANT MEMBERSHIP AND WHO PRACTICE SPRINKLING, BECAUSE IN PRINCIPLE THEY ARE DOING EXACTLY THE SAME THING. WELL, IF WE CAN'T GET IT IN THE OLD COVENANT, MAYBE WE CAN GET IT OVER YONDER IN HEAVEN. IN REVELATION, IT IS SAID, WE READ OF THE HARPS OF HEAVEN. HOWEVER, THIS IS NOT SO. WE READ OF SOUNDS AS OF MANY HARPS. JOHN COMPARED IT TO THE EARTHLY SOUND OF HARPS BUT NOWHERE DOES THE NEW TESTAMENT SAY THERE ARE GOING TO BE HARPS IN HEAVEN. IT MIGHT BE ILLUSTRATED THIS WAY, IF I MIGHT BORROW AN ILLUSTRATION FROM THE LATE BROTHER N. B. HARDEMAN. BROTHER HARDEMAN WAS A MAN WHO LOVED HORSES, AND HE TOLD THE STORY ONE DAY OF A MAN WHO WANTED TO BUY A HORSE. AS HE WALKED UP TO THE SELLER, HE TOLD HIM WHAT HE WANTED. THE MAN WENT INTO HIS BARN AND BROUGHT OUT AN OLD HORSE THAT WAS SWAY BACK, BROKEN DOWN, AND WINDED. IT WAS JUST ABOUT READY FOR THE GLUE FACTORY. THE MAN BROUGHT HIM OUT AND SAID, "THIS WAS REALLY A FINE HORSE. MY CHILDREN CUT THEIR TEETH ON THIS HORSE. THEY LEARNED TO RIDE ON HIM. HE WAS VERY GENTLE AND YOU'LL NEVER FIND A HORSE THAT WAS BETTER ANYWHERE." THE MAN SAID, "NO, I WANT TO SEE ANOTHER HORSE." SO THE SELLER WENT BACK INTO THE BARN AND BROUGHT OUT ANOTHER ONE AND SAID, "LOOK HERE AT THIS COLT. IT'S GOING TO BE A FINE HORSE. ONE OF THESE DAYS IT'S GOING TO BE THE BEST HORSE IN THE COUNTRY. IT'S GOT ALL OF THE PROMISE, IT'S GOT ALL OF THE MARKINGS AND ALL OF THE RIGHT PROPORTIONS." FINALLY THE MAN LOOKED AT THE SELLER AND SAID, "NOW YOU'VE SHOWN ME YOUR 'HAS BEEN' AND YOU'VE SHOWN ME 'YOUR GOING TO BE.' NOW I WANT TO SEE AN 'ISER'." HE WANTED TO SEE ONE HE COULD USE RIGHT THEN. HE WANTED SOMETHING THAT WOULD BE OF VALUE TO HIM TO ACCOMPLISH HIS PURPOSE RIGHT THEN. EVEN SO, IT'S NOT GOING TO DO US ANY GOOD TO GO TO OLD LAW. NEITHER IS IT GOING TO DO US ANY GOOD TO REACH OUT BEYOND THIS ONE TO SEEK TO LAY HOLD UPON, SOME WAY THAT WE MIGHT JUSTIFY THE THINGS WE PRACTICE TODAY. THE QUESTION IS "DO WE FIND IT AUTHORIZED IN A 'THUS SAITH THE LORD' IN THE NEW COVENANT THAT WAS BOUGHT WITH THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST, THE SON OF GOD?"

IF, THEN, THE NEW TESTAMENT ISN'T OF BINDING AS FAR AS WORSHIP IS CONCERNED AND AS FAR AS BEING A LAW TO GUIDE US IS CONCERNED, WHAT'S THE USE OF THE OLD LAW? PAUL TELLS US IN ROMANS 15:4: "FOR WHATSOEVER THINGS WERE WRITTEN AFORETIME WERE WRITTEN FOR OUR LEARNING, THAT WE THROUGH PATIENCE AND COMFORT OF THE SCRIPTURES MIGHT HAVE HOPE." IN WRITING TO THE CORINTHIAN BRETHREN HE SAID, "NOW ALL THINGS HAPPENED UNTO THEM FOR ENSAMPLES; AND THEY ARE WRITTEN FOR OUR ADMONITION, UPON WHOM THE ENDS OF THE WORLD ARE COME" (1 CORINTHIANS 10:11). WE ARE IN THE ENDS OF THE AGES. WE ARE IN THE LAST AGE, THE CHRISTIAN AGE, THE CHRISTIAN DISPENSATION. BACK TO THE OLD COVENANT WE LOOK TO PROPERLY UNDERSTAND THE NEW, AND BACK TO THE OLD COVENANT WE LOOK IN ORDER THAT WE MIGHT FIND ADMONITIONS AND ENCOURAGEMENTS, AND THAT WE MIGHT LEARN PRINCIPLES WHEREBY GOD DEALS WITH MEN IN ANY DISPENSATION OR IN ANY AGE. BUT UNTO THE LAW WE DO NOT LOOK FOR DIRECTIONS IN WORSHIP. NEITHER DO WE LOOK UNTO IT FOR SALVATION. IN GALATIANS 2:16, PAUL SAID, "KNOWING THAT A MAN IS NOT JUSTIFIED BY THE WORKS OF LAW, BUT BY THE FAITH OF JESUS CHRIST, EVEN WE HAVE BELIEVED IN JESUS CHRIST, THAT WE MIGHT BE BY THE FAITH OF CHRIST, AND NOT BY THE WORKS OF THE LAW; FOR BY THE WORKS OF THE LAW SHALL NO FLESH BE JUSTIFIED." IN GALATIANS 5:4 HE SAID, "~~CHRIST~~ IS ~~BECAUSE OF~~ NO EFFECT UNTO YOU, WHOEVER OF YOU ARE JUSTIFIED BY THE LAW; YE ARE FALLEN FROM GRACE." WE CAN'T BE JUSTIFIED BY THE OLD LAW, BUT WE CAN BE JUSTIFIED BY JESUS CHRIST.

LET'S READ TWO VERSES WHICH WE'VE ALREADY READ AND THEN ADD TWO OTHERS TO THEM. FROM GALATIANS 3:24, "WHEREFORE THE LAW WAS OUR SCHOOLMASTER TO BRING US UNTO CHRIST, THAT WE MIGHT BE JUSTIFIED BY FAITH. BUT AFTER THAT FAITH IS COME, WE ARE NO LONGER



UNDER A SCHOOLMASTER. FOR YE ARE ALL THE CHILDREN OF GOD BY FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST. FOR AS MANY OF YOU WHO HAVE BEEN BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST, HAVE PUT ON CHRIST." IF YOU WANT TO BE THE CHILD OF GOD BY FAITH IN CHRIST JESUS, THIS IS THE WAY FOR YOU TO ACCOMPLISH IT. WE CANNOT GO HOME EXCEPT BY THE WAY OF THE CROSS. THE WAY OF THE CROSS FREED US FROM LAW, FREED US FROM THE LAW OF MOSES AND FREED US FROM ANY LAW AS A STANDARD OF JUDGMENT, AND BROUGHT US UNDER GRACE THAT CAME BY JESUS CHRIST. IF YOU HAVE FAITH IN HIM TONIGHT AND IF YOU WOULD COME REPENTING OF SIN, CONFESS THE NAME OF JESUS, AND BE BAPTIZED INTO HIS PRECIOUS BODY, YOU MAY ARISE TO WALK IN NEWNESS OF LIFE ACCORDING TO HIS PROMISE (ROMANS CHAPTER 6) AND GO ON YOUR WAY REJOICING AS DID THOSE OF OLD(ACTS THE 8TH CHAPTER).