

# TEN WAYS YESHUA FULFILLED THE LAW

by Avram Yehoshua

## THE SEED OF ABRAHAM

Among the many rich and biblical teachings of Christianity there lies an insidious doctrine about Mosaic Law. For the past 1,900 years the Church has taught that Torah (Mosaic Law) does not apply to Christians because “Jesus fulfilled it” (i.e. He did away with it). Aside from being the very opposite of God’s New Testament Truth, this teaching has done more to drive a demonic wedge between Christians and Jews than anything else except Christian murder and persecution of the Jews,<sup>1</sup> and hence, it’s insidiousness. If the Jewish people had seen Christians keeping Mosaic Law they would have seen their Messiah and come to believe in Him. The false teaching is obviously not of God, but of Satan. It didn’t take God by surprise, though, Him knowing that Satan, through the Roman Catholic Bishop of Rome in 120 AD, would jettison Mosaic Law and bring in pagan ways and pagan days, as the prophet Daniel tells us:

‘And he (the Pope) shall speak blasphemous words against<sup>2</sup> the Most High God, and he shall *wear out the saints* (Christians) of the Most High God, and intend to change the times (the Sabbath and the Feasts of Israel) and the Law (of Moses), and they (Christians) shall be *given into his hand* until a time and times and the dividing of time.’ (Dan. 7:25)

The Sabbath and the Feasts, or the ‘times,’ relates to the observance of God’s holy and ‘set’ *times* that His people were to assemble on and meet with their God (Lev. 23).<sup>3</sup> The ‘Law’ (singular in Dan. 7:25) speaks of Mosaic Law.<sup>4</sup> Obviously, the nullification of the Law of Moses by the Catholic Church did not take God by surprise. It is the Roman Catholic Church that has ‘worn out the saints,’ with its persecutions of biblical Christians, and its false doctrines and ceremonies, over the last 1,900 years. It’s unfortunate that at the time of the Reformation the Reformers took some of the doctrines of the Catholic Church with them (e.g. that the Law had been done away with by the sacrificial death of Jesus Christ), not realizing the demonic deception.

One of the main passages that the Christian Church points to in validating their theological stance against

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<sup>1</sup> Most Christians today don’t realize that ‘in the Name of Jesus Christ’ more Jews have been murdered and persecuted than in all other names combined. See [Persecution of the Jews](#), and [Anti-Semitism in Christianity](#).

<sup>2</sup> C. F. Keil and Delitzsch F., *Commentary on the Old Testament* (Accordance electronic ed. 10 vols.; Peabody: Hendrickson Publishers, 1996), n.p. “The word for ‘against’ denotes that he would use language by which he would set God aside, regard and give himself out as God; cf. 2 Thess. 2:4. Making himself like God, he will destroy the saints of God...consume, afflict...he thinks ‘to change times and laws’...‘To change times’ belongs to the all-perfect power of God (cf. Dan. 2:21), the creator and ordainer of times (Gen. 1:14).” For how the Pope fits this character, read Alexander Hislop’s classic, [The Two Babylons—The Full Hislop](#), and Dave Hunt’s, *A Woman Rides the Beast*.

<sup>3</sup> R. L. Harris, editor; Gleason Archer, Jr. and Bruce Waltke, associate editors, *Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament* (Accordance Bible Software), n.p. מָוֶן ‘(zaman) be fixed, appointed (of time).’ This word is conceptually the same as the Hebrew word for the Feasts or set times when Yahveh would meet with His people Israel. The Hebrew word is מוֹעֵד *mo’ed*, and this is the term that the Feasts are known by; God’s ‘set or appointed time’ for Israel meeting with Him (Ex. 13:10; Lev. 23:2, 4, 15, 37, 44; 34:18; Num. 9:2, 7, 13; 10:10; 15:3; 29:39; Dt. 16:6; Is. 1:14; 33:20; Ezk. 36:38; 44:24; 46:9, 11; Hos. 2:11; Ezra 3:5; Neh. 10:34, etc.

Dr. Francis Brown, Dr. S. R. Driver and Dr. Charles A. Briggs, based on the lexicon of Professor Wilhelm Gesenius; Edward Robinson, translator and E. Rodiger, editor, *Hebrew and English Lexicon (Abridged)*; Accordance Bible Software), n.p. מוֹעֵד *mo’ed*, ‘appointed time, place, meeting...of *appointed season* (i.e. *festivals*)...of the feast of booths,’ (i.e. The Feast of Tabernacles; Lev. 33f.).

<sup>4</sup> See [Mosaic Law and the Ten](#).

Mosaic Law, is Matthew 5:17-18. In it we find the Lord Yeshua (Jesus of Nazareth) saying that He came to *fulfill* the Law:

*'Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to abolish, but to fulfill. For truly I say to you, until Heaven and Earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished.'* (Matthew 5:17-18)

The Church teaches that the meaning of *fulfill* is that since Jesus kept all the Law perfectly, without sin, Mosaic Law has been done away with or rendered invalid by His sacrifice. The 'new law' that replaces Mosaic Law is the 'law of love.' This is the criteria and foundation for His Kingdom. The contrast between 'love' and 'Law,' as we'll see in a moment, is perverse and artificial. Also, Jesus *fulfilling* the Law, by keeping it perfectly, highlights the *righteousness* of God's Law (cf. Rom. 7:7, 12, 14).

Jesus is our Example, and so, even if we cannot keep it perfectly it shouldn't mean that we shouldn't try to keep it. Isn't it the way Christians keep the commandment to love our neighbor as ourself? We fail at that many times, but we continue to try because we know it's the right thing to do, and so it is for all the rules of Moses that apply to us. The Church, though, not realizing the righteousness of the Law, throws out the baby with the bathwater, meaning that we're not to try and keep Mosaic Law for salvation, but once saved, does it matter if we sin. The Apostle Paul is adamant that Christians should not walk in sin (Rom. 6:1f.).

The Church supports their anti-Mosaic Law theology and interpretation of Mt. 5:17-18 with Scriptures like these:

*'Love does no wrong to a neighbor. Therefore, love is the fulfillment of the Law.'* (Rom. 13:10)

*'Bear one another's burdens and thereby fulfill the law of Christ.'* (Gal. 6:2)

# The Summary of the Law in Judaism

Was the Apostle Paul showing us ‘the new way’ when he spoke of love as the *fulfillment* of the Law? Hardly. To *summarize* all the rules of Mosaic Law into a single concept or Scripture verse was not new among the Jewish people, of whom Paul was all the days of his life.<sup>5</sup> In the Talmud, *Makkot* 23b-24a, we read of a number of such summaries for Mosaic Law: “Rabbi Simlai said, ‘Six hundred and thirteen commandments were given to Moses.’<sup>6</sup>

1. ‘David came and reduced them to eleven (Psalm 15),
2. Isaiah reduced them to six (Is. 33:15-16),
3. Micah to three (Micah 6:8), and
4. Isaiah again to two, as it is said, ‘Keep judgment and do righteousness’ (Is. 66:1).
5. Then Amos reduced them to one, ‘Seek Me and live’ (Amos 5:4)” and so did “Habakkuk: ‘the righteous shall live by his faith’ (Hab. 2:4).”<sup>7</sup>

These summaries of the Law in no way did away with any of the commandments and statutes of Mosaic

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<sup>5</sup> Paul’s coming to Yeshua, the *Jewish* Messiah, in no way cancelled his racial identity as a Jew nor did he ever stop observing all the laws of Moses that applied to him.

In Acts 18:18 Paul takes a Nazarite Vow (the cutting off of his hair speaks of it; Num. 6:18-19). The Nazarite Vow entails at least three animals being sacrificed (Num. 6:14). Luke writes that Paul desired to keep ‘the coming (*Mosaic*) feast in Jerusalem’ (Acts 18:21). In Acts 21:20-24 Paul takes his *second* Nazarite Vow, and James expressly says it was *to show everyone that he kept Mosaic Law* (v. 24; see also Acts 22:12; 23:1-6, where Paul backs down from speaking harshly against the Aaronic High Priest, *citing* Mosaic Law; Ex. 22:8), when he could have spoken of Yeshua ‘as the true High Priest of Israel); 24:10-18. See also 25:8; 26:6-8, 18, 20-23; 28:17-20, where Paul speaks having done nothing against Mosaic Law *nor* that it had been invalidated by Yeshua’s death.

In Rom. 3:31; 7:7, 12, 14, 16, 22 Paul declares that Mosaic Law is *established* by faith in Christ and says that it is holy and spiritual, and in Rom. 3:20 Paul teaches that Mosaic Law shows us what sin is.

In 1st Cor. 5:6-8 Paul encourages the Corinthian Christians to keep Passover, and in 7:17-19 he speaks of Mosaic Law as being what *truly matters*. In 2nd Cor. 12:16-18 he speaks of Titus, a Gentile Christian, walking in the same steps as he (i.e. Mosaic Law). There are also a number of places in First Corinthians where Paul uses Mosaic Law to establish his point. This would have been meaningless if Mosaic Law had been done away with, and that, by the very person whom Christians think invalidated Mosaic Law for them:

1. Paul encourages the Corinthians to keep ‘the Feast’ (1st Cor. 5:6-8). This can only be Passover—The Feast of Unleavened Bread as he’s just spoken to the Corinthians to become unleavened bread, ‘as they were meant to be’ (Ex. 12:8-20; Lev. 23:6).
2. He sums up his ability to receive funds from the Corinthians by citing the Law (9:8-9f., don’t muzzle the ox; Dt. 25:4).
3. He tells them that women should not speak in the assembly, again citing the Law (14:34-35).
4. In 16:8 Paul speaks of staying at Ephesus until Pentecost, which is from the Greek word for the Mosaic Law’s holy day of *Shavu’ot* (called the Feast of Weeks in English; Ex. 34:22; Lev. 23:15-22; Num. 28:26; Dt. 16:9-10, 16). Why would Paul ‘note time’ to *Gentiles* by an ‘outdated’ Jewish feast that he allegedly did away with, unless he still kept Mosaic Law and taught it to them? (cf. Acts 18:2, 24; 19:34; 22:3; 1st Cor. 4:14-17; 11:1; Phil. 3:5; 4:9, 15-17; 4:9; 1st Thess. 1:6-7; 2nd Thess. 3:7, 9).

<sup>6</sup> This (613) is a traditional count of the number of laws, commandments and statutes, etc., are found in Mosaic Law.

<sup>7</sup> David Stern, *Jewish New Testament Commentary* (Clarksville, MD: Jewish New Testament Publications, 1992), p. 96.

Law. They presented a summary or ‘a rallying point’ around which people could focus themselves. The Apostle Paul was doing the same thing in Romans 13:10 and Galatians 6:2. He was not ‘doing away with the Law.’ In a well known rabbinic story it’s said that,

“A pagan Gentile came before Shammai (a famous Jewish sage who lived a generation before Yeshua) and said to him, ‘Make me a proselyte, but on condition; that you teach me the entire Law of Moses while I am standing on one foot!’ Shammai drove him off with his builder’s measuring rod. When he appeared before Hillel (another famous Jewish sage) he told him, ‘What is hateful to you, do not do to your neighbor. *That is the whole Law.* The rest is commentary.’ Now, go and ‘learn the commentary!’”<sup>8</sup>

Neither King David, Isaiah, Micah, Amos, Habakkuk or Hillel thought they were ‘doing away with the Law’ by summarizing it. Yeshua and Paul’s use of *fulfill* have nothing to do with the nullification of Mosaic Law. This should be obvious to Christians, especially as Yeshua states the opposite of this in the very next verse:

“*For truly I say to you, until Heaven and Earth pass away*, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until *all is fulfilled.*” (Matthew 5:18)

Here in Mt. 5:18 the Church says that ‘all was fulfilled’ at the crucifixion. That the Work of Redemption that Yeshua came to do, the giving of His life in sacrifice for all mankind (i.e. atonement) was accomplished at the crucifixion, is above argument. In His death we find life. In His death we are able to die to self and attain a new nature—His, becoming a new creature (2nd Cor. 5:17). In His death the Spirit of God is able to dwell within us. ‘All was fulfilled’ concerning *the redemption of Israel*, but did that redemption mean that Mosaic Law was no longer valid for followers of Jesus?

The KJV and the NKJV both have *fulfilled*, while the ASV, ESV, HCSB, NASB, NIV and the NRSV have *accomplished*, which is conceptually the same. Only the NET seems to understand that Yeshua speaks of after the Heavens and the Earth are no more, will there not be a need for Mosaic Law. Be that as it may, it has nothing to do with Mosaic Law being invalidated for Christians.

Some Christians try and get around this by saying that the Law is still for the Jews, ‘just not for us,’ but Yeshua’s words speak of a general reality about Mosaic Law—it’ll be here until Judgment Day, and with Yeshua declaring it as such, without any preconditions or thoughts about its viability for His followers, it’s more than reasonable to conclude that Mosaic Law is for His followers, too, and why shouldn’t it be? Taking the off-quoted position of some Christians who think that the KJV was written by Jesus Himself, “If Mosaic Law was good enough for Jesus, it’s good enough for me!”

Yeshua wasn’t speaking of non-believing Jews when He spoke of the Law remaining until there were no Heavens or Earth. The Jews already knew that. As the Heavens and the Earth are still with us, and won’t be gone until the Day of Judgment, it’s certain that not one letter of the Law is invalid, and that, according to Jesus. There won’t be a need for the Law of Moses *after* Judgment Day because we will be ‘like Him’ and that means that Mosaic Law *will be written on our heart* (Jer. 31:31-34)! In other words, the very nature of Messiah Yeshua is a reflection of Mosaic Law, and this is one of the reasons why God gave the New Covenant to Israel. In Jeremiah the Lord speaks of writing Mosaic Law upon our hearts:

<sup>31</sup>“Behold! The days are coming,” says Yahveh, “when I will make a New Covenant with the House of Israel and with the House of Judah: <sup>32</sup>not according to the Covenant that I made with their Fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My Covenant which they broke, though I was a Husband to them,” says

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<sup>8</sup> Ibid., p. 33. Talmud, *Shabbat* 31a.

Yahveh. <sup>33</sup>‘But this is the Covenant that I will make with the House of Israel after those days,’ says Yahveh: I will put My *law* in their minds, and write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people! <sup>34</sup>No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, ‘Know Yahveh!,’ for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them,’ says Yahveh. ‘For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.’” (Jeremiah 31:31-34)

The Hebrew word for ‘law’ in v. 33 is Torah, which means Mosaic Law, not just ‘law,’ but Mosaic Law, and this understanding is quoted twice in the Letter to the Hebrews, thereby confirming that God wants to put Mosaic Law in our minds and write it upon our hearts, just as it was with Jesus. The Psalmist states: “I delight to do Your will, my God, and *Your Law is within my heart.*” (Psalm 40:8)

“‘For this is the Covenant that I will make with the House of Israel after those days,’ says the LORD: ‘*I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts,* and I will be their God, and they shall be My people!’” (Hebrews 8:10)

“‘This is the Covenant that I will make with them after those days,’ says the LORD: ‘*I will put My laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them,*’” (Hebrews 10:16)

It’s interesting to note that in both verses the author of Hebrews uses *laws*, instead of *law*, to get the point across that it’s the laws of Moses (i.e. Mosaic Law), and not just one law (i.e. the law of love). The author speaks of sacrifice and Tabernacle (i.e. Temple) and never once does he say it’s been done away with because of the atoning death of Messiah Yeshua. He does speak of ‘a change of the Law’ (Heb. 7:12), but a change in a secular law, for instance, how fast one can drive down a highway, doesn’t mean that the whole superstructure of laws in the land has been done away with.<sup>9</sup>

The Church, like a bull dog, though, tenaciously holds onto its perverse theology and says again, for Mt. 5:18, as it did for 5:17, that Jesus *fulfilled* the Law at the cross, and so Christians don’t have to keep it. This argument is thoroughly destroyed by our Lord in the very next verse:

‘*Whoever*, then, breaks *one of the least of these commandments*, and teaches others to do the same, shall be called *least* in the Kingdom of Heaven, but *whoever* keeps and teaches them, he shall be called *great* in the Kingdom of Heaven.’ (Mt. 5:19)

The Kingdom of Heaven didn’t officially begin until *after* His death and resurrection. His reference to His Kingdom, in Mt. 5:19, can only mean that in His Kingdom the Law of Moses is still valid. Those who break the least of the commandments will be called least in His Kingdom. Conversely, those who keep the least of the commandments of Mosaic Law will be called great in the Kingdom of Yeshua.<sup>10</sup> This understanding of Mosaic Law is from the mouth of our Lord and Savior, who is the authoritative voice on whatever He speaks about. The Church is wrong about Mosaic Law.

Jesus *fulfilled* (accomplished) what He was set out to do, and the Law of Moses directly pointed to Him, the Messiah of Israel, coming and doing what He did. Hence, how He *fulfilled* or *accomplished* what the Law spoke of, for it speaks of the coming Messiah who would heal everyone (Is. 35), and who would give His life as an *atonement* for Israel (Is. 53). Also, that He would be *the* Passover Lamb, etc. It’s all there in the Law for those who have eyes to see. Also, there isn’t any place in the Old Testament that speaks of the Law being invalidated by the coming of Savior, nor anywhere else!

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<sup>9</sup> To understand what the author of Hebrews is saying about a change in the Law, see [Hebrews and the Change of the Law](#).

<sup>10</sup> For why ‘commandments’ in Mt. 5:19 speaks of Mosaic Law and not just the Ten Commandments, see [Mosaic Law and the Ten](#).

# How Did Jesus Fulfill Mosaic Law?

The following ten points present how Yeshua *fulfilled* the Law of Moses, without nullifying it or doing away with it for Christians:

1. In Mt. 5:17 Yeshua speaks of fulfilling not only the Law, but also the Prophets. What He meant is that both the Law and the Prophets spoke of a coming Messiah. Yeshua, standing there that day, was pointing to Himself as the *fulfillment* of what both the Law and Prophets declared about the coming Messiah.
  - A. Skipping ahead to after the resurrection, Yeshua Himself tells us what *fulfill* means. When Yeshua first appeared to His Apostles after His resurrection they were very afraid, having seen Him die, and so, they couldn't believe that it was really Him. After assuring them that it was He, one of the things He said to them was:
    1. "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that *all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me.*" And He opened their understanding *that they might comprehend the Scriptures.* Then He said to them, "*Thus it is written,* and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day." (Luke 24:44-46; cf. vv. 47-49; Jn. 1:45; 5:39; Acts 3:18, 22-26; 4:2, 33; 12:8; 13:29, 32, 38-39)
  - B. A short while before that, Luke records the disappointment of the two disciples on the Road to Emmaus who had thought Yeshua was the Messiah, until He died, and so their hopes were dashed to pieces. Yeshua remarks to them:
    1. "Oh foolish ones! Slow of heart to believe in *all that the Prophets* have spoken! *Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things* and to enter into His glory?!" And *beginning at Moses* (i.e. Mosaic Law) *and all the Prophets,* He expounded to them in *all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.*" (Luke 24:25-27)
  - C. According to the Lord Jesus, *fulfill* speaks of Yeshua Himself coming to Israel as the *fulfillment* of what the words in Mosaic Law (the Prophets and the Psalms) speak of the Messiah of Israel. God (the Father) had promised Israel a Savior, there He was, fulfilling God's promise. The Church's interpretation of *fulfill* (or *accomplish*) somehow negating Mosaic Law for Christians, is completely false.
2. Yeshua came to *fulfill* the promise of God to Adam and Eve, that He would send a Redeemer who would crush the head of the Serpent. Our need for a Redeemer is first mentioned in Gen. 3:15, where God speaks of the hatred between the Seed of the woman (Yeshua) and the Snake:
  - A. "And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed. He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel." (Genesis 3:15) Yeshua's sacrifice 'accomplished' and 'fulfilled' our need for redemption, crushing the head of the Serpent.
    1. "Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it." (Colossians 2:15 NKJV)
3. God the Father promised that He would be the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob *and* their descendants. Yeshua came to *fulfill* this part of the Law by His sacrifice, which made the way possible for Israel to truly be God's people forever (Rom. 11:25-29), from the inside-out.
  - A. "And I will establish My Covenant between Me and you *and your descendants after you in their*

*generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and your descendants after you. Also I give to you and your descendants after you the land in which you are a stranger, all the land of Canaan, as an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.*" (Genesis 17:7-8 NKJV)

- B.** With the giving of Mosaic Law to Israel at Mt. Sinai, Israel was not able to keep God's ways because of their carnal nature. Israel went more the way of the Snake than the Way of God. It wasn't the fault of Mosaic Law, but the fault of their carnal heart (Rom. 8:3-4; Heb. 8:8). God speaks of circumcising the Hebrew *heart* so they can love Him (Dt. 30:6). In Ezekiel 36:24-27 He speaks of cleansing Israel, taking out her heart of stone and replacing it with a heart of flesh, and giving Israel His Spirit *so that Israel can walk in God's Torah*.
1. "For I will take you from among the nations, gather you out of all countries, and bring you into your own Land. Then I will sprinkle Clean Water on you, and you shall be clean. I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. I will give you a New Heart and put a New Spirit within you. I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you ***and cause you to walk in My statutes***, and you will keep My judgments and do them." (Ezekiel 36:24-27)
  2. Only one time in the Old Testament does it specifically speak of God giving Israel a New Covenant (as we saw on p. 4). In Jer. 31:33 God declares that He will put Mosaic Law in the minds and hearts of Israel. It was the giving of the Holy Spirit, because of the divine blood that transforms our nature into Messiah's, that should lead us to walk in God's holy Torah.
    - a. In the Book of Acts, the only authoritative and divine early history of the Church we read of thousands of Jews who believed in Jesus *and kept Torah, including Paul* (Acts 21:20-24; 25:8; 1st Cor. 7:19, etc.).
    - b. "And when they heard it, they glorified the Lord. And they said to him, 'You see, brother Paul, how many thousands of Jews there are who have believed, *and they are all zealous for the Law*, but they have been informed about you that you teach all the Jews who are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, saying that they ought not to circumcise their sons nor to walk according to the customs (i.e. Mosaic Law). What then? The assembly must certainly meet, for they will hear that you have come. Therefore, do what we tell you. We have four men who have taken a vow. Take them and be purified with them, and pay their expenses so that they may shave their heads, and that all may know that those things of which they were informed concerning you are nothing, but that you yourself also walk orderly ***and keep the Law***.'" (Acts 21:20-24)
  3. God has given Christians, both Jews and Gentiles, the Holy Spirit, who wants to teach them to keep all His statutes and rules that apply to them. Yeshua's death didn't do away with Torah; that's the lie of the Snake. Yeshua's death made possible to keep Mosaic Law from the heart of the Holy Spirit. Yeshua made it possible for Israel to be like Himself and to have the Father as their God and to inherit the Land forever.
  4. The Scriptures speak of the Messiah suffering and dying for the sins of Israel (Is. 52:13-53:12). He would take their place and suffer the just requirements or punishment of all who broke God's Law (Gen. 2:17; Dt. 27:26; Ezk. 18:4; Acts 3:18; Rom. 8:3-4).
    - A. Yeshua was pierced-through and crushed in our place (Is. 53:5). He died for all the times we wanted to be holy and weren't, and all the times in our lives where we have rebelled against God and told Him, either intentionally or unintentionally, that we would not follow and submit to Him, and that we would do what we wanted to do. Yeshua was crushed for our perverse and guilt laden

hearts. Yeshua *fulfilled* the *righteous* requirements of the Law:

1. “There is therefore, now, no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death (in my flesh/my carnal nature). For what the law could not do in that it was weak *through the flesh*, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, *that the righteous requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.*” (Romans 8:1-4)
5. Only the High Priest, once a year, could come into the very Presence of God the Father (Lev. 16:1f.). Yeshua has made a way for us to be with the Father for eternity, in His very Presence, by giving to us His righteousness (Jer. 23:5-6; Rom. 3:22; 5:17; 1st Cor. 1:30; Phil. 3:9). This is His very nature. This, too, is part of the promise. God’s word promised Israel a new heart (Dt. 30:6; Ezk. 36:26) and a Savior (Gen. 3:15; Dt. 18:15-19; Acts 13:30-33f.), and Yeshua *fulfilled* that promised.
  - A. “*And Yahveh your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants, to love Yahveh your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live.*” (Deuteronomy 30:6)
6. The Psalms speak of Yeshua being crucified (Psalm 22). Yeshua *fulfilled* that, too, and this has absolutely nothing to do with God nullifying His holy Law. Yeshua upheld Mosaic Law all His life and shows us, as our Example, what He expects of us (Col. 1:18; Hebrews 13:8; 1st John 2:6).
  - A. “He who says he abides in Him ought himself also *to walk just as He walked.*” (1st John 2:6)
7. The Redeemer would be a prophet *like* Moses (Dt. 18:15-19). He would be anointed above his brothers, and so, would be called ‘the Messiah’ or ‘the Anointed One.’ Moses was sent by God to save Israel from Egyptian slavery and he not only spoke with God face to face, God ‘put His words’ in Moses’ mouth and Moses gave those words Israel, and they were written down (i.e. Mosaic Law).
  - A. In the Gospel of John, Yeshua speaks of ‘being sent by the Father’<sup>11</sup> and that the words that He spoke were not His, but the Father’s words (John 14:24). This is a direct reference back to Dt. 18:18. Yeshua *fulfilled* the Law’s words about a redeemer *like* Moses, and of course, Yeshua, as God the Son, spoke ‘face to face’ with His Father many times, both before and after His incarnation.
8. The Mosaic sacrifices, with their substitutionary animals that died in place of the Israeli who brought them, were a *picture of Messiah* taking his and our just punishment of death upon Himself. Yeshua’s sacrifice epitomized the essence of all the Mosaic sacrifices. Yeshua’s sacrifice *fulfilled* this, in that they were the prototype and Yeshua the type.
  - A. Someone might say that with Jesus fulfilling the Mosaic sacrificial system, sacrifice was done away with, and so the parallel would be for the sacrifices of Mosaic Law to be done away with, as Jesus fulfilled them. Of course, this position has already been negated by the understanding that Yeshua *fulfilling* the Law didn’t mean that it was done away with, as He stated in Mt. 5:18, but only that what was written about the Messiah in the Law was now appearing to Israel.
    1. As for sacrifice being done away with by the one time sacrifice of Jesus, which is a common Christian teaching, the Book of Acts clearly presents Christians as still sacrificing animals to God. Acts 21:20-24 reveals the whole believing community kept Mosaic Law and offered

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<sup>11</sup> John 3:34; 4:34; 5:23, 24, 30, 36, 37, 38; 6:29, 38, 39, 44, 57; 7:16, 28, 29, 33; 8:16, 18, 26, 29, 42; 9:4; 10:36; 11:42; 12:44-45, 49; 13:20; 14:24; 15:21; 16:5; 17:3, 8, 18, 21, 23, 25; 20:21; see also Heb. 3:1.

sacrifices. The ‘shaving of the head’ that James refers to in v. 24 speaks of the Nazarite Vow (Num. 6:1-15) that the Apostle Paul was entering into to show everyone that he still kept Mosaic Law, 25 years *after* the resurrection. That’s not the only time that we seen Paul taking the Nazarite Vow (Acts 18:18), and so, it’s clear that animal sacrifice had not ceased because of Yeshua’s sacrifice.

2. The sacrifice of Yeshua means that He did it once for everyone (past, present and future), and that He didn’t have to return and be sacrificed for each generation. It has nothing to do with animal sacrifice ending:
  - a. “who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the people’s, for this He did *once for all* when He offered up Himself.” (Hebrews 7:27 NKJV)
  - b. In Ezekiel 40–48, the prophet speaks of a Temple yet to be built. It’s known as ‘Ezekiel’s Temple’ and will be built by the Lord Yeshua when He returns to rule Israel from the earthly Jerusalem. The angel Gabriel speaks of Yeshua ruling on this Earth in his words to Mary:
    - c. “Then the angel said to her, ‘Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold! You will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Yeshua. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High God, and the Lord God will give Him the Throne of His Father David, and He will reign over the House of Jacob forever, and of His Kingdom there will be no end.’” (Luke 1:30-33)
      - (a) When that happens it will be the fulfillment of God’s words to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, that their descendants will inherit the Land, and also, that Mosaic Law will be the law of the Land, with Jesus enforcing it. As for the thousand year reign of our Lord, John speaks of this in Revelation:
      - (b) “Then I saw an angel coming down from Heaven, having the Key to the Bottomless Pit and a great chain in his hand. He laid hold of the Dragon, that Serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years, and he cast him into the Bottomless Pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more until the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while. And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the Beast or his Image, and had not received his Mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Messiah for a thousand years, but the rest of the dead did not live again until the thousand years were finished. This is the First Resurrection. Blessed and holy is he who has part in the First Resurrection. Over such the Second Death has no power, and they shall be priests of God and of Messiah, and they shall reign with Him a thousand years.” (Revelation 20:1-6)
    - d. In Ezekiel’s Temple, where Messiah Yeshua will be the Prince (i.e. the King), but not the High Priest (cf. Heb. 8:4), there will be animal sacrifice:
      - (a) “Then He said to me, ‘The north chambers and the south chambers, which are opposite the separating courtyard, are the holy chambers where the priests who approach Yahveh shall eat the most holy offerings. There they shall lay the most holy offerings—the grain offering, the sin sacrifice, and the trespass sacrifice—for the place is

holy.” (Ezekiel 42:13)<sup>12</sup> Also there is the keeping of the Sabbath<sup>13</sup> in the thousand year reign of Messiah Yeshua, as well as the Feasts of Israel,<sup>14</sup> things we wouldn’t expect if “Jesus had done away with the Law.”

9. Yeshua also shows us another shade of meaning of *fulfill* as He fulfills the Torah by showing us what it means to love God with all our heart, our soul and our strength, and our neighbor as ourself. He lays His life down for us because of His love for us. He is the Example *par excellence* of God’s love found in the Law of Moses, which says we must love our neighbor as ourselves (e.g. Lev. 19:18c).
  - A. Yeshua was the ideal Israeli who who fully devoted to God His Father and who fully identifies with us. We needed a High Priest, a heavenly intercessor for us, like Aaron, and in this sense, Yeshua *fulfills* that position, as is stated in Psalm 110:4, where God calls Messiah a (High) Priest forever, after the type or order of Melchizedek (cf. Hebrews 6:20ff.), which means that Yeshua is both a High Priest and a King, for this is what the name of Melchizedek means and what his position was, as the author of Hebrews points out:
    1. “For this Melchizedek, King of Salem (i.e. Jerusalem), and (High) Priest of the Most High God, who met Abraham returning from the slaughter of the kings and blessed him, to whom also Abraham gave a tenth part of all, first (his name) being translated ‘King of Righteousness,’ and then also King of Salem, meaning ‘King of Peace,’” (Hebrews 7:1-2)
  - B. Yeshua *fulfills* the Scripture of the King and High Priest being ‘one’ (Zechariah 6:12-13; cf. 2nd Sam. 7:16). This High Priest–King builds the Temple or dwelling place for God (within the Body of Messiah; the new Temple; 2nd Sam. 7:12-13; 1st Cor. 3:16-17; 6:19; 2nd Cor. 6:16), and for eternity. Yeshua *fulfills* our need for an eternal High Priest and King, something that is prophesied of in the Law and the Prophets.
10. Yeshua *fulfills* our need to know the deeper, essential meanings of Mosaic Law, as the rest of chapter five in Matthew tells us. He states,
  - A. ‘You have heard that you must not murder, but I say to you that you must not hate your brother.’ The ancient Jewish sages said, ‘When Messiah comes He will tell us the deeper meanings of Torah.’ It’s not that they didn’t understand Torah, but they knew there was more to it than they understood.
  - B. Yeshua reveals the *essence* of the commandments, but this hardly does away with the actual commandment itself! For instance, with the illustration of murder being linked to hatred, Yeshua in no way invalidates the commandment ‘not to murder,’ but brings us all under conviction for our carnal hatred of those, too, made in the Image of God. For who among us has not hated another in our lifetime?

Nowhere in the Gospels does Yeshua speak of the Law’s demise, but of He being what the Law, the Prophets and the Psalms pointed to (John 5:39). Therefore, *fulfill cannot* mean that the Law of Moses has been invalidated for Christians by His death, as the Church has wrongly taught for 19 centuries. The Church could only begin to propagate this false teaching in 120 AD, when all the Apostles were dead. Before that, if any Apostle had heard it he would have soundly condemned the heresy in writings that would become New Testament Scripture.

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<sup>12</sup> See Ezekiel 40:38-43, 46-47; 42:13; 43:15-27; 44:10-11, 15, 25-27, 29-30; 45:15-25; 46:2, 4, 6-7, 11-15, 20, 24.

<sup>13</sup> Ezekiel 44:24; 46:1, 3-4, 12.

<sup>14</sup> Ezekiel 44:24; 45:21-25; 46:9, 11.

# All You Need Is Love

Aside from the song by the Beatles, love is truly all you need, but if you ask a thousand Christians to define God's love you'll have a thousand different definitions of love. Some of these answers would include, 'Just do what's in your heart,' but God says the heart is wicked above all things:

“The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked, who can know it?!” (Jeremiah 17:9)

We're not to rely on our heart, which leads us astray. In places where love is said to *fulfill* the Law, like Rom. 13:10, love is seen as the ultimate or central motivation for relationship, either with God or man, but this doesn't mean that Mosaic Law is annulled because the core or essence of Mosaic Law is the love of God (Dt. 6:4-5) and the love of man (Lev. 19:18c). The other commandments of the Law are *God's practical way of defining what love of God and love of man is*.

This understanding, that Mosaic Law is God's definition of love, is taught by the Lord Yeshua Himself when the Scribe comes to Him and asks what is the great commandment of the Law (Mt. 22:35-40). Yeshua says to love God with all your heart, etc., and then adds that the second is like it—love your neighbor as yourself. He then goes on to teach us that all the other commandments, rules and statutes of Mosaic Law guide us into God's love by saying, 'On these two commandments *hang all the Law* and the Prophets (Mt. 22:40).

In other words, Yeshua is saying that every rule and ordinance, etc., has its *reason for existence* in explaining to us *how* to love God and Man. If God were a Tree with two branches, one being the love of God and the other being the love of Man, each branch would have fruit on it called the rules, commandments, statutes and judgments of Mosaic Law. According to Jesus these rules teach us *how* to love God and Man.

This reveals how foolish the Church is to juxtapose love against God's Law. Truly, it's an artificial theological perversion. Mosaic Law is the written reflection of the God of Israel, His holy character, and His will for how *He wants us to live out our lives*, as seen in Jesus Himself, who kept all the rules of Moses that applied to Him.

Mosaic Law is God's understanding of what is sin and what is pleasing to Him. The only way we know another's will is by his word. If a mother tells her son to take the garbage out, the son knows the will of his mother by her words. He can either obey or disobey her. Israel, both Gentile and Jew, knows the will of God by His Words called Mosaic Law. Yeshua's 'adding' of 'love one another as I have loved you,' *only magnifies the commandment to love your neighbor as yourself* (Lev. 19:18). Man was never loved by 'the Son of God in the flesh.' Now, though, the Apostles had been loved by God the Son, and so they were to love one another *as they had been loved by Yeshua*.

Mosaic Law remains God's way of specifically teaching us what is sin and what is pleasing to God—what is right and what is wrong, and what is God's love. The Law has not been 'done away with.' It remains the Standard of Holiness that it was for Yeshua and His Apostles, and it will remain with us until the Heavens and the Earth are no more (Mt. 5:18). The Apostle Paul, in his greatest theological letter, states that our faith in Christ doesn't negate the Law, but establishes it!

'Do we then *nullify* the Law through faith? *May it never be!* On the contrary, we *establish* the Law!' (Rom 3:31)

The Church teaches that our faith in Christ negates or nullifies Mosaic Law, but the Apostle to the Gen-

tiles declares just the opposite! Our faith in Yeshua establishes Mosaic Law.<sup>15</sup> Paul asks the question that the Church would give a resounding ‘Yes!’ to, but Paul emphatically says, ‘No!’ That’s how far off the Church is in their teaching on Mosaic Law. Paul goes on to say that the Law is holy and spiritual:

“What shall we say then? *Is the Law sin? May it never be! On the contrary*, I would not have come to know sin *except through the Law*. For I would not have known about coveting if the Law had not said, ‘You must not covet’...So then, ***the Law is holy***, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good...For we know that ***the Law is spiritual***, but I am of flesh, sold into bondage to sin.” (Rom. 7:7, 12, 14)

When was the last time you heard a sermon on the Law being holy and spiritual? Without Mosaic Law we cannot fully know the extent of what is sin (cf. Rom. 3:20) and what is holy. Hebrews states that the New Covenant has replaced the Old, and the Church uses this to prove that Christians shouldn’t keep the Law:

‘When He said, ‘A New Covenant,’ He has made the first obsolete, but whatever *is becoming obsolete* and *growing old* is *ready to disappear*.’ (Heb. 8:13)

Note well the wording in the last two phrases of Hebrews 8:13—it says the Old ‘*is becoming* obsolete, and *growing* old and is *ready* to disappear.’ Very strange wording if Mosaic Law had been done away with at Messiah’s death 37 years earlier. The Book of Hebrews was written about 37 years *after* the resurrection. Surely the writer should have had time to assimilate the concept of ‘no Mosaic Law,’ but he doesn’t see the Law (embedded in the fabric of the Old Covenant) as having ended, yet. If he had we would have used words *in the past tense*, stating, ‘the Old Covenant *is* obsolete’ and ‘*is* old,’ and *has* disappeared.’ He didn’t use the past tense because He knew that Mosaic Law was still valid, which is exactly what Yeshua said (Mt. 5:17-19). When will Mosaic Law disappear? When the New Covenant is fully manifest, and then Mosaic Law will be written on our souls, as God says in Jeremiah 31:33:

“But this is the (New) Covenant that I will make with the House of Israel after those days, says Yahveh—***I will put My Law (Torah; Mosaic Law) in their minds and write it on their hearts***, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.” (Jeremiah 31:33; cf. Heb. 8:10; 10:16, which confirms this in the New Testament)

If one of the purposes of the New Covenant was to have God place Mosaic Law in our minds and write it upon our hearts, it’s inconceivable that God would have done away with it. Don’t Christian scholars read the Old Testament? How is it that for the last 500 years, with the Bible being translated into English, that scholars have been blind and deceived about Mosaic Law as God’s way to walk out our faith in Christ?

When Judgement Day comes and we are all instantly transformed into how Yeshua is now,<sup>16</sup> there will be no need for a *written* Law of Moses because all of us will have it written on our hearts (i.e. our nature will be like Messiah’s nature). Mosaic Law is a written reflection of our Father and Yeshua’s character, will and understanding of what is sin and what is pleasing to Them. In other words, the Torah (literally the teaching or instruction) of God, will never pass away as we will be ‘one’ with Them who it reflects, forever, and there will no longer be a need for the written words of the Law. We will be in the Image of God’s Son, who is the Living Word (Law) of God (Rev. 19:13). Now, with His Spirit and blood of forgiveness, cleansing and transformation, we can walk the way Yeshua walked when He was in Israel. He followed all the commandments and rules of Moses that applied to Him and we should strive, in Him, to do the same, by the power of the Holy Spirit within, loving God and man and living God’s Way, not the Church’s false and perverse way. God’s Law is our wisdom and blessing in the world that He created.

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<sup>15</sup> For why ‘law’ here means Mosaic Law and not the Ten Commandments, see [Mosaic Law and the Ten](#).

<sup>16</sup> See [Salvation—The Promise!](#) for the great Gift that awaits us on Judgment Day.

Moses said to Israel:

“Surely I have taught you statutes and judgments, just as Yahveh my God commanded me, that *you should act according to them* in the Land which you go to possess. Therefore, be careful to observe them because *this is your wisdom and your understanding* in the sight of the peoples who will hear all these statutes, and say, ‘*Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people!*’ For what great nation is there that has God so near to it, as Yahveh our God is to us, for whatever reason we may call upon Him? And what great nation is there that has *such statutes and righteous judgments as are in all this Law* which I set before you this day?” (Deuteronomy 4:5-8)

Yeshua said:

‘*Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets!* I did not come to abolish, but to **fulfill**. For truly I say to you, until Heaven and Earth pass away, *not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished (fulfilled)*. **Whoever**, then, *breaks one of the least of these commandments*, and teaches others to do the same, shall be called **least** in the Kingdom of Heaven, but whoever *keeps and teaches them, he shall be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven.*’ (Mt. 5:17-19)

What was accomplished, fulfilled or finished at His crucifixion wasn’t the doing away of God’s holy and righteous Standard, but the atonement of His people Israel. Now, all Gentiles who cling to her Savior are part of Israel (Rom. 11:11f.; Eph. 2:11f.) and need to learn her ways.

Yeshua certainly *fulfilled* the Law by living a holy and sinless life, by expounding on, and amplifying the meaning of the Law of Moses, but none of those nullify Mosaic Law for us now, here on this Earth. Yeshua *fulfilling* Torah only magnifies Mosaic Law and makes it possible for us to walk in it as He did.

Christianity is the only religion in the world that does not emulate its Founder! Yeshua kept all the commandments and statutes, etc., of Moses that applied to Him, but Christians keep Sunday, Easter, Xmas and eat meats that, if Yeshua had eaten just once, would have made Him a sinner, and His sacrifice of no effect. Shouldn’t we live our lives as He lived His? Isn’t Yeshua our Example in all matters of faith *and* practice? As Paul wrote to Timothy:

‘But evil men and impostors will proceed from bad to worse, *deceiving* and being deceived. You, however, continue in the things you have learned and become convinced of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that *from childhood* you have known the Holy Scriptures (i.e. the Old Testament), which are able to give you the *wisdom that leads to salvation through faith, which is in Messiah Yeshua*. **All Scripture** is inspired by God and profitable for *teaching*, for *reproof*, for *correction*, and for *training in righteousness*, so that the man of God may be **fully** equipped for every good work.’ (2nd Timothy 3:13-17) And the Apostle John wrote:

‘By this we know that we have come to know Him, if we keep His commandments. The one who says, ‘I have come to know Him,’ and does not keep His commandments is a liar and the Truth is not in him, but whoever keeps His word, in him the love of God has truly been perfected. By *this* we know that we are in Him—the one who says he abides in Him **ought himself to walk just as He walked.**’ (1st John 2:3-6)

Does it get any clearer than that?<sup>17</sup>

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<sup>17</sup> Revised on August 16, 2019.