

GOD'S WAY VS. CHURCH WAY

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Some of you have been battered by Christian 'friends' who don't want to see you walk in Mosaic Law, and some of you have questions of your own, which is only normal, seeing how the Church has demoralized Mosaic Law for 1,900 years. It's really quite simple, though, once you understand what New Testament Scripture has to say about Mosaic Law.

In other words, even if you don't have an answer for a particular Scripture that someone presents to you, and it seems that Mosaic Law is being overturned by your friends, the bottom-line is that all the Apostles kept Mosaic Law and taught it to everyone who believed, many years *after* the resurrection. This is clearly seen in the Book of Acts, two letters of the Apostle Paul, the Book of Hebrews, the letters of James and the Apostle John, and the Book of Revelation, to mention just a few places:

1. The Book of Acts was written about 65 AD or 35 years *after* the resurrection and speaks much of the Law and continually upholds it. Acts is the *only* divinely inspired, and therefore, authoritative history of the Apostolic Church. There is no other. Written by Luke, the Apostle Paul's best friend and traveling companion, Mosaic Law is continually upheld in Acts, and that, chiefly by the Apostle Paul:

A. Scripture Cites:

1. "until the day in which He (Yeshua) was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the Apostles whom He had chosen, to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during *forty days* and speaking *of the things pertaining to the Kingdom of God.*" (Acts 1:2-3)
 - a. Yeshua told His Apostles about the Kingdom for 40 days after the resurrection, and there's not one Scripture in Acts where anyone says Mosaic Law is no more...not one.
2. "So Paul still remained a good while. Then he took leave of the brethren and sailed for Syria, and Priscilla and Aquila were with him. He had his hair cut off at Cenchrea, for he had taken a vow." (Acts 18:18)
 - a. Paul takes a Nazarite Vow, as most Christian commentaries acknowledge. The Nazarite Vow entails the sacrifice of at least three animals (Num. 6:14). If Paul, the Church's 'No Law!' champion is still sacrificing animals many years *after* the resurrection, Mosaic Law *must still be* in effect!
3. "And when they heard it, they glorified the Lord. And they said to him (Paul), 'You see, brother, how many myriads 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. 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)
 - a. The lie or slander against Paul was that he had forsaken Moses, and to prove that he hadn't he takes another Nazarite Vow 'to prove to everyone that he still kept Mosaic Law.' Does it get any plainer than this?

- b. The shaving of the head refers to the end of the Nazarite Vow, when the hair is thrown on the bronze Altar of Sacrifice in the Temple (Num. 6:18-20).
 - c. See also Acts 22:3-21; 23:5-6; 24:10-21; 25:8, 10-11; 26:2-23; 28:17-20, where Paul continues to uphold Mosaic Law and never once speaks against it or that it doesn't apply to Christians.
4. Paul also tells his Gentile followers to walk like he did, which means they kept Mosaic Law as the way of walking out their faith in the Jewish Messiah (1st Cor. 4:14-17; 11:1; Phil. 3:15-17; 4:9; 1st Thess. 1:6-7; 2nd Thess. 3:7, 9).
- B.** Where, in all the time that the Book of Acts covers, the first 35 years of the Apostolic Church, do we see a weekly church Sunday assembly instituted or anyone even speak of it? It's not there! This means that the Apostles never observed Sunday instead of the 7th day Sabbath. Yes, it sounds nice that the Church teaches Sunday because of the resurrection, but there is *no Scripture* that says we're supposed to keep Sunday because of the resurrection. The Church teaches perversion and lies to us in its pride and ignorance of Scripture.
- 1. Where is Easter or Christmas even mentioned, let alone seen as a time of celebration for Christians? Again, Church perversion and lying 'in the name of Jesus.'
 - 2. These Christian days stand in direct opposition to God and what He established—His 7th day Sabbath and the Feasts of Israel.
- C.** The Book of Acts uses the Feasts of Israel as time markers, telling us *when* an event happened. If the Feasts of Israel had been done away with, Luke would never have used them. He would have used Sunday, Easter and Christmas, etc., or Roman months and days of time:
- 1. Acts 2:1The Feast of Weeks—Pentecost—*Shavu'ot*
 - 2. Acts 12:3The Feast of Unleavened Bread
 - 3. Acts 12:4Passover
 - 4. Acts 18:21This coming Feast
 - 5. Acts 20:6The Feast of Unleavened Bread
 - 6. Acts 20:16The Feast of Weeks—Pentecost—*Shavu'ot*
 - 7. Acts 27:9The Fast—The Day of Atonement
- D.** Early Church history *after* Apostolic times reveals that all Christians kept Mosaic Law as the way to walk out their faith in the Jewish Messiah. It was the Roman Catholic Church, about 120 AD, which overturned Mosaic Law and brought in pagan days and pagan ways.
- E.** The power of a lie is in its ability to deceive. Note well that the prophet Daniel speaks of this great deception, with Christians (i.e. the saints) being held in the sway of the Blasphemous One (i.e. the Pope), for many centuries; a time, times, and half a time:
- 1. "He shall speak pompous words against the Most High God and shall persecute the saints of the Most High God, and shall intend to change the sacred times (i.e. Feasts) and Law. Then the saints shall *be given into his hand*, for a time and times and half a time." (Daniel 7:25 NKJV)
 - 2. It is truly mind-boggling to see that God has allowed Christianity to walk in its perverse way for 1,900 years. On the other hand, God has allowed His Jewish people to be blind to their own Messiah for all that time, too, not the least of which was caused by Christian persecution

and murder of Jews ‘in the name of Jesus’ (i.e., it was official Church doctrine to hate the ‘Christ killers,’ 100, 500, 1,000 and 2,000 years after the crucifixion, even though Christ’s main teaching was to love our enemies).

2. The Apostle Paul wrote the Letter to the Romans, his greatest theological treatise, about 55 AD or 25 years *after* the resurrection. Paul upholds Mosaic Law, in spite of how the Church misinterprets some phrases in Romans and Galatians:
 - A. “Do we then make void the Law through faith? ***Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the Law!***” (Romans 3:31)
 1. This is a direct question concerning Mosaic Law and its validity for us. The Apostle is extremely clear in his answer. Judaism, at that time and to this day, sees the keeping of Mosaic Law, symbolized in physical covenantal circumcision, as the means of obtaining eternal life. The Apostle did, also, until He met the Eternal One on the Road to Damascus. Then he understood the place of the Law. It wasn’t for eternal life, but to walk out our faith in the Eternal One. That’s what he means by speaking of our faith establishing (the place for) Mosaic Law. Mosaic Law is not the horse, but the cart. Judaism has put the cart in place of the horse, and that’s why Paul comes against the Law when it’s attached to faith in Jesus Christ. Nothing can be added to our faith in Christ for our justification/salvation. Nothing, but once saved, does it matter if we sin? (Rom. 6:1-2f.). Only Mosaic Law tells us the full extent of what is sin and what is pleasing to God.
 - B. “What shall we say then? Is the Law sin? ***Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the Law.*** For I would not have known covetousness unless the Law had said, ‘You shall not covet!’” (Romans 7:7)
 - C. “Therefore, the Law is holy, and the commandment holy and just and good.” (Romans 7:12)
 1. In Paul’s greatest letter he says the Law of Moses is holy. This is hardly something we would expect to see if Paul thought Mosaic Law wasn’t valid for Christians.
 - D. “For we know that the Law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin.” (Romans 7:14)
 1. Paul says the Law is spiritual, but the Church teaches that Jesus fulfilled it and so we don’t have to keep any of it.
3. The same Apostle also wrote *First Corinthians*, about 53 AD or 23 years *after* the resurrection, and speaks of keeping the Mosaic feast of Passover—the Feast of Unleavened Bread, and also, keeping the commandments of God (i.e. Mosaic Law). As he’s signing off he tells the Corinthians that he would be staying in Ephesus (modern western Turkey, where he wrote the letter from), until *Shavu’ot* (the Mosaic Feast of Weeks) commonly called Pentecost (cf. Ex. 34:22; Dt. 16:9-10, 16).
 - A. “Your glorying is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? Therefore, purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, *since you truly are unleavened*. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. Therefore, ***let us keep the feast***, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.” (1st Corinthians 5:6-8)
 1. Some in the Church try to spiritualize this keeping of the feast, which I can’t imagine how they actually do it, to negate it, but the Apostle is quite clear. We’re to become ‘unleavened’ (striving and trusting in Yeshua to be without sin; see my article on Passover at <http://seed-of-ahraham.net/Passover.pdf>) and to ‘keep the feast’ (of Passover—Unleavened Bread). Early Church history proves that all Christians kept Passover for the first 70 years *after* the resurrection. It was the Roman Catholic Church who threw it out and replaced it with pagan

Easter.

- B. “Circumcision is nothing and uncircumcision is nothing, but *keeping the commandments of God is what matters.*” (1st Corinthians 7:19)
 - C. “But I will tarry in Ephesus until Pentecost.” (1st Corinthians 16:8)
4. The Book of Hebrews (4:9; 8:10, 13), which was written by an unknown author about 67 AD, or 37 years *after* the resurrection, speaks of keeping God’s 7th day Sabbath:
- A. “Therefore, there remains a **Sabbath** rest for the people of God.’ The KJV and the NKJV do not have Sabbath, but only ‘rest., but the Greek word specifically speaks of Sabbath observance; *sabbatismos*.
 - B. Also, the writer did not do away with the Old Covenant’s Mosaic Law, which transfers over into the New Covenant for the way we’re to walk out our faith in the Messiah of Israel.
 - 1. Heb. 8:13 presents the Law as still being valid, but ‘ready to disappear,’ which obviously means that it hadn’t disappeared yet, 37 years *after* the resurrection. It’ll be with us until Judgement Day when the essence of Mosaic Law will be our nature, for its the nature of our God and King.
 - 2. See also Jer. 31:31-34, especially verse 33, which specifically states that one of God’s main intents in giving the New Covenant to Israel was so that He could put His Law (Mosaic Law) upon our minds and write it upon our hearts.
5. James, the half brother of Yeshua, wrote the letter of James, about 49 AD or 19 years *after* the resurrection, and tells us that we are *not* to speak evil *against the Law*, but that we are to be a **doer** of the Law:
- A. “but if you show partiality, you commit sin, *and are convicted by the Law* as transgressors.” (James 2:9)
 - B. “Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord and He will lift you up. Do not speak evil of one another, brethren. He who speaks evil of a brother and judges his brother, *speaks evil of the Law and judges the Law*, but if you judge the Law, you are not a **doer** of the Law, but a judge.” (James 4:10-11)
6. The Apostle John, who wrote First John about 90 AD, or 60 years *after* the resurrection, tells us to walk out our faith in Yeshua *the same way that Yeshua walked* when He was in Israel 2,000 years ago:
- A. “He who says he abides in Him *ought himself also to walk just as He walked.*” (1st John 2:6)
 - 1. That would certainly include the keeping of the 7th day Sabbath, the Feasts of Israel and the dietary laws, all of which Yeshua kept.
 - B. “Whoever commits *sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness.*” (1st John 3:4)
 - C. “By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep **His** commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep **His** commandments, and His commandments are not burdensome.” (1st John 5:2-3)
7. The Apostle John also wrote the Book of Revelation (12:17; 14:12), about 95 AD or 65 years *af-ter* the resurrection, and speaks of having faith in Yeshua and keeping God’s commandments (i.e. Mosaic Law):
- A. “And the Dragon was enraged with the Woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, *who keep the commandments of God and* have the testimony of Jesus Christ.” (Rev.

12:17)

- B. “Here is the patience of the saints! Here are those *who keep the commandments of God and* the faith of Yeshua.” (Revelation 14:12)
- 8. The Apostle Matthew wrote the Gospel of Matthew (5:19; 22:35-40; 24:19) and although it speaks of Yeshua before the resurrection, the Gospel wasn’t written until 45 AD, or 15 years *after* the resurrection. This reveals what the early Christian community believed and taught—Mosaic Law.
 - A. “*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.” (Matthew 5:19)
 - 1. The Messiah walked in, and taught Mosaic Law for all His followers. The Kingdom of Heaven didn’t officially begin until *after* the resurrection. See also Mt. 22:35-40; 24:19-20)

Here are six different writers of the New Testament (Matthew, Luke, Paul, the author of Hebrews, James and John), with a myriad of Scripture cites, and each of them upholds and validates Mosaic Law for us who love Yeshua the Messiah. (There are only three other writers of the New Testament; Mark, Peter and Jude, and they certainly don’t come against Mosaic Law. The Church has made a fine art of twisting Scripture.)

Finally, an Old Testament Scripture that reveals it has always been in the mind of God for His people to keep His Law:

“And it shall come to pass that from one New Moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, *all* flesh shall come to worship before Me,” says Yahveh.” (Isaiah 66:23)

Scripture states that ‘at the mouth of two or three witnesses shall God’s Truth be established’ (Dt. 19:15; Mt. 18:16; 2nd Cor. 13:1). The above are six biblical witnesses to the validity of Mosaic Law for all Christians.

The Apostle Paul *cannot* be saying that Mosaic Law has been done away with, while the writers of the New Testament (and Paul, too!) affirm that Mosaic Law is valid for us.

Christian Freedom vs God’s Freedom

Many Christians look at us who ‘have to keep’ God’s Feasts and 7th day Sabbath, and do not eat ham, bacon, shrimp and lobster, etc., and say that *we’re under bondage* to the Law, but that they are *free*. True freedom, however, is only found in obedience to God and His Way (i.e. Mosaic Law and its amplification by Yeshua; cf. Mt. 5:21-22f.).

Torah (Mosaic Law/God’s Law/Christ’s Law! 1st Cor. 9:20-21; Gal. 6:2) *restrains* us. God designed it to restrain our flesh, our Adamic nature, which does *not* want to be restrained, in any area of our life: from unrestrained lust, which today in the USA and Europe, etc., allows young and old people to cohabit without being married, ‘in the name of freedom and love;’ to unrestrained hatred/murder/violence (many Christians train in martial arts, but where does Yeshua or His Apostles teach us to defend ourselves like that?); to the unrestrained eating of foods that God declares to be unclean (Lev. 11:1f.; 1st Tim. 4:3-5); to the keeping of the so-called ‘Christian Sabbath’ (i.e. Sunday), Easter and Xmas, instead of God’s holy Sabbath and Feasts, which He created to commemorate His great salvations: of Israel from slavery to Pharaoh, and of Israel from slavery to Satan at the Second Passover, in Jerusalem, and which also reveals our Father, His Son and the Plan of Salvation for us all, Jew and Gentile.

Being ‘free’ from Mosaic Law, as most Christians see it, is actually gross and blatant sin according to

God, but Christians, having been deceived for so long, are blind to both the deception and God's Truth. Christians like to be unrestrained, or free, as they say.

As King Solomon once penned, 'There's nothing new under the sun' (Ecc. 1:9c). What ancient Israel did in their rebellion to God and His Ways, in their time of being unrestrained (Ex. 32:25), the Church is doing today with its anti-Mosaic Law and anti-Semitic teachings.

King David spoke of true freedom in obeying God's Torah: 'And I will walk at liberty (freedom), for I seek Your *precepts*' (of Mosaic Law; Ps. 119:45) This is the same liberty or freedom that James spoke of concerning Mosaic Law, which is now immersed in the Blood and Spirit of Yeshua:

"But he who looks into the perfect Law of Liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does." (James 1:25)

"So speak and so do as those who will be judged by the Law of Liberty." (James 2:12)

Obviously, what James says in 1:25 and 2:12 doesn't speak of a Law that is different from Mosaic Law. The perfect Law of Liberty is Mosaic Law 'in Messiah Yeshua.'

Torah (Mosaic Law/God's Law/Christ's Law) *restrains* us in all areas of our lives. Our flesh/Adamic nature does not want to be restrained, and as the Apostle Paul says, *hates* God's ways/laws:

"Because the carnal mind is *enmity* against God, **for it is not subject to the Law of God**, nor indeed can be." (Romans 8:7)

Enmity is the state or feeling of being actively opposed or hostile to someone or something, and this speaks of the Church's stance against Mosaic Law. Our Adamic nature hates God's ways/laws but we are called to die to self daily so that the risen Savior may arise in us and lead His life through us, which means that we're to keep all Mosaic Law that applies to us. Some people say that God has to speak to them directly about keeping Mosaic Law, and I tell them that He has. It's called the Scriptures. I also ask them if God has to speak to them specifically about not robbing banks or murdering folks. God's Word is our divinely inspired guidebook for how we're to live out our lives on planet Earth.

One final point: our Christian friends love to pummel us with the Scripture, 'we're no longer under the Law, but under Grace' (Rom. 6:14-15; Gal. 3:23; 4:4-5, 21; 5:18, etc.). They haven't got the foggiest idea what that means, but they're sure it invalidates Mosaic Law for them. Biblically, though, it means that since we've died to self by faith in Yeshua (Rom. 6:1f.), the Law's ability to condemn and punish us no longer affects us. Jesus 'fulfilling it' doesn't mean we're exempt from observing its precepts and statutes, etc.

If the 7th day Sabbath, the Feasts of Israel and Mosaic sacrifice (Nazarite Vow) were still observed by all the Apostles *after* the resurrection then the Church's teaching against Mosaic Law, Sunday, Easter and Xmas cannot be true. It doesn't matter if a Christian presents a Scripture or two or three to you that he thinks does away with Mosaic Law because Scripture is not schizophrenic. It's either Mosaic Law or Xmas trees. It's either Sabbath or Sunday. It's either Passover or Easter bunnies. It can't be both.

With Mosaic Law established through *all* the Apostles, including and especially Paul, the New Testament is crystal clear for those who have eyes to see and ears to hear: Mosaic Law is for every Christian—it cannot be otherwise, no matter how the Church misinterprets New Testament Scripture and insists on its 'freedom in Christ.'¹

¹ This article was created on 27 January 2015 and revised on 30 March 2016.