

PERVERSION IN BOTH CAMPS

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Some people think I'm trying to combine the two religions of Judaism and Christianity. But that's silly. Everyone knows that's not right.

First though, some questions for my Christian friends. Do you know that 1,900 years of Christian theology against the Law, and anti-Semitism, has stripped the Jewish Messiah of His Jewishness and turned millions of Jews away from Jesus? He's not a Gentile and He kept the Law of Moses all His life (Mt. 5:17-19). Jesus was born a Jew and is still a Jew. Jesus said in Rev. 22:16, '*I am the Root and the Seed of David*'.

The Perverse Christian Camp

How can we expect my Jewish people to recognize their own King, Messiah Jesus, if He looks and acts like a Gentile instead of a Jew? Think of it. Try presenting Jesus to the Jewish people and they look at you with that, 'Jesus is for the Gentiles' look. But where does Jesus ever abolish the 7th day Sabbath, for Sunday assembly? Rather, in the Great News told by Mark (2:27-28) Jesus said,

'The Sabbath was made for man, and not man for the Sabbath; so the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath.'

Notice Sabbath, not Sunday. You who follow the Jewish Messiah; why do you break the Word of Jesus? The Sabbath was made for Man, not Sunday. Why do you desecrate His holy Sabbath day? He never did that. Don't you want to walk as He walked? I know that you have been taught this by many in the Church but it's time to stop following the traditions of man that make null and void the Will (Commandments) of God for your life.

Nowhere in the New Covenant that Yeshua (the Hebrew Name for the Jewish Messiah), came to bring, is the Sabbath or any biblical holy day of God (Leviticus 23), ever done away with. As a matter of fact, we see that the New Testament contains many explicit Scriptures that either command us to keep the holy days or implicitly show us that the early believers, both Jew and Gentile, all kept the Law and the Feasts of Israel many years *after* the Resurrection.¹

¹ In Acts there are a number of places where Luke the Gentile notes 'time' according to the Jewish Feasts. Acts 20:6 says that Paul and company sailed from Philippi after the Days of Unleavened Bread (Passover week). Acts 20:16 speaks of Paul wanting to be in Jerusalem for Pentecost, and Acts 27:9 has 'the Fast' (the Day of Atonement when God commands us to fast), being mentioned as a time when it wasn't good to set sail (as the Fast occurs in early to mid October and it's dangerous to sail in the Mediterranean then. All these holy times are found in Lev. 23).

There are four places in First Corinthians where Paul uses the Law to make his points valid. This meant the Law was still in effect, and that the Corinthians were learning it: 1. Paul encourages the Corinthians to keep 'the Feast' (1st Cor. 5:6-8). This can only be Passover as he's just spoken about unleavened bread (Ex. 12:14-20; Lev. 23:6). 2. He sums up his ability to receive funds from them by citing the Law (9:8-9). 3. He tells them that women shouldn't speak in the assembly, again citing the Law (14:34-35). 4. In 16:8 Paul speaks of staying at Ephesus till Pentecost. Pentecost is the Greek word for the Mosaic holy day of Shavuot in Lev. 23:15-22. Why would Paul note 'time' by an outdated Jewish feast and that, to Gentiles, unless he still kept the Law and taught

Christian anti-Law theology and anti-Semitism has abolished what God has ordained, replacing it with pagan holy days straight from the pit of Babylon. The Sabbath was not changed to Sunday by Yeshua, or the Apostles or the New Covenant.

The Sabbath was changed by what would become the Roman Catholic Church around 100 AD. But it was practiced by pagans the world over for 2,000 years *before* Jesus. When Christians assemble on Sunday instead of God's Sabbath, they are following the Catholic Church, which took it from Babylon, not their Savior.

Some might say it really doesn't matter what day we assemble on, but this only means that the person is not using God's Word as their authoritative guide for their life. God has spoken on the subject and saying that it doesn't matter, negates God's will and blessing for their life. They are breaking God's Word at that point and that is sin. (Gen. 1:31-2:1-3; Lev. 23:3; Is. 56:1-7; 66:23; Acts 13:42f; 16:13; 17:2; 18:4)

We should seek to worship the Jewish Messiah Yeshua, who kept the Sabbath, Passover, and dietary laws, the way He lived. He never ate ham (and neither did any of the Apostles), for if He did, He would not have been a sinless Sacrifice. Jesus declared:

‘I have not come to abolish the Law or the Prophets but to fulfill them. Till the Heavens and Earth pass away, not one yod or embellishment shall depart from the Law until its purpose is achieved.

Therefore, the man who breaks even one of the least of these laws and teaches others to do the same, will be considered the *least* in the Kingdom of Heaven, but the man who keeps them and teaches them, will be considered great in the Kingdom of Heaven.’ (Matthew 5:17-19)

The words of Yeshua our Messiah. Yeshua observed all of the Law that applied to Him. The Apostle John said that without the Law we would not know what sin is. It's with God's Law that we know if we're sinning or not:

‘Anyone who sins at all breaks the Law of Moses, because to sin is to break the Law.’ (1st John 3:4)

The New Covenant doesn't make a distinction between the Sabbath law and moral law. That is an invention of the Church. The Church states that all the moral laws of Moses should be kept but ‘ceremonial laws’ don't have to be. This is Catholic and Protestant tradition that nullifies the Sabbath, Passover and dietary laws, etc.

Yeshua kept all God's Commandments (that applied to Him, i.e. the laws of a woman's men-strual cycle did not apply to Him; or consecrating His firstborn son to God, for He had no children, etc.). He desires for us to keep them also, by the Power of the Spirit of the Holy One, just as He kept them. ‘Impossible?!’ to keep the Sabbath and the Commandments of Moses? How much more to love God with all our heart?, and our neighbor as ourself. The Law has always been presented as being ‘impossible to keep!’ but who is able to turn the other cheek in the manner of forgiveness every time? Then shouldn't we throw that out too? Which is more impossible to keep?

Striving to keep an ‘impossible Commandment’ and failing is one thing. Not striving because it's ‘impossible’ is a perversion of God's Word. For it's only by Him that we can walk in His Kingdom, not our own righteousness or assessment of what we can or cannot do.

The literal half brother of Yeshua, Yakov (Jacob; or the name the Church gave him to strip him of his

it to them (1st Cor. 7:17-19; Phil. 3:17)?

Jewishness; James), kept the Law (by the power of the Blood and the Spirit). He wrote,

‘as soon as you make distinctions between classes of people, you are committing sin, and under condemnation for breaking the Law.’ And,

‘Anyone who slanders a brother, or condemns him is speaking against the Law and condemning the Law. But if you condemn the Law you have stopped keeping it and become a judge over it!’ (Yakov 2:9; 4:11)

Around 45 CE this same man was Nasi or President (Prince) of all the Jews in Jerusalem that believed in Yeshua...and these Jews numbered in the tens of thousands. *They all kept the Law*. Acts 21:20 states:

‘Then they said to him (Paul), “You see brother, how many thousands of Jewish believers there are, *and they are all zealous for the Law.*”’

Yakov spoke of all the Gentiles who came to believe in the Jewish Messiah assembling on God’s Sabbath day and listening to the Law of Moses, that they would begin to understand who the God of Israel was, and what He required of them:

‘For Moses has always had his preachers in every town, and is read aloud in the synagogues every Sabbath.’ (Acts 15:21)

Paul is credited by the Church with breaking away from God’s Holy Days, but this isn’t found anywhere in the New Covenant. On the contrary, Paul admonishes the Corinthian Christians for sinning by continually going to the Law of Moses, and then instructs them to celebrate the Passover (1st Cor. 5:6-8):

‘The pride that you take in yourselves is hardly to your credit. You must know how even a small amount of yeast is enough to leaven all the dough, so get rid of all the old yeast, and make yourselves into a completely new batch of bread, unleavened as you are meant to be.

The Messiah, our Passover, has been sacrificed; let us celebrate the Feast then, by getting rid of all the old yeast of evil and wickedness, having only the unleavened bread (matza), of sincerity and truth.’

The Church has murdered and decimated just about every Jewish community in Christian Europe over the last 1,00 years.² In the Name of Jesus, more Jews have been murdered, tortured, small Jewish children forcibly taken from their parents ‘to save them’ than all others names combined. That’s why the Name of Jesus is a curse in the Jewish Community; because of what Christians have done to them. But most Christians today are unaware of this and distance themselves from this dark reality, instead of seeing that belief in Jesus makes them a part of that. At least in the eyes of the Jewish people.

How are you part of this? Through identification. Even if you believe that all the Christians who murdered the Jews were ‘not really Christians,’ the murderers claimed to be Christians and they did it in the Name of Christ and had official Church sanction, many times the priests and the pastors leading the way for the Christian mobs to burn down Jewish homes, etc.

To the Jew, they weren’t Moslems or Buddhists. You might say that their evil exempted them from being Christians, but this is not reality either. When a Jew is wicked, we Jews don’t say that they are no longer Jewish, but that they are a wicked Jew. What we see in Christianity over the centuries is that many of the leaders and people were very wicked Christians who hated the Jews, formulated theology against the Jewish people that still pervades the Church today, and they murdered literally millions of Jewish people

² If you aren’t familiar with this part of the Christian Family Tree, you might want to pick up any history of the Jewish people in paperback and begin reading from the time of Jesus onward to Nazi Germany.

since the second century. Satan really had a field day in Christianity concerning God's Chosen people. But that time is ending as many Christians today are reading their Bibles and finding out that God still loves the Jewish people and has a Plan for them to come to their Messiah.

Returning to Paul, the Apostle makes the point that the Messiah *was sacrificed* (past tense), as the Passover (Lamb), and then proceeds to speak in the present tense: '*let us celebrate the Feast then*' to the Gentile Corinthians. The 'Feast' has to be the Passover (verses those who would cry for Easter), because he uses the metaphor that's only associated with the Jewish Passover: yeast and unleavened bread. I've never heard of unleavened bread given in an Easter message. And the Corinthians could only have understood Paul if they too were familiar with the picture symbolism and celebration of Passover. If not, then his words to them about making themselves into a 'completely new batch of bread, unleavened as you are meant to be,' would have had absolutely no meaning to them, as perhaps they might seem to you now.

Paul always upholds the Torah (Law) of Moses; but just not as a means of eternal life. This is an important difference that one needs in order to properly understand the Apostle. It's in contrasting the Law with eternal life that gives rise to the perversion that Paul was 'throwing out the Law.'

The Law was never given by God for eternal life. But as far as it can be used as a guide to holy and righteous understanding of how God desires for us to walk, its place is foundational. In his most profound letter, the Apostle Paul states:

'for not the hearers of the Law are just in the sight of God, but the *doers* of the Law will be justified' (Romans 2:13).

'Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the Law. Or is He the God of the Jews only? Is He not also the God of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also, since there is one God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith. Do we make void the Law through faith? *Certainly not!* On the contrary, we *establish* the Law.' (Rom. 3:28-31)

'The Law is holy, and what it commands is holy, just and good.' (Romans 7:12)

'The Law, of course, *as we all know*, is spiritual' (when was the last time you heard a message on that?) (Rom. 7:14)

'In my inmost self I dearly love God's Law' (Rom. 7:22)

All from Paul's *most theological work*: the Letter to the Romans. If the Apostle had come to believe that the Law was to be 'thrown out', 'done away with', or 'not practiced' as many Christians believe today, he certainly doesn't give any indication of it in Romans. And as the New King James says in its forward to Romans, this letter is 'Paul's greatest work'. It also goes on to declare that it is 'the most systematic presentation of doctrine in the Bible.'³ Hmm...

No, it's not Paul that 'does away with the Law' anymore than many of the Pharisees in the days of Yeshua could rely on Moses, to not believe in Yeshua. In their eyes they were 'believing in Moses'. But Yeshua rightly asserts that it won't be Him that condemns them, but Moses in whom they think they are following. So it will be with the Christians who contend with Yeshua that it was Paul that they were following in breaking God's Torah. And it'll be the Apostle Paul in Heaven, shaking his head from side to side, saying they weren't following him.

If the point of Paul's attitude toward the Law of Moses (which is really the Law of God, for all Moses did was record it), needs greater clarification, listen to what he says before Governor Felix. He was on trial

³ The *New King James* by Broadman and Holman, Ultrathin Reference Bible, page 989.

for proclaiming the Great News, that Yeshua was the Messiah:

‘What I do admit to you is this: it is according to the Way which they describe as a sect that I worship the God of my Fathers, *retaining my belief in all points of the Law* and in what is written in the Prophets’. (Acts 24:14)

To the Christian camp God says, ‘Why do you allow the *traditions of men* to rule your life, when they break My Law?’ and also, ‘Where is your heart toward My Jewish people?’

No, I’m not trying to combine Judaism and Christianity. Christianity has perverse, pagan practices that are anti-God. God never gave authority to the Church to institute pagan ‘holy days’ (Sunday, Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas). Or to eat foods that are unclean. This violates His will (Lev. 11). Violating His will is sin. I’m looking to walk in the Way that God desires for me...biblical truth for every Jew and Gentile. It’s not Christianity and it’s not Judaism, even though both have things in them that we can learn from. They are also both contaminated, mixing things of God with the things of man and Satan.

What about Acts 10...Peter’s vision? Doesn’t it allow Christians to eat pig? Peter was sent by God to ‘an unclean Gentile’. (Did you ever wonder why the sheets with the unclean animals was let down three times? How many Gentiles did Cornelius send? Acts 10:7) Nowhere do they or anyone else in the New Covenant eat pig, or say that you can. It violates the Law. It’s sin. You cannot ‘bless’ something (the pig) that goes against God’s will (Lev. 11 and Dt. 14).

Paul witnesses to this in 1st Timothy 4:4-5 but most Christians don’t see it and take it just the opposite way that Paul intended:

‘For everything created by God is good, and nothing is to be rejected, provided it is received with thanksgiving, God’s word and prayer sanctify it.’

It’s not just prayer but also *God’s word* that sanctifies our food. Wasn’t the Law God’s word? Wasn’t Lev. 11 God’s word? Doesn’t Paul write in *2nd Timothy* 3:16, which is after *1st Timothy*, that:

‘All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction and for training in righteousness’.

Paul doesn’t authorize the eating of pig or that the Law was done away with. The ancient Church made the Jewish Messiah into their own image, a Gentile, because the Church was so diabolically anti-semitic. It presents just the opposite of what God wants for us. It presents a false picture of the Jewish Messiah. It presents Him as a pig eating, Christmas and Easter celebrating Savior. A Savior that no Jew could ever believe was the Jewish Messiah. The biblical Messiah would no more break the Law of Moses than you or I would want to break the words of Jesus.

The Perverse Jewish Camp

I have a question for you my Jewish people. Where does the God of Israel ever say that we will have eternal life if we keep His Torah (the Law of Moses)? And are you keeping the Torah of God?

Let me tell you something my people. It is nowhere to be found. That’s right. Nowhere in God’s holy Word do we see Him saying that we will have eternal life by keeping Torah, as holy as Torah is. The Torah was given *after* we were saved from Egypt, so we could know what God required of us to remain in covenant. There is nothing that speaks of eternal life. We were not saved by the keeping of the Torah. We were delivered from Egypt by the blood of the lamb.

God created us to be holy. God isn’t looking for ‘good people.’ Being ‘good’ is not why He delivered us

from Egypt.

‘You must be holy, for I Yahveh your God am holy’ (Lev. 19:2).

Being holy means to be one with God. Anything short of this is sin (Ex. 20:17; Dt. 6:4-5).

The Judaism that is practiced today (and there are many diverse, splinter off-shoots; Hasidic, Orthodox, Conservative, etc.), as we all know, is not directly ordained by God. It comes to us by default. That’s right. This isn’t God’s original design for His people Israel. The main ingredient is missing.

The Temple where sacrifice was made was destroyed in 70 AD. Sacrifice stopped. Sacrifice is at the heart of our relationship with the holy God of Israel. Without sacrifice, God states there is no forgiveness of sin. Lev. 17:11 reads:

‘For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it to you on the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it is the blood by reason of the life that makes expiation.’

Expiation means to extinguish the guilt incurred. By sacrifice, God forgave us. In Lev. 16, we see the ceremony that cleanses our entire nation of sin. It must be performed with sacrifice. Leviticus 16:15 speaks of our High Priest Aaron slaying ‘the goat for the sacrifice for the sin of the people.’ And Lev. 16:30 reads,

‘For on this day, atonement shall be made for you, to cleanse you of all your sins; you must be clean before the Yahveh.’

There is no forgiveness of sin without the shedding of blood. No matter what the Rabbis say, they cannot change God’s Torah. The Rabbis themselves will tell you that they do not have the authority from God to forgive your sin. Only the priests, the Sons of Aaron had authority to forgive sin when the appropriate sacrifice was made. Observing the Day of Atonement without the High Priest sacrificing the goat will not relieve anyone of their sin. There is no biblical authority for this.

Present day Judaism is without God’s authority to forgive sin. This is why you don’t know *for certain* if you are forgiven. The Orthodox tell us that reciting daily the section of the Sidur that has to do with the sacrifices will be as if we had actually done them;

‘that the prayer of our lips be worthy, acceptable and favorable before You, *as if we had brought the continual offering at its set time*’.⁴

The Rabbis realize the biblical need for sacrifice but are helpless to carry out the Commandment. So they, not God, institute ‘the next best thing’ (the reading of some biblical passages on sacrifice), and ask God to accept the reading in place of the actual sacrifice. Picture this...

An Israeli man comes into the store of an Orthodox Jew. He selects many items from the shelves, brings them to the counter and asks the owner for an itemized bill. After receiving it, he reads the bill out loud, picks up the items and proceeds to leave the store. The Orthodox owner calls after him about payment. The Israeli replies, ‘Isn’t reading the bill the same as paying for it?’

Reading about the sacrifices is not what God commanded for the Jewish people to do in order to be cleansed of our sins. God says there must be sacrifice. Your sin remains my friend. That’s what the God of Israel says. Only through God’s ordained sacrifice can sin be forgiven.

What are you going to do when you stand before the Holy One of Israel? Where is your sacrifice for for-

⁴ Rabbi Nosson Scherman and Rabbi Meir Zlotowitz, General Editors, *The Artscroll Siddur* (Brooklyn: Mesorah Publications, Ltd., January, 1987), p. 43. This prayer is said after some biblical passages on sacrifice are read.

giveness of sins? Please don't tell me that 'we Jews have advanced far beyond that barbaric understanding' for then you mock God who set up the sacrificial system to cleanse Israel, and to point to the One who would 'bring Yakov back to Him' and be 'the Light to the Goyim.' (Isaiah 49:5-6)

God's Holy Sacrifice

God has provided His Sacrifice for you (Gen. 22:1-14). His Name is Yeshua, the Jewish Messiah. Many Jewish people have come to know Yeshua as their Sacrifice, the One who cleanses them of their sin. They have found the Shalom (Peace) of Papa God in Yeshua. And believing in Yeshua does not make a Jew into a Gentile! This is the Church's perversion, all too adamantly taken up by the Jewish Community. But perversion does not destroy the Truth.

How can belief in the Jewish Messiah make a Jew into a Gentile, or not Jewish anymore?

In all the false messiahs that we Jews have seen in the last 2,000 years, have any of their followers ever been labeled 'not Jewish anymore?' Look at Rabbi Akiva, proclaimer of bar Kohba as the Messiah. Very unfortunate. *It cost us our nation for more than 1,800 years!* But no one ever says that the followers of Akiva, who fought for bar Kohba, were not Jewish anymore. Or that Akiva is not Jewish anymore. Yes, he made a great mistake but even in the mistake he retains his Jewish identity.

I am a Jew who has been forgiven of my sins by God. I live as a biblical Jew, seeing that God's Messiah has authority over Rabbinic Judaism when the two clash. And clash they do, for Rabbinic Judaism has taken many things from Babylon into itself. Things that pervert and come against the Torah.

You say Torah forbids human sacrifice and you are right. But where does it say that God cannot sacrifice His Messiah for His people? (Isaiah 53) You think that Yeshua could not be God in the flesh? Why not? Do you know the awesome mystery that is the God of Israel? Do you know how He created the Heavens and the Earth? Failure to understand a mystery does not negate its reality. One day you will stand before Him and have to answer for your sin with no blood sacrifice ordained by God to cover you. Are you ready?

After Yeshua's Sacrifice, His Father raised Him from the dead, never to die again. Yeshua is glorified, the First-Fruits of the Resurrection from the dead, and He promises that we shall be like Him on Judgment Day. In appearing to His followers after His death, Yeshua said:

'Shalom Alayhem (Peace be upon you). As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' After saying this He breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.' (John 20:21-23)

Every one who truly believes in Yeshua is forgiven of their sin. My sins have been forgiven. I know what it is to cry out to God with sin and think that He would never forgive me. But He has sent His Son to take upon Himself, the sins of us all. The Prophet Isaiah said,

'He was pierced through for our rebellion, crushed for our perversions. On Him lies a punishment that brings us Shalom' (Peace with Papa God) and,

'Yahveh has been pleased to crush Him with suffering. If He offers His life in atonement...through Him what Yahveh desires will be done.' (Isaiah 53:5, 10)

I know what it feels like to be forgiven by God. To feel His cleansing Spirit free me from my guilt and bondage, a burden I could not carry. There is nothing that can compare with our God.

Am I trying to combine Judaism and Christianity? No. They are both perverse and come short of what the God of Israel demands of His people. I am proclaiming the reality of the Hebrew Bible, from Genesis to Revelation. This is our authoritative guide for what we believe and therefore what we should practice. Yeshua said in John 8:23-24:

‘I am from above. You are of this world. I am not of this world. I have told you already: You will die in your sins. Yes, if you do not believe that I am He (the Messiah), you will die in your sins.’

To the Jewish camp God cries,

‘I have dispelled your rebellions like a cloud, your sins like a mist. Come back to Me, for I have redeemed you.’ (Is. 44:22)

Contact me my people. I love you,

Avram

Suggested readings: *From Sabbath to Sunday* by S. Bacchiocchi. *The Two Babylons* by Alexander Hislop. *God, Jews and History* by Max Dimont.