

The Law – Is It for Us Today?

By Brick Parrish

He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer *shall be* abomination. (Pro. 28:9)

The scriptures have a lot to say about the law and those who ignore it. This is undoubtedly one of the most misunderstood doctrines in the whole “church” system. Through blindness and a faulty understanding of Paul’s writings, most churches have one thing in common among a myriad of differing doctrines. They believe the law was abolished at the death of the Messiah.

Many excellent articles have already been written on the subject, so I’m not going to try to cover in much detail what has already been written by others. However, some ground work does need to be laid.

The word translated “**Law**” in the Brit Chadasha or New Testament, is the Greek word “**Nomos**” (Strong’s # 3551) and the Hebrew word “**Torah**” (Strong’s # 8451). If you don’t have a Strong’s concordance, you really ought to get one so you can look these words up for yourself.

Law is an unfortunate rendering of the word torah since the torah includes the law, but also more specifically means “teaching”. It is literally a blue print for us on how to live our lives in accordance with what Yahweh expects of us. In fact, the entire gamut of Scripture from Genesis to Revelation can be considered “torah”.

So if you are not an observer of the “law”, you would be considered “law-less or torah-less” then wouldn’t you? There are a couple of words for this. The Greek words “anomos” (#459 – not subject to the law) and “anomia” (#458 – transgression of the law) are translated this way. So what! you say...

Just this, read what Yahshua had to say in Matt. 7:21-23:

Matt 21 ¶ Not every one that saith unto me, Master, Master, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

22 Many will say to me in that day, Master, Master, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?

23 And then will I profess unto them, **I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity**

That’s pretty sobering. what is the Greek word translated “**iniquity**”? We find it is Strong’s # 458, “anomia” – **transgression of the law or torah**. Let’s look at another scripture.

¶ I John 3:4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for **sin is the transgression of the law**.

The Greek word “anomia” is here translated as “transgression of the law” and is the very

definition of sin. If the very definition of sin is transgression of the law, how can anyone sin if the law is abolished as some claim?

If the law is “done away with”, then there is no need to repent of anything. Where there is no law, there is no sin. (Rom. 4:15, 5:13). So, if the law is abolished and we can’t sin, then why be baptized to have our non-existent sins washed away?

What is it we are no longer under? If we are in Yahshua and have accepted his sacrifice on our behalf and are immersed in his name, we are no longer under the **penalty of sin**. The handwriting of ordinances against us was what was nailed to the stake, not our sins. The penalty for our sins was paid, although we can still suffer the consequences of those sins. Since we can and do still sin and since sin is, by definition, the transgression of the law, then **the law must still be in effect**.

Could it be that we don’t really understand what Paul was trying to get over to us? Peter tells us in 2 Pet. 3:16 that Paul said things that were hard to be understood which unlearned and unstable men twist to their own destruction. After all, if Paul was really saying the law was abolished, why did he continue to keep it? He kept the Sabbath, the clean food laws, observed the Feasts and told the Corinthians to do likewise. (1 Cor. 5:8)

In one breath Paul says “For not hearers of the law are just before Elohim, but the doers of the law shall be justified (Rom. 2:13)” and in the next breath says “Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law. (Rom. 3:28)”, but then says in verse 31 “Do we then make void the law through faith? Yahweh forbid; yea **we establish the law**”.

It would seem that since faith establishes the law, it is still in effect. Without going into the other areas where Paul seems to contradict himself, let’s go to someone who spoke very plainly about the law.

Yahshua must have startled his audience in his very first recorded sermon in Mt 5:17 with his abrupt statement about the law. It would never have even entered into the Jewish mind that some would think the law was to pass away. Yahshua must have known that men would teach this in the end times and wanted to make sure they understood why it would never be abolished.

Matt 5:17 ¶ Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.

18 For verily I say unto you, **Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.**

19 **Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven:** but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

There, that is pretty plain, isn’t it? Until heaven and earth pass away, not one jot or tittle will pass from the law. Yahshua had a reason for using this expression “Till heaven and earth pass”. He was quoting from Deuteronomy chapters 4, 30 and 31 in which Yahweh, through Moses, called **heaven and earth to witness against them that they keep the**

law, not to add to or diminish from it and he set before them life and death so they might choose the path they would take.

De 4:13 And he declared unto you his covenant, which he commanded you to perform, [even] ten commandments; and he wrote them upon two tables of stone.

De. 4:23 Take heed unto yourselves, lest ye forget the covenant of Yahweh your Elohim, which he made with you, and make you a graven image, or the likeness of any thing, which Yahweh thy Elohim hath forbidden thee.

The penalty for doing so:

De 4:26 I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that ye shall soon utterly perish from off the land whereunto ye go over Jordan to possess it; ye shall not prolong [your] days upon it, but shall utterly be destroyed.

De 4:27 And Yahweh shall scatter you among the nations, and ye shall be left few in number among the heathen, whither Yahweh shall lead you.

Yahshua was telling the disciples that only if heaven and earth should pass away could Yahweh's record against Israel be annulled for disobeying His law. Clearly, this has not happened and the law or torah is still in effect and binding upon us today.

This was so important, it was repeated in Deut. 30:19, speaking of the law in verse 10.

De 30:10 If thou shalt hearken unto the voice of Yahweh thy Elohim, to keep his commandments and his statutes which are written in this book of the law, [and] if thou turn unto Yahweh thy Elohim with all thine heart, and with all thy soul.

De 30:19 I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, [that] I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:

And again in Deut. 31:28,29:

De 31:28 Gather unto me all the elders of your tribes, and your officers, that I may speak these words in their ears, and call heaven and earth to record against them.

De 31:29 For I know that after my death ye will utterly corrupt [yourselves], and turn aside from the way which I have commanded you; and evil will befall you in the latter days; because ye will do evil in the sight of Yahweh, to provoke him to anger through the work of your hands.

Evil shall befall us in the latter days because we reject the law. Heaven and earth have been called to witness against us of what shall happen to us if we disobey Yahweh's commandments. We have a choice. We can choose life or death, a blessing or cursing. It is up to us to decide whether to keep Yahweh's commandments or disobey them, saying they are no longer valid.

Of course, we know that Israel did not choose life, but choose death and kept violating the law and as a result, have been scattered into all the nations for over 2700 years now.

Has anything changed with Israel? Not much...they still violate the law, don't keep the Sabbath, eat unclean foods, keep false feasts, bring Yahweh's name to naught by calling him everything but His name. Why doesn't He doesn't just shuck them and get another "chosen" people? The answer is that He is bound by promises He made to Abraham, Isaac

and Jacob. He will regather Israel because of **His names sake**, not because of any goodness in Israel.

Israel won't get off unpunished though, they will mostly have to endure the most horrible time of testing the earth has ever seen. They will be recompensed double for their sins. There are going to be a lot of people who barely make it into the kingdom of Yahweh, and will be called the "**least**" for teaching the law was abolished (Matt. 5:19) and that we didn't have to keep Sabbath and could eat swines flesh and other loathsome things, etc.

Yahshua is called the living torah in scripture. How could he abolish himself? If the law is abolished, why will we all be keeping the Sabbath and the Feasts in the millennial kingdom? If you make it into the millennial kingdom, it is strongly recommended you especially keep the Feast of Tabernacles. In addition to not getting any rain, there is a plague that goes along with failure to keep this Feast. The rain is just a warning, then it gets serious after that. It is found in Zech 14:18 and the only plague that is mentioned is the one found in verse 12 where your flesh consumes away while you stand and your eyeballs melt in their sockets. Keeping the Feast is a much better option.

There is a lot more that could be covered to prove the law is still in effect, but if you use a little common sense, you will realize the law can't be abolished. If it was, then our savior lied and is disqualified to save us and we are still in our sins. If the law is done away with, then we can't sin and don't need a savior. So why did he come? The only logical answer is the law is still in force today and our savior came because it was.

The only safe road to travel lies in the keeping of Yahweh's commandments. The strait and narrow, perhaps?

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