

Gal 3:24 So the law was our guardian
until Christ came that we might
be justified by faith.

The Law of Moses OR The Law of Jesus

Deu 18:15 The LORD your God will raise up
for you a prophet like me from among you,
from your fellow Israelites. *You must listen to him.*

Leslie Rendell

Did Jesus Keep the Law of Moses?

Did Jesus Christ keep the law of Moses? And if he did, then is this law still binding on Christians today? Many believe that all Christians must either partially or completely adhere to the “Law of Moses” even in this modern day. The only way we can come to the truth of the matter is to search the scriptures and come to the right conclusion.

As with anything you are learning from God’s holy scriptures, you need to read with an open mind and heart. If you allow your previous beliefs to influence your understanding, then you will never arrive at the truth of any matter. You must allow God’s words, the words of Jesus Christ, to be your guide, and believe what God has presented to you.

We are told the handwriting in ordinances, or the “Law of Moses”, was nailed to the cross, as is clear from.

Col 2:12 having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead.

Col 2:13 You were dead through your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh. He made you alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses.

Col 2:14 wiping out the handwriting in ordinances which was against us; and he has taken it out of the way, nailing it to the cross;

The first question we may have here is this. Is the entire law of Moses, or only a portion of it nailed to the cross? This book reveals the truth to you from God's own words, the holy bible. The following scripture is one I like to use in any book I write, as a reminder of the importance of both the old and the new testaments in the bible.

2Ti 3:16 Every Scripture is God-breathed and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness.

2Ti 3:17 that each person who belongs to God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

The relationship between the Old and New Testaments was described by Augustine this way: "The new is in the old concealed; the old is in the new revealed." These two testaments are of equal value when studying the word of God. They must not be separated from one another. Many in the church neglect the old testament, while the Jews ignore the new testament. They are all one book and the written word of God, so we must read and learn from both.

With that thought in mind, let us examine the entire bible for what God has revealed in his sacred writings.

The law of Moses, with its ordinances, was still in force until the day Jesus was crucified. Because this is when the law was nailed to the cross. Since there was no "cross of Jesus" before this time, there was nowhere to nail these laws.

Before this time, the church did not exist. The day of Pentecost was still just over 50 days away, and this is when

the church first came into being. Therefore, the only law that existed before Jesus was crucified was the “Law of Moses”.

We understand that the “Law of Moses” is the “Law of God”. There is only one “law”, not two. We can plainly see this by comparing the following verses. First, in the book of Ezra, the “law of Moses” was given by God as we are told in.

Ezr 7:6 this Ezra came up from Babylon. He was a teacher well versed in the Law of Moses, which the LORD, the God of Israel, had given. The king had granted him everything he asked, for the hand of the LORD his God was on him.

Now compare this to what we are taught in the book of Nehemiah, chapter 10 verse 29. Here we are told the “law of God” was given by Moses.

Neh 10:29 all these now join their fellow Israelites the nobles, and bind themselves with a curse and an oath to follow the Law of God given through Moses the servant of God and to obey carefully all the commands, regulations and decrees of the LORD our Lord.

These terms are used interchangeably. Again, this is because the “Law of Moses” and the “Law of God” are the same law, there is only one “law”.

Now let us turn our attention to the life of our Lord Jesus Christ. According to Galatians chapter 4 and verse 4, Jesus was “born under the law”, and as we have just seen, this is the “Law of God”, or the “law of Moses”.

Gal 4:4 But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law,

Therefore, if Jesus was born “under the law”, then he must have kept all of God’s laws perfectly. Otherwise, he would have been guilty of sin, but as we know, he lived a sinless life. Let us see some laws Jesus kept.

(1) His parents had him circumcised in accordance with the law (Luke 2:21);

Luk 2:21 On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise the child, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he was conceived.

(2) Sacrifices were offered for him under the law. To reinforce what I said earlier, the “law of Moses” and the “Law of God” are the same law. Both terms are used in this passage of scripture, reinforcing this truth.

Luk 2:22 When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord

Luk 2:23 (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord"),

Luk 2:24 and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: "a pair of doves or two young pigeons."

(3) When Jesus performed miracles, he commanded those he had cured to offer sacrifices under the law as we see in the following 2 verses.

Mar 1:44 "See that you don't tell this to anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your

cleansing, as a testimony to them."

Luk 5:14 Then Jesus ordered him, "Don't tell anyone, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them."

(4) Jesus always kept the Sabbath. Indeed, he claims to be the Lord of the Sabbath.

Luk 4:16 He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read,

(5) Jesus kept all of God's holy days and the Passover.

Mat 26:17 On the first day of the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Where do you want us to make preparations for you to eat the Passover?"

Mat 26:18 He replied, "Go into the city to a certain man and tell him, 'The Teacher says: My appointed time is near. I am going to celebrate the Passover with my disciples at your house.'"

Mat 26:19 So the disciples did as Jesus had directed them and prepared the Passover.

(6) Jesus directed his disciples to do all that was commanded by the law of Moses.

Mat 23:2 "The teachers of the law and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat."

Mat 23:3 So you must be careful to do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do, for they do not practice what they preach.

There should be absolutely no doubt that Jesus Christ kept all the “laws of Moses”. Also known as the “laws of God”. So now we must ask the all importance questions. Are Christians expected to follow the example of Jesus Christ? And are Christians required, in this modern day and age, to keep the full “law of Moses”?

These are very interesting questions. A careful search of the scriptures is needed to find the truth in these matters, and then allow the word of God to direct your understanding. As with all knowledge from the bible, you will not find it all in one place, neatly packaged. God expects us to search the scriptures to find the truth he has placed in his holy bible.

Please try to read with an open mind and allow God to influence your mind.

Everything Changes

In the first chapter, we established Jesus definitely kept the “laws of Moses” perfectly. There should be no doubt about this. But upon his death, everything changed. The new covenant then became a reality, but only after Jesus died on the cross. This truth is revealed to us in.

Heb 9:14 How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!

Heb 9:15 For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance – now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant.

Heb 9:16 In the case of a will, it is necessary to prove the death of the one who made it,

Heb 9:17 because a will is in force only when somebody has died; it never takes effect while the one who made it is living.

Here in Hebrews 9 verse 15, we see that Jesus Christ is the mediator of a new covenant. But notice what else is

revealed in this verse. That those called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, followed by the all important words, “Now that he has died.”

This new covenant that Christ has set up did not come into force until the very moment he died upon the cross. After Jesus' death, the new covenant was established, and those called could inherit eternal life. Therefore, without this new covenant, of which Jesus Christ is the mediator, there can be no eternal inheritance.

With the death of Jesus Christ, we now have the new covenant. So now we must ask what was the purpose of the law given to us by Moses. The answer to this question is found in Galatians 3 and verse 24.

Gal 3:24 So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith.

In the above verse, we see that the law was our guardian until Christ came. Please also notice that only when the new covenant came into force are we justified by faith. Before Christ came, people were only cleansed from their sins by the sacrifice of animals on the altar. These sacrifices had to be repeated constantly for people to be forgiven. If we are still under the “Law of Moses,” then we still need animal sacrifices to take away our sins. We need to observe the “Day of Atonement” and have a priest sacrifice an animal to cleanse us of our sins for the year.

But we understand it is only by Christ's sacrifice we are justified before God by our faith in him. So what happened to the law now that Jesus has arrived? Read Romans 10 and verse 4.

Rom 10:4 Christ is the culmination of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who

believes.

What does the word culmination mean in this verse? It means the law is completed, finished, reached its limit, has had its finale.

Now in Galatians 2 verse 21, we see it is impossible for us to be righteous by keeping the law. If it is possible to be righteous by keeping the “Law of Moses”, then why was another law required? But if it is impossible, then we obviously need another law if we are to attain righteousness in the eyes of God ever..

Plus, if we can be righteous by keeping the law of Moses, then Jesus Christ died on the cross for nothing. His first coming would have achieved no benefits for anyone as we can understand from.

Gal 2:21 I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!"

This thought is reinforced and made even more clear in.

Gal 2:16 know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified.

What is the point in keeping the law of Moses, if, as we see in the above verse, no one will be justified by keeping the law? Our justification is only by our faith in Jesus Christ as the only son of God. This is further explained in Rom 8:3-4.

Rom 8:3 For what the law was powerless to do

because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in the flesh,

Rom 8:4 in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

The law was powerless to do what Jesus Christ came to do, to offer himself as a sacrifice to condemn sin in the flesh. A one time sacrifice that would cover all the sins of humanity. Now read and understand what is recorded for us in Gal 5:4.

Gal 5:4 You who are trying to be justified by the law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace.

We fulfil the law of Jesus by carrying each other's burdens. By loving and caring for each other and keeping the commandment to love our fellow man. To be justified by keeping the law, you are actually alienating yourself from Christ. The exact opposite of what you may think you are achieving. We must live by what we hear from Jesus Christ. Please remember what Moses told us. "Listen to him", and if you do, then you are keeping the "Law of Jesus" as we see in.

Gal 6:2 Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

We cannot have righteousness of our own, but only through faith in Jesus Christ. This righteousness comes from God based on faith, not of keeping the "law of Moses".

Php 3:9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ – the

righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith.

Now see the difference between keeping these laws. What can we learn from the book of Hebrews about trampling on the Son of God and treating Christ's death, the blood of the covenant, as an unholy thing? Those who do these things are insulting the Spirit of grace. Read this in.

Heb 10:28 Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses.

Heb 10:29 How much more severely do you think someone deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified them, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace?

Those who trample the Son of God underfoot are those who reject the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. They are saying Christ's blood is insufficient for our sins to be forgiven and the blood of Jesus has no power to cleanse us from our sins. And the expression "insulted the Spirit of grace" is powerful. The Greek term used here means to insult, outrage" and involves the manifestation of vanity, which refers to "insolence" or "arrogance." This term stands in stark contrast to the description of the Holy Spirit as "the Spirit of grace." It implies that they responded to God's offer of grace with an insult. They are now in an untenable position because they reject Jesus, His sacrifice, and the Holy Spirit.

You Must Listen To Him

Who is the greatest prophet that ever walked this earth? There are two prime contenders for this title. The first is Moses, the number 1 for the Jews, and the second is Jesus Christ. Who should be number 1 for all Christians, so which of these is the greatest? To whom must we listen? Again, let us find the answer to this question in the scriptures. The answer to this question is found in Hebrews 3 and verse 3.

Heb 3:3 Jesus has been found worthy of greater honor than Moses, just as the builder of a house has greater honor than the house itself.

The law may have been given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. And since Jesus Christ has been found to have greater worth than Moses, then he is the one that we must listen to. This is made even more obvious when you read in the Old Testament in the book of Deuteronomy 18:15, the words that Moses himself wrote.

Deu 18:15 The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your fellow Israelites. You must listen to him.

Here, Moses has told the people that they must listen to this prophet that God will raise up. And as we are well aware, this prophet that was raised up was Jesus Christ himself. Now

the ultimate proof that Jesus Christ is the one that we must listen to is given in Matthew. This is when Jesus Christ was being baptised by John in the river . When Jesus came up out of the water, there was a voice from heaven, so now listen to what that voice, the voice of God, had to say in Mat 17:5.

Mat 17:5 While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"

So exactly what can we learn from the three scriptures that we have seen above? First, we can see that Jesus is greater than Moses. Second, we see from the very words of Moses himself that it is Jesus that we must listen to. And then third, and finally, we have the very words of God the Father telling us to “listen to him”. Listen to Jesus.

In the above scriptures, we have seen that it is Jesus Christ that we must listen to. And then in Acts 4:12 we see that there is no other name under heaven that has been given to humankind by which we may be saved. No other name, and this obviously must include Moses.

Act 4:12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved."

From this verse, we can see that there is only one name under the entire heavens given to humankind that may save us. Add to that the three verses preceding this one, and we can see that it is Jesus Christ that we must listen to, and no one else.

So now let us listen to the words of Jesus in Luk 24:44.

Luk 24:44 He said to them, "This is what I told

you, while I was still with you, that all things which are written in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms, concerning me must be fulfilled."

Everything that was written in the "old testament" found its fulfilment in the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. There are many prophecies in the old testament that point to Jesus, and these have found their fulfilment in Jesus. The Pharisees challenged his authority, and he answered them in Joh 5:39-47.

Joh 5:39 "You search the Scriptures, because you think that in them you have eternal life; and these are they which testify about me."

Joh 5:40 Yet you will not come to me, that you may have life.

Joh 5:41 I don't receive glory from men.

Joh 5:42 But I know you, that you don't have God's love in yourselves.

Joh 5:43 I have come in my Father's name, and you don't receive me. If another comes in his own name, you will receive him.

Joh 5:44 How can you believe, who receive glory from one another, and you don't seek the glory that comes from the only God?

Joh 5:45 "Don't think that I will accuse you to the Father. There is one who accuses you, even Moses, on whom you have set your hope."

Joh 5:46 For if you believed Moses, you would believe me; for he wrote about me.

Joh 5:47 But if you don't believe his writings, how will you believe my words?"

Some interesting points that come out of this section of scripture. The Pharisees diligently searched the scriptures. This means the law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms. The same words that testified about Jesus, yet they refused to recognise the truths they studied. Then in verse 44, Jesus accuses them of accepting glory from each other, patting each other on the back and accepting this type of glory rather than the glory from God.

Then Jesus tells them they will be accused by Moses, the very one they claimed to follow. In verse 46, Jesus tells these religious leaders that Moses wrote about him as was covered in Deu 18:15 above. And Moses wrote in the Hebrew scriptures that they must “listen to him”, to the prophet that was to come after him. But they refused to do this. The “old testament” reveals to us our only hope of eternal life because it reveals Jesus Christ. These scriptures bear witness to him and now he has fulfilled them.

When Jesus fulfilled the law, this means all the righteousness of the law, every word recorded in the Prophets and every prayer and hope in the Psalms. All fulfilled in Jesus.

When Jesus was dying on the cross, he stated. “It is finished”. This was referring to the entire work he had been given to do. He had fulfilled the entire “law of Moses” the “Prophets” and the “Psalms”. In doing this, Jesus obtained our eternal salvation. Priests are no longer needed to offer sacrifices for us or to enter the “Holy Place”. Jesus has done all this once and for all people as recorded in Col 2:13-14.

*Col 2:13 When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins,
Col 2:14 having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to*

the cross.

The following verse compares the effectiveness of the “Law of Jesus” to the “Law of Moses”. Notice what the “Law of Jesus” could accomplish, our justification from every sin. Something the “Law of Moses” could never do.

Act 13:39 Through him everyone who believes is set free from every sin, a justification you were not able to obtain under the law of Moses.

The law of Moses could not set us free from every sin. This is only accomplished by our faith in Jesus Christ. Our justification can only be obtained through our faith in Jesus Christ and not by observing the “law of Moses”.

The Apostles followed the teaching of Jesus, and they command all Christians to do the same. The doctrines of Jesus and the doctrines of the Apostles are the same as is clear in 1 Corinthians 11:1.

1Co 11:1 Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ.

Notice what the apostles taught concerning the law of Moses?. Jesus has abolished the “law of ordinances” as is clear from Eph. 2:14-16

*Eph 2:14 For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility,
Eph 2:15 by setting aside in his flesh the law with its commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace,*

The two groups that Jesus has made as one are the Jews

and the Christians. There is no longer a dividing wall between us. We are all one in Jesus. Both Christians and Jews must have faith in Jesus Christ to be regarded as being righteous before God.

The law of Moses has “passed away” according to the following verses in 2 Corinthians.

2Co 3:5 Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God.

2Co 3:6 He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant – not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

2Co 3:7 Now if the ministry that brought death, which was engraved in letters on stone, came with glory, so that the Israelites could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of its glory, transitory though it was,

2Co 3:8 will not the ministry of the Spirit be even more glorious?

2Co 3:9 If the ministry that brought condemnation was glorious, how much more glorious is the ministry that brings righteousness!

2Co 3:10 For what was glorious has no glory now in comparison with the surpassing glory.

2Co 3:11 And if what was transitory came with glory, how much greater is the glory of that which lasts!

If no changes were made to the “law of Moses” through the birth, crucifixion, and resurrection, and then the ascension of our Lord. Then he did all of this for absolutely no reason,

and for no benefit to anyone. If we are still under the “law of Moses” then what has changed? It is very clear from Hebrews 9:16-17 that the new covenant, the law of Jesus, could not come into effect until Jesus actually died on the cross.

Heb 9:16 In the case of a will, it is necessary to prove the death of the one who made it,

Heb 9:17 For a will is in force where there has been death, for it is never in force while he who made it lives.

Heb 9:18 This is why even the first covenant was not put into effect without blood.

This is the reason Jesus was required to keep the “law of Moses”. The new covenant he came to establish could not take effect until the very moment he died on the cross. As verse 17 above states clearly. Because a will is in force only when somebody has died; it never takes effect while the one who made it is living. Therefore, the new covenant came into effect the moment Jesus died on the cross, not before.

The first covenant required the blood of animals to take away the sins of the nation, as we see in verse 18 above, and these sacrifices had to be done constantly. But the sacrifice of Jesus to take away the sins of the world was only needed one time. This has been declared to us in the following passages of scripture.

Rom 6:10 The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

Heb 7:27 Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered himself.

Heb 9:12 He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption.

Heb 9:26 Otherwise Christ would have had to suffer many times since the creation of the world. But he has appeared once for all at the culmination of the ages to do away with sin by the sacrifice of himself.

Heb 10:1 The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming – not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship.

Heb 10:2 Otherwise, would they not have stopped being offered? For the worshipers would have been cleansed once for all, and would no longer have felt guilty for their sins.

Heb 10:10 And by that will, we have been made holy through the sacrifice of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Jud 1:3 Dear friends, although I was very eager to write to you about the salvation we share, I felt compelled to write and urge you to contend for the faith that was once for all entrusted to God's holy people.

Joh 1:17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Mat 17:5 While he was still speaking, a bright

cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!"

Act 13:39 Through him everyone who believes is set free from every sin, a justification you were not able to obtain under the law of Moses.

Rom 10:4 Christ is the culmination of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.

Laws by themselves do not change the heart. This has been made very obvious to everyone all throughout the history of Israel. They were constantly turning to God when they were in trouble, only to go back to sinning once God had rescued them. The “laws of Moses” were impossible for them to keep, and they kept turning to the ways of the Pagans. This proves how powerless the law is. Only faith in Jesus Christ can change the heart of a man.

It is very interesting to note that when Jesus was giving the “great commission” to his disciples, he did not tell them to preach the “law of Moses”. No, they were to teach everything he had commanded them, as we see in Matthew 28:18-20.

Mat 28:18 Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

Mat 28:19 Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

Mat 28:20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Notice in verse 18, all authority has been given to Jesus. Therefore, we must listen to him and to no one else. The law of Jesus has definitely replaced the law of Moses.

Differing Laws.

Today we must ask the question. Which law should we be keeping? The law of Moses, or the law of Christ?

What about these laws in?

Exo 21:23 But if there is serious injury, you are to take life for life,

Exo 21:24 eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot,

Exo 21:25 burn for burn, wound for wound, bruise for bruise.

Should we still do this as a requirement of keeping the law, or do we follow what we learn in.

Mat 5:38 " You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.'"

Mat 5:39 But I tell you, do not resist an evil person. If anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to them the other cheek also.

Now notice how we can keep the entire law in.

Gal 5:13 You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to

indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love.

Gal 5:14 For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

And again we see the entire law hangs on just 2 of the commandments as we see in.

Mat 22:36 "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?"

Mat 22:37 Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'

Mat 22:38 This is the first and greatest commandment.

Mat 22:39 And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'

Mat 22:40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

One law of Moses was the law regarding the circumcision of every male child. But what does Paul say on this matter in.

Gal 5:2 Behold, I, Paul, tell you that if you receive circumcision, Christ will profit you nothing.

Gal 5:3 Yes, I testify again to every man who receives circumcision, that he is a debtor to do the whole law.

Gal 5:4 You are alienated from Christ, you who desire to be justified by the law. You have fallen away from grace.

Gal 5:5 For we, through the Spirit, by faith wait for the hope of righteousness.

Gal 5:6 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision amounts to anything, nor uncircumcision, but faith working through love.

Now let us look at the dietary laws established in the “Law of Moses” and see how they were changed.

Mar 7:18 He said to them, “Are you also without understanding? Don’t you perceive that whatever goes into the man from outside can’t defile him,

Mar 7:19 because it doesn’t go into his heart, but into his stomach, then into the latrine, thus purifying all foods?”

Mar 7:20 He said, “That which proceeds out of the man, that defiles the man.”

We cannot make ourselves unclean by the food we eat, it is by the words that come out of our mouths that make us unclean.

The law of Moses demands anyone caught in adultery must be put to death. Is that still binding today?

What about working on the Sabbath day? The Pharisees accused Jesus of doing this and how did Jesus respond to them.

Luk 14:3 Jesus, answering, spoke to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, “Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?”

Luk 14:4 But they were silent. He took him, and healed him, and let him go.

Luk 14:5 He answered them, “Which of you, if your son or an ox fell into a well, wouldn’t immediately pull him out on a Sabbath day?”

Healing the sick and doing essential work on the Sabbath

is permitted under the law of Jesus, but not under the law of Moses.

Notice, even the law of tithing was changed. Formerly a tenth of one's income was to be offered to God, and many times this would have been a reluctant offering, only given because of the "Law". But today we are to give freely, and not of necessity as we see in.

2Co 9:6 Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.

2Co 9:7 Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

This law of tithing was radically changed. If you do not want to give cheerfully, then do not give at all. If your whole heart is not willing to contribute to the work of God.

Do we still need to sacrifice animals for our sins to be temporally forgiven? No, we must accept the sacrifice of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of our sins. He died once and for all. There is no longer any need for animal sacrifices, or for a priest to intercede with God that our sins are forgiven. Except for our high priest, Jesus Christ. He is the only one who can intercede between us and our Heavenly Father. No one else has this prerogative.

The Church and Israel

The church and Israel are 2 distinct entities and have different laws. Commands such as baptism and the Lord's supper were given to the church, but not to Israel. Circumcision and the dietary laws were for Israel, and not for the church.

Take these topics into consideration and you can see the church is not required to keep the law of Moses, but by faith in Jesus Christ, we are keeping the law of Jesus. Since Moses himself told us to listen to Jesus, then I believe this is what we must do.

One last warning we simply must listen to is given to us by the Apostle Paul in his letter to the Galatians. I believe it is imperative we take his advice, especially in these days, when there are so many false teachers and prophets who can lead you away from Jesus. Many of these people are very sincere in what they teach, but this still does not make them teachers of the truth. Just a little falsehood can do a great deal of damage to your faith in God. Please read what Paul wrote for our benefit in Gal 1:3-10.

Gal 1:3 Grace and peace be to you from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ,

Gal 1:4 Who gave Himself for our sins, in order

that He might deliver us from the present evil world, according to the will of our God and Father;

Gal 1:5 To Whom be the glory into the ages of eternity. Amen.

Gal 1:6 I am astonished that you are so quickly being turned away from Him Who called you into the grace of Christ, to a different gospel,

Gal 1:7 Which in reality is not another gospel; but there are some who are troubling you and are desiring to pervert the gospel of Christ.

Gal 1:8 But if we, or even an angel from heaven, should preach a gospel to you that is contrary to what we have preached, LET HIM BE ACCURSED!

Gal 1:9 As we have said before, I also now say again. If anyone is preaching a gospel contrary to what you have received, LET HIM BE ACCURSED!

Gal 1:10 Now then, am I striving to please men, or God? Or am I motivated to please men? For if I am yet pleasing men, I would not be a servant of Christ.

Moses told us we must listen to the prophet who was going to be raised up after him, and this can only mean our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Therefore, it is the Law of Jesus that we are to follow. The law of Moses was fulfilled and became obsolete the moment Jesus died on the cross. In verses 8 and 9 above, Paul repeats what he said about anyone who preaches a gospel other than what they have learned from them. They are to be accursed. He repeated this to clarify that the gospel of Jesus, or the law of Jesus, is the ultimate law we are to strive to keep.

So if you are tempted to follow someone, or some organisation, or attend a church where the whole truth is not preached. Then my advice to you is to leave such a fellowship and seek the truth from the only place you will find it. In God's holy bible.

Conclusion

Now that I have shown some evidence about who we should listen to, it is time to ask the question again. “To whom will you listen?”

When we are keeping the law. Which law will you keep. The “Law of Moses” or the “Law of Jesus Christ”.

As we saw earlier, Jesus has the greater honour than Moses. This is something many people miss, Moses was a man. Jesus Christ is the “Son of God”. Jesus is the one who created everything including all of humanity. He is the one who upholds everything by the power of his words.

To whom will you listen? May I advise you to follow the advice we have heard earlier when Moses told us, we “must listen to him”. And even God the Father said we must “listen to him” when he was baptized by John in the river.

There cannot be two laws, we can only keep one. The “Law of Moses” had its fulfilment in Jesus Christ, and was nailed to the cross. Not just a part of the law, but the entire law. When Jesus died, his law became the reality.

I have presented some of the evidence to you. There is still more contained in the holy scriptures. I pray you will continue to seek the truth from the only place you will find it. In God’s holy bible.

Leslie Rendell

May God bless you and your family.