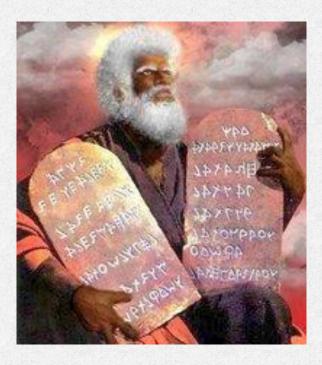


IS THE LAW DONE AWAY WITH?



An In-depth Article with Full Answers from The Bible

Is the law done away with? —This topic/question is debated every day and different people have different opinions and thoughts. But what does the Bible say? What does God say? In this exhaustive article, we will take an in-depth look at the Scriptures and see what the Bible says. This article deals with the Scriptures only and not the opinions of men. Before we delve into the heart of this topic, it is essential to establish the following points as we will refer to them throughout this article.

WHAT IS SIN?

Before we can attempt to answer whether the law is done away with or not, we need to establish what sin is. According to **1 John 3:4 "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law:** for sin is the transgression of the law." In other words, sin is the breaking of God's law (or God's commandment). It will be impossible to sin if there is no law in place to break; without law, there is no transgression. For example, if there are no traffic rules in place, then there will be no traffic offences.

GOD DOES NOT CHANGE!

God is not like a man; He does not change. He is the ancient of days and does not change; Malachi 3:6 For I am the Lord, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed. God does not change in terms of the standard He is known for; He shows mercy but does not change His standard. Being merciful does not mean His standard has changed. What God declares to be sin, is sin consistently and continually. He does not set a double standard. Hebrews 13:8: "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever."

GOD IS NOT THE AUTHOR OF CONFUSION OR CONTRADICTIONS

1 Corinthians 14:33 For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints. God does not author confusion in terms of what people should do—His instructions are clear and precise. Confusion and contradictions have always come from the Devil and not from God. How can God set a law, and Jesus confirms He did not come to destroy the law, but somehow one of the apostles changes the law? —how can this be? This is confusion and God is not the author of it. How can God enter into an eternal covenant of the Sabbath and then changed the terms of the covenant through the Apostles? Is this the truth?

Now that we have established these points, we are in a good position to begin answering the question we are dealing with—is the law done away with?

HAS THE LAW BEEN DONE AWAY WITH?

Most Christians assume that the law is done away and we are no longer required to keep the law. This assumption is a deception from the Devil so that people can sin by not keeping the laws of the Most High God. Having established what SIN is, we are now in a position to begin answering the question—Is the law done away with? Let us pause and think for a moment: If sin is breaking God's law (**1 John 3:4**), how can anyone possibly sin today if there is no law in place to break? The idea that the law is done away with is a deception of the devil so that people can lack the understanding of what God requires of them.

HOSEA 4:6 "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shalt be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God, I will also forget thy children." The knowledge God is talking about here is the 'LAW of God' and this can be demonstrated: MALACHI 2:7 "For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the

messenger of the Lord of hosts." People are destroyed because they don't know what God requires according to the law.

Before we go further, it is essential to establish that:

No man is justified by keeping the law alone; keeping the law is a sign of walking in righteousness & obedience. Keeping the law preserves the justification one receives from the Most High God through Christ.

One must keep the law and the faith of Jesus Christ to make it to the kingdom of God (**REVELATION 14:12; Matthew 19:17**). If you are justified by the blood of Jesus but continue to sin (break God's laws: **1 John 3:4**), how can you keep the justification? Jesus Said:

JOHN 8:11 "She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and <u>sin no more.</u>"

JOHN 5:14 "Afterward Jesus findeth him in the temple, and said unto him, Behold, thou art made whole: **sin no more**, lest a worse thing come unto thee."

The instruction from Jesus is clear: **sin no more** and you can only keep yourself from sinning by obeying the law, statutes, and commandments of God (**1 John 3:4**).

JOHN 8:31-32: 31 "Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; 32 And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." The question that arises from the above passage is: WHAT IS THE TRUTH? PSALM 119:142 answers: 142 Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and thy law is the truth.

JOHN 14:6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

From the above passage, we can see that THE LAW and JESUS CHRIST are both considered to be the truth. So, we need the LAW and Jesus to make it to the Kingdom of God (**Revelation** 14:12; Matthew 19:17).

Jesus made it clear that He did not come to do his own will but the will of God. JOHN 6:38 For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. Then, what is the WILL OF GOD? The will of God is for man to keep his commandments: Ecclesiastes 12:13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man.

Jesus further said:

MATTHEW 7:22-23: 22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, 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.

Why will Jesus tell people he never knew them? Here is the answer: **1 JOHN 2:4 "He that saith**, **I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him."**

ROMANS 7:7 "What shall we say then? Is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet." The term 'law' and 'commandment' are the same—they are used interchangeably. Thou shall not covet is part of the Ten Commandments but Apostle Paul refers to it as 'the law'. God is looking for people who will worship him in spirit and truth: JOHN 4:24 "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth." And again, WHAT IS THE TRUTH? The TRUTH is the LAW and JESUS Christ—as established earlier (Psalm 119:142; John 14:6). So many people think they don't have to obey the 'Law' because of some of Apostle Paul's writings. People have massively misinterpreted the writings of Apostle Paul; people believe that he spoke against the law—he did not! This is what Apostle Peter says:

2 PETER 3:15-16:

15 And account that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation; even as our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; 16 As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things **HARD TO BE UNDERSTOOD**, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.

Some of the writings of Apostle Paul are hard to be understood and people have thought that he wrote against the law. The writings of Apostle Paul were perfect but people have erroneously interpreted his writings. Today's Christians think that 'grace' has cancelled the law—this is not true!

APOSTLE PAUL'S WRITINGS OFTEN MISUNDERSTOOD

ROMANS 10:4 "For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth."

People have misinterpreted this verse thinking that Apostle Paul was putting an end to the 'Law'. Paul was not putting an end to the law here. Before Christ came, many people kept the law but their hearts were not righteous. So what Paul was saying here is that the era of obeying the law with an unrighteous heart is over. Note that the law has not ended; one can now, through faith in Christ, keep the law with the level of righteousness that God desires. This passage is simply saying that Christ has put an end to the sacrificial law. This passage exemplifies the fact that righteousness comes through faith in Christ and not through the blood of bulls and goats: **ROMANS 3:22 "Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:"**

CAN WE GET RID OF THE LAW BECAUSE WE HAVE FAITH IN CHRIST?

ROMANS 3:31 "Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law." Paul is saying strongly here that we can't get rid of the law because of faith in Christ but we establish (uphold, defend, keep) it. What did Christ himself say? MATHEW 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."

Heaven and earth are still here and every word MUST be is fulfilled before heaven and earth pass away. So long as heaven and earth are still here, the LAW is still in effect. Anyone who tells you the law is done away with is teaching an error.

The disciples kept the law, so why should you not? See this:

JAMES 2:11 "For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law." Why is James referring to the LAW if the law is done away with? How can one possibly break the law if the law is done away with?

Jesus warns his followers to keep the commandments (the Law):

MATHEW 5:19-18

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. 20 For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

The reason why Christ said their righteousness must exceed that of the Pharisees is that the Pharisees kept the law but their hearts were not righteous, so Jesus set the threshold by saying you must keep law and have a righteous heart. Jesus did not destroy the law but brought out the fulness of what the law was intended to accomplish.

EXAMPLE 1

MATHEW 5:21-22

Ye have heard that it was said of them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: 22 But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.

Thou shall not kill is a general law but Christ took the law from the general law and personalised it. Not only that you shall not kill, but you must have a righteous heart towards your brother.

EXAMPLE 2

MATHEW 5:27-28:

27 Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: 28 But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.

Thou shalt not commit adultery is a general law but again Christ here took the law and made it personal. Not only can you not commit adultery but your heart must be righteous.

In both examples, we can see that Christ did not destroy the law but brought out the fullness of what the law was intended to accomplish. Christ fulfilled the law by teaching 'righteous heart' must accompany works or keeping of the law. THEREFORE, FULFILLING THE LAW DOES NOT MEAN ENDING THE LAW BUT DOING THE LAW AT ITS FULLEST CAPACITY. Jesus also fulfilled the law by dying on the cross and terminating animal sacrifice—he fulfilled all that was written concerning him. This does not make you and I free of responsibilities; we have things to fulfill.

Christ fulfilled the law because He kept it at the standard the Father desires. And that's why we need Christ to keep the law at its fullest capacity or properly.

Paul says: **ROMANS 3:31 "Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law".** Then here comes a question, how do we establish the law? To establish the law, we must abide by, keep, continue in, hold — as Christ did.

PROVERBS 28:4 "They that forsake the law praise the wicked: but such as keep the law contend with them." King Solomon is saying the same thing as Apostle Paul—they are not teaching differently. If you forsake the law, you will practice and tolerate sin and wickedness.

PROVERBS 28:9 "He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer shall be abomination." When Paul says we 'establish the law', he is only stressing what the prophets wrote—He was not writing something contrary to the prophets—all his writings are in perfect harmony with the writings of the prophets.

YE ARE NOT UNDER LAW BUT UNDER GRACE—WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

ROMANS 6:14 "For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace." A quick look at this verse appears like Paul is saying we don't have to keep the law—but is he?

Let's read further.

ROMANS 6:15 "What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid." In verse 15, Paul says just because we are not under the law that does not mean we should sin. Now here comes the question again: How can one sin if there is no law in place to break? If there is no law, there is no sin.

So, what does Apostle Paul mean when he says that 'we are not under the law? He is referring to the sacrificial law. The sacrificial law and all associated rituals are done away with but other laws are still in place.

HEBREWS 10:1

1 For the law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect. 2 For then would they not have ceased to be offered? because that the worshippers once purged should have had no more conscience of sins. 3 But in those sacrifices there is a remembrance again made of sins every year. 4 For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins. 5 Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me: 6 In burnt offerings and sacrifices for sin thou hast had no pleasure. 7 Then said I, Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me,) to do thy will, O God. 8 Above when he said, Sacrifice and offering and burnt offerings for sin thou wouldest not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the law; 9 Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. **He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second.** 10 By the which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

So, we can see clearly that Christ came and cancelled the sacrificial law and becomes our sacrificial lamb. He cancelled the First (The old covenant of Sacrificial System) and establish the second (The New Covenant with Christ being our sacrificial lamb). So, the only thing that Christ put an end to was the sacrificial law and associated rituals but all the other laws are still in effect.

Daniel prophesied about this and Christ fulfilled what Prophet Daniel said:

DANIEL 9:27

And he (Christ, see Verse 26) shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

So many people don't understand that there are different sections of the law: civil law, dietary law, sacrificial Law, etc, all these laws form THE WHOLE LAW. If the total law is done away with, it will be impossible to sin because SIN IS THE TRANSGRESSION OF THE LAW (**1 JOHN 3:4**).

FURTHER APOSTLE PAUL'S WRITINGS OFTEN MISUNDERSTOOD

GALATIANS 3:10 "For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the

book of the law to do them." This verse is not saying that if you keep the law you are under a curse—it is not! This passage is simply saying that there are two types of doers of the law.

The first category is those that keep the law through faith in Christ and have a righteous heart. While the second category is those that keep the law by doing good works but with an unrighteous heart—not through the faith of Jesus Christ.

ROMANS 3:20 Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

ROMANS 2:13 (For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified.

If you look at the two verses above, Paul says BY THE DEEDS OF THE LAW THERE SHALL NO FLESH BE JUSTIFIED and, in another verse says BUT THE DOERS OF THE LAW SHALL BE JUSTIFIED — is he confused? No, he is not! Paul was simply referring to the two categories. DEEDS OF THE LAW are those that kept the law with an unrighteous heart and not through faith in Jesus Christ. DOERS OF THE LAW (**Romans 2:13**) refers to a person who is keeping the law with a righteous heart and through faith in Jesus Christ.

Pastors today have misled their congregations with the idea that the **'law is done away with'** and therefore leading people to sin. If we don't keep the commandments, we are only drawing close to Christ with the mouth only; having a heart far from Him (**Mathew 5: 8-9**). Our pastors are busy teaching a vain doctrine of prosperity and breakthroughs instead of teaching the true doctrine that God gave us (**Proverbs 4:2**). Pastors and teachers are busy teaching their members that you can't keep the law but at the same time telling their members **you can do all things through Christ**—is this not confusion? –can do all things only when God will bless you?

Why is the world in a terrible state now? See Isaiah 24:4-6

ISAIAH 24:4-6:

4 The earth mourneth and fadeth away, the world languisheth and fadeth away, the haughty people of the earth do languish. 5 The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant. 6 Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate: therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men left.

Why are terrible things (pestilences, diseases, pandemics, etc) happening to people on the earth today? Because people have transgressed the laws (commandments) of God.

Furthermore,

Is there such thing as grace? Yes

Are we under grace? Yes

Is there a contradiction because we keep the law? No

Grace simply means an opportunity to repent and draw close to the Father through Christ—not a license to sin. When we sin, there is an opportunity for us to repent.

Grace was not given to cancel the law but to give an opportunity to man.

Let us think again:

If grace is protecting you when you sin, then why do you have to repent? The purpose of grace is, when we do sin (not intentional sin), we have an opportunity to repent (**1 John 1:9**).

There was no flaw in the law but the flaw was in the people who kept it. **PSALMS 19:7 "The** law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the Lord is sure, making

wise the simple." The law of the Lord is perfect—where is the flaw in something that is already perfect?

HEBREW 7:19 "For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God." The Bible didn't say that the law was imperfect—no, it did not! The purpose of the law was defeated because those who kept it were not keeping it properly—How do we know this?

Hebrew 8:8-10

8 For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah: 9 Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord. 10 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; **<u>I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts</u>: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:**

The Lord never changed the law—he only changed the mode of presentation. The law is already perfect (**Psalms 19:7**). When the law was on the stone, they kept it because they had to; but now we keep it because we love the Lord. How can we prove that we love the father? Let's see the Bible: **1 JOHN 5:3 "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous."**

JOHN 14:21 "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him."

THE THINKING ROOMS!

THE BEREAN CHRISTIANS

ACTS 17:11 "These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so."

Do you know that at the time when Paul was preaching to the Berean Christians the New Testament was not yet written? If the new testament was not yet written, what Scriptures was Paul using to draw them to God? What scriptures were the Berean Christians searching daily? How could they have used Scriptures (law and the Prophets) that many today claim is done away with? What Christians today claim is done away with, is what the early Christians laid the foundation of their faith with—the very people we use as examples! People who claim the law and the prophets are done away with are in severe error.

PAUL REASONED WITH THE JEWS

ACTS 17:2 "And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures,"

At the time when Paul was reasoning with the Jews Sabbath after Sabbath, the new testament was not written. Why was Apostle Paul using the Law and the prophets if they were done away with? The very scriptures that so many people believe we don't have to obey, is what Paul was using to reason with sinners. Again, so many people who believe the law is done away with are wrong.

DISCIPLES ON WAY TO EMMAUS

LUKE 24:25-27:

25 Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: 26 Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory? 27 And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.

This was after Jesus' death; He (Jesus) expounded the Scriptures that so many Christians believe we don't have to keep today. How can we claim we are following Jesus and not follow the examples of Scriptures He used? Jesus said all scriptures must be fulfilled. How can people claim that the law is done away with when heaven and earth are still here?

THE RICH YOUNG RULER

MATHEW 19:16-17:

16 And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life? 17 And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.

At the time that Jesus made this statement, the new testament was not written. If the commandments in the writings of Moses and the Prophets were done away with, how could Jesus have told this young ruler to keep something that was obsolete? If Jesus were to be here today, he will tell us the same thing—He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Jesus wouldn't have told him to keep the commandments if they were/are done away with. So many Christians today are in deception by thinking the law is done away with.

SEARCH THE SCRIPTURES

JOHN 5:39 "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me."

The New Testament was not written at this time and the Scriptures that Jesus was referring to are the writings of Moses and the prophets. How could Jesus have told them to search Scriptures that so many believe they are no longer required to keep? So many people obey the Scriptures partially—how can they find life? Anyone who thinks that law is done away with is in deception.

REFERENTIAL INTEGRITY

Do you know that Apostle Paul and other apostles used the writings of Moses and the prophets as the bedrock of their writings? If the Law is done away with, then we have a major problem of referential integrity—you cannot refer to something obsolete or done away with. If you remove all references made to the writings of Moses and the prophets in the New Testament, it leaves the New Testament hollow like a ghost town. Let us see some examples:

LUKE 24:44 "Now He said to them, "These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled."

ROMANS 9:13 "As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated." Where did Apostle Paul quote from? He was referring to **Malachi 1:1-4**.

LUKE 4:18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,"

Where did Jesus quote from? Jesus was referring to Isaiah 61.

1 Peter 1:15-16 "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; 16 <u>Because it is written</u>, Be ye holy; for I am holy."

Why is Apostle Peter stating that IT IS WRITTEN? Where is it written? Because He was referring to what is written in the writings of Moses and the prophets. Let us see some examples:

EXODUS 19:6 "<u>And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation</u>. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel."

EXODUS 22:31 "<u>And ye shall be holy men unto me</u>: neither shall ye eat any flesh that is torn of beasts in the field; ye shall cast it to the dogs."

LEVITICUS 10:10 "<u>And that ye may put difference between holy and unholy</u>, and between unclean and clean;"

LEVITICUS 11:44 "For I am the Lord your God: **ye shall therefore sanctify yourselves, and ye shall be holy; for I am holy**: neither shall ye defile yourselves with any manner of creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth."

LEVITICUS 11:45 "For I am the Lord that bringeth you up out of the land of Egypt, to be your God: <u>ye shall therefore be holy, for I am holy</u>."

LEVITICUS 19:2 "Speak unto all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say unto them, **Ye shall be holy: for I the Lord your God am holy**."

LEVITICUS 20:7 "Sanctify yourselves therefore, and be ye holy: for I am the Lord your God."

LEVITICUS 20:26 "<u>And ye shall be holy unto me</u>: for I the Lord am holy, and have severed you from other people, that ye should be mine."

LEVITICUS 23:3 "Six days shall work be done: but the seventh day is the sabbath of rest, <u>an</u> <u>holy convocation</u>; ye shall do no work therein: it is the sabbath of the Lord in all your dwellings."

LEVITICUS 23:21 "And ye shall proclaim on the selfsame day, <u>that it may be an holy</u> <u>convocation unto you</u>: ye shall do no servile work therein: it shall be a statute for ever in all your dwellings throughout your generations."

Peter was referring to (but not limited to the above) the commandment to be holy in the above passages. You can only be holy if you go to the texts that Apostle Peter is referring you to—the laws of Moses and the prophets—and obey them. God has specified how he wants people to be holy—everything is written without ambiguity. For anyone to disregard the words of Peter (**as it is written!**) and still claim to be sanctified and holy, is being biblically dishonest.

Likewise:

MATTHEW 24:15-16

15 When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) 16 Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains:

Jesus in the above passage is referring you to the book of Daniel. Why would Jesus refer you to the writings of the prophets? Because they are not done away with.

These are just a few of several references to the Law and the prophets. You cannot refer to something obsolete or done away with.

FURTHER THINKING ROOMS:

WHY DO YOU OBEY THE TITHING LAW BUT EAT PORK, CATFISH, SHRIMP, AND ALL UNCLEAN MEATS — IS THIS NOT A CONFUSION?

Millions of Christians (including holiness preachers) today believe that Christians should pay their tithe (tithe is part of the whole law) but teach their members that they can eat pork, catfish, crayfish, lobster, shrimp, dog, and other unclean meats in the name of "the law is done away with". If the law is done away with, why do you have to pay tithe? Remember we have established at the start of this article that God does not change; if He has declared something to be sin in the past, it is still sin today—he doesn't flip-flop. God declares eating all unclean meat abomination.

ISAIAH 66:17 "They that sanctify themselves, and purify themselves in the gardens behind one tree in the midst, eating swine's flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse, shall be consumed together, saith the Lord."

LEVITICUS 11:7-8: "7 And the swine, though he divide the hoof, and be clovenfooted, yet he cheweth not the cud; he is unclean to you. 8 Of their flesh shall ye not eat, and their carcase shall ye not touch; they are unclean to you."

ISAIAH 65:4 "Which remain among the graves, and lodge in the monuments, which eat swine's flesh, and broth of abominable things is in their vessels;"

We can see God declares all these animals to be unclean (not good for human consumption) eating these unclean animals is an abomination. How can God say eating pork, shrimp, catfish, lobster, crayfish, etc, is an abomination and later on send Apostle Paul (as many believers erroneously claim) to tell His children that it is no longer sin? How can this be? This is confusion, and God is not the author of confusion. So many people have misinterpreted the writings of Apostle Paul to Timothy:

1 TIMOTHY 4:3-5: 3 Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. 4 For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: 5 For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer.

Paul is not saying that people can now eat unclean animals; these very verses, when studied carefully, destroy the claim that people can now eat unclean meats.

GOD said eating pork and all unclean meats is an abomination (Isaiah 66:17; 65:4; Isaiah 65:4):

- How can God say you can now receive pork and all unclean meats with thanksgiving (I Timothy 4:3)—something He condemns and calls sin in Leviticus 11:7-8, Isaiah 66:17, Isaiah 65:4, Deuteronomy 14, Acts 15:20—How can this be?
- If it is received with thanksgiving (I Timothy 4:4): God declares eating pork, shrimp, lobster, crayfish, catfish, and all unclean meats an abomination (Leviticus 11:7-8, Isaiah 65:4 and Isaiah 66:17; Deuteronomy 14, Acts 15:21)—today, these animals are still unclean, how can God say you can now receive these unclean animals with thanksgiving? God is not the author of confusion.
- For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer (I Timothy 4:4): two conditions must be met before the meat can be received: Leviticus 11, Isaiah 65:4, Isaiah 66:17,

Deuteronomy 14, and Proverbs 28:9 must be satisfied. The word of God has already sanctified (set apart) meats that may be eaten (**Leviticus 11, Isaiah 65:4, Isaiah 66:17, Deuteronomy 14,**); how can God be telling people that they can now eat meats not sanctified by the Bible? Can God be condemning certain meats in one part of the Bible and at the same time be telling people to eat the same? God is not the author of confusion.

We can see clearly that God is not, through Apostle Paul, telling people to eat something He has already called sin and an abomination. This passage is simply saying that all animals God has called clean, we are to receive them with thanksgiving and prayer—because His word has already sanctified (set apart) these animals.

Therefore, eating pork, shrimp, lobster, catfish, crayfish and all unclean meats is SIN—breaking God's commandment (**1 John 3:4**). These animals are not good for human health and have poor digestive systems—they are garbage cans of the earth—God created them for balance in the ecosystem and not for human consumption. Anyone teaching people to eat these animals is not teaching people the truth.

Further Thinking Room For 1 Timothy 4

The context of **1 Timothy 4** is about brethren that will backslide and have the following qualities:

- Depart from the faith.
- Giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils.
- □ Speaking lies in hypocrisy.
- □ Having their conscience seared with a hot iron.
- □ Forbidding to marry.
- □ Commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth.

Certain backslidden brethren with the above characteristics, in latter times, will teach true believers to reject meats that God has already sanctified and called clean. Paul is not teaching people to go against **Leviticus 11**, **Isaiah 65:4**, **Deuteronomy**, **Acts 15:20**, and **Isaiah 66:17**—He is not.

Sadly, so many people today believe that **1 Timothy 4** speaks against the law—which is not the truth. However, anyone who believes that **1 Timothy 4** cancels the dietary laws in **Leviticus 11** or teaches against it, is in error. The implication of teaching that **1 Timothy 4** cancels **Leviticus 11**, **Isaiah 65:4**, and **Isaiah 66:17** is monumental: go into the thinking room and answer these questions:

- Question: Is Leviticus 11 a doctrine of devils? Anyone who believes that 1Timothy 4 cancels the dietary laws is believing that Leviticus 11, Isaiah 65:4, and Isaiah 66:17 is the doctrine of devils!
- **Question**: Did Moses and the prophets who teach the dietary law also taught people not to marry? Certainly not!
- Question: Since when is keeping God's commands in Leviticus 11, Isaiah 65:4, and Isaiah 66:17 a thing of the devil? Anyone who believes that 1 Timothy 4 cancels the dietary laws is believing that Leviticus 11, Isaiah 65:4, and Isaiah 66:17 are things of devils!
- Question: Did Leviticus 11, Isaiah 65:4, and Isaiah 66:17 come from the Devil? Anyone who believes that 1 Timothy 4 cancels the dietary laws is saying that Leviticus 11, Isaiah 65:4, and Isaiah 66:17 come from devils!
- Question: Is teaching God's dietary instructions doctrines of devils and seducing spirits?
 Anyone

who believes that **1 Timothy 4** cancels the dietary laws is saying that **Leviticus 11**, **Isaiah 65:4**, and **Isaiah 66:17** is a doctrine of devils and seducing spirits!

- Question: Is teaching obedience to God's whole word departing from the faith? Anyone who believes that 1 Timothy 4 cancels the dietary laws is saying that teaching Leviticus 11, Isaiah 65:4, and Isaiah 66:17 is departing from the Faith.
- Question: Is teaching that God has set apart certain animals as food speaking lies in hypocrisies? Anyone who believes that 1 Timothy 4 cancels the dietary laws is saying that teaching Leviticus 11, Isaiah 65:4, and Isaiah 66:17 is speaking lies in hypocrisies.
- Question: Does God's law which the Scripture defines as the truth (Psalm 119:142) states nothing about animals being clean and unclean, and that all animals were always to be received with thanksgiving?
 Anyone who believes that 1 Timothy 4 cancels the dietary laws is saying that Leviticus 11, Isaiah 65:4, and Isaiah 66:17 are not the truth!
- Question: Did God create all animals to be eaten? Anyone who believes that 1 Timothy 4 cancels the dietary laws is saying that Leviticus 11, Isaiah 65:4, and Isaiah 66:17 are false!
- Question: Is teaching God's commandments in Leviticus 11, Isaiah 65:4, and Isaiah 66:17 profane & ungodly? Anyone who believes that 1 Timothy 4 cancels the dietary laws is saying that teaching
- Leviticus 11, Isaiah 65:4, and Isaiah 66:17 is profane & ungodly.
 Question: Is teaching God's commandments in Leviticus 11, Isaiah 65:4, and Isaiah 66:17 old wise fables?

Anyone who believes that **1 Timothy 4** cancels the dietary laws is saying that teaching **Leviticus 11**, **Isaiah 65:4**, and **Isaiah 66:17** is teaching old wise fables.

WHY DO YOU OBEY THE TITHING LAW BUT POLLUTE THE SABBATH — IS THIS NOT A CONFUSION?

This is another confusion among many Christians who claim to have read the Bible. Churches ask their members to pay tithe (part of the whole law) but at the same time disregard the following:

EXODUS 31:14-17:

14 Ye shall keep the sabbath therefore; for it is holy unto you: every one that defileth it shall surely be put to death: for whosoever doeth any work therein, that soul shall be cut off from among his people. 15 Six days may work be done; but in the seventh is the sabbath of rest, holy to the Lord: whosoever doeth any work in the sabbath day, he shall surely be put to death. 16 Wherefore the children of Israel shall keep the sabbath, to observe the sabbath THROUGHOUT THEIR GENERATIONS, for a perpetual covenant. 17 It is a sign between me and the CHILDREN OF ISRAEL FOR EVER: for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, and on the seventh day he rested, and was refreshed.

- How can God command something to be kept forever and throughout their generations and then, later on, send Apostle Paul (and other Apostles) to tell His children you don't have to keep it? this is Confusion. God does not change (Malachi 3:6 few verses away from tithe verse that ministers know very well).
- What is the meaning of **throughout their generations** and **forever**? Is God creating confusion? How can he contradict himself by saying that **Malachi 3:8** is false? How can He Lie?
- Apostle Paul, Apostle Peter—all Hebrews: They were required to keep the Sabbath forever, and would still be keeping the Sabbath if they were alive today. Why do Christians think Christianity is detached from them?
- God said the instruction to keep the Sabbath is a **perpetual covenant**, how can He break the perpetual covenant He set up by sending Apostle Paul to abolish the Sabbath? Remember He says He does not change (**Malachi 3:6**).

ROMANS 14:5-6:

5 One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind.6 He that regardeth the day, regardeth it unto the Lord; and he that regardeth not the day, to the Lord he doth not regard it. He that eateth, eateth to the Lord, for he giveth God thanks; and he that eateth not, to the Lord he eateth not, and giveth God thanks.

The above passage is one of the 'go-to' verses for the proponents of Sunday worship. Here, Apostle Paul is not writing this to create a new command by authorising Sunday as a day of worship—He is not! The context of this chapter is about personal preferences and not about instituting a new commandment concerning the Sabbath. Paul starts by addressing whether someone should eat herbs only or whether one can eat meat (meat God calls clean)—it is all about personal preference.

ISAIAH 56:4: "For this is what the Lord says: "To the eunuchs who keep my Sabbaths, who choose what pleases me and hold fast to my covenant"

ISAIAH 56:6 "Also the sons of the stranger, that join themselves to the Lord, to serve him, and to love the name of the Lord, to be his servants, every one that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it, and taketh hold of my covenant;"

ISAIAH 58:13 "13 If thou turn away thy foot from the sabbath, from doing thy pleasure on my holy day; and call the sabbath a delight, the holy of the Lord, honourable; and shalt honour him, not doing thine own ways, nor finding thine own pleasure, nor speaking thine own words:"

NEHEMIAH 10:31 "And if the people of the land bring ware or any victuals on the sabbath day to sell, that we would not buy it of them on the sabbath, or on the holy day: and that we would leave the seventh year, and the exaction of every debt."

Throughout the Bible, God respects and honours his commandments, covenants, and promises. In the above verses (**Isaiah 56:4, Isaiah 56:6, Isaiah 58:13**), God abides by the covenant regarding the Sabbath and takes all things related to it seriously. Why would God be a God of a double standard—the same Sabbath that people were stoned for breaking, now people can break it? How can this be?

Emperor Constantine and the Council of Nicaea changed the Lord's holy day from Sabbath (Saturday) to Sunday—this is not of God. The disciples and the apostles are not teaching that people should worship on Sunday—they are not doing that! People who claim Sunday worship is endorsed by God are in error and sinning. The interpretation that Sunday is now the sabbath contradicts other parts of the Bible—this interpretation is not of God. As a rule of thumb, any interpretation of the Bible that conflicts with other parts of the Bible must be rejected. People think that Jesus rose from the dead on Sunday, and because of that we can now worship on Sunday—that's an error! Christ's resurrection was not on Sunday; see our article on **Christ's Resurrection Was Not On Sunday**.

WHY DO YOU OBEY THE TITHING LAW BUT DISOBEY JEREMIAH 10:1-5 BY LEARNING THE WAYS OF THE HEATHEN—CHRISTMAS, EASTER, VALENTINE ETC? IS THIS NOT A CONFUSION?

If you don't pay your tithe, you are not going to heaven: That's what you hear from pastors and teachers. Where is the law of tithe from? From the law of God written by Moses—How can you despise the law and just pick only one law? The same God who says pay your tithe is the same God who says DO NOT LEARN THE WAYS OF THE HEATHEN. Teaching people to disobey

Jeremiah 10:1-5 by learning the ways of the heathens—Christmas, Easter, Lent, Easter sunrise services, etc—ways of God mixed with false ways.

Setting up Christmas trees in homes and churches is sheer disobedience to **Jeremiah 10:1-5** —spiritual disobedience! Celebrating Easter—in whatever form—is sin. Easter dishonours Christ! Any worship of God that has been mixed with false ways is a way of the heathen—doing things not instructed by God.

IS INTERCOURSE WITH ANIMALS A SIN? WHERE IN THE BIBLE DID GOD SAY THAT?

While so many Christians including unbelievers agree with the fact that intercourse with an animal is despicable, but at the same time claim, the law is done away with. How can there be transgression if there is no law in place to transgress? If the law is done away with, that means homosexuality and bestiality are not sin anymore— but is that the truth? Bestiality is a sin because God says **thou shall do no such thing**. How can bestiality still be a sin if the law is done away with? Remember sin is breaking of God's law (**1 John 3:4**).

EXODUS 22:19 "Whosoever lieth with a beast shall surely be put to death."

LEVITICUS 18:23 "Neither shalt thou lie with any beast to defile thyself therewith: neither shall any woman stand before a beast to lie down thereto: it is confusion."

LEVITICUS 20:16 "And if a woman approach unto any beast, and lie down thereto, thou shalt kill the woman, and the beast: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them."

DEUTERONOMY 27:21 "Cursed be he that lieth with any manner of beast. And all the people shall say, Amen."

How can people choose which verse applies and which doesn't? If the sin outlined in these verses above still holds today, then the law—the whole law—is still in effect.

THE LAW & THE PROPHETS AND, FUTURE COMING PROPHECIES

So many people who claim the law is done away will be in big shock when Jesus comes back; if they know what Jesus will do to those breaking the law—they will keep it. People say all that matters is accepting Jesus but you can disregard the laws like the dietary law. Is the dietary law important? Is obedience to the laws and commandments essential for salvation? Let us find out:

MATTHEW 5:19

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.

Is Jesus serious about people keeping the laws and the prophets in the passage below?

MATTHEW 5:17-20

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.

How important is this? Let us dig deeper:

ISAIAH 66:15-18

15 For, behold, the Lord will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire. 16 For by fire and by his sword will the Lord plead with all flesh: **and the slain of the Lord shall be many**. 17 They that sanctify themselves, and purify themselves in the gardens behind one tree in the midst, **eating swine's flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse, shall be consumed together**, saith the Lord. 18 For I know their works and their thoughts: it shall come, that I will gather all nations and tongues; and they shall come, and see my glory.

The above passage is about a future prophecy of the coming **Day of the Lord** (**Isaiah 66:15-18**); Verse 17 specifically says He will destroy all people eating swine's flesh (pig's meat), mouse and all unclean meats, and abominable things. Now, here is a question: why will Jesus destroy those eating pig (swine) and all unclean meats at His second coming? Because God has already instructed people through His servant Moses to keep the dietary law (**Leviticus 11**; **Deuteronomy 14**). Anyone eating these meats supposedly thinking the laws are done away with will be in for a big shock when Christ comes back.

REMEMBER THE LAW OF TITHING BUT THE OTHER LAWS?

MALACHI 4:4 Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments.

The tithe verse that people passionately obey because it brings money to the church and nourishes the pockets of the overseers, is from the laws that God commanded Moses to write. Will you only obey **Malachi 3:8-10 and disregard Malachi 4:4?** Is God only telling you to remember the tithing law? Be wise and don't be deceived!

MALACHI 4

For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. 2 But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall. 3 And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the Lord of hosts. 4 Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments.5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord: 6 And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

Malachi is reminding people to obey the law of Moses and the prophets. He is reminding people of the **coming Day of the Lord's wrath** (at Christ's Second coming **Malachi 4:1**); it's not just tithe but other laws and commandments. Isaiah said the same about the coming **Day of the Lord** and even reminded people that those disobeying the law of God written by Moses by eating unclean meats like a pig will be destroyed at Christ's second coming. **Malachi** and **Isaiah** and **Moses** are all in harmony—they are united in aim and the will of the Most High God. Tithing is just a tiny bit of the whole puzzle.

SUMMARY

We have proved sufficiently that the Law is not 'done away with'. Only the law of animal sacrifice is 'done away with' as Christ is now our sacrifice (the Lamb of God). The other thing, which is, of course, obvious, is when Moses permitted Israel to write a bill of divorce because of the hardness of their hearts; Moses was pressured into giving them this instruction and we are not supposed to follow this example. The fact that there is no instant punishment for committing certain sins, those things are still sin: breaking the Sabbath is still sin, committing adultery is still sin. If someone breaks the sabbath, for example, this person will not be put to death but have a chance (GRACE) to repent. Grace simply means an opportunity for us to repent if we do sin—not willful sin. Grace does not cancel the Law. There are certain aspects of the law that we are not able to do today such as going to Jerusalem three times a year because there is no temple to go to, but this does not create a ground to break other laws. Anyone breaking God's laws thinking that the laws are 'done away with' is in sin and error and must repent and start keeping God's laws. Let us keep the laws and prophets as much as we can; let us keep the laws to the best of our ability.