

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE BIRTH OF CHRISTIANITY

RLJ-1301

JOHN S. TORELL

JULY 31, 2011

PART 5: THE OLD TESTAMENT

In our previous sermons we have laid out the foundation that Jews and Gentiles are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ. **Ephesians 2:8-9**

We have also learned that male Jews and Gentiles no longer need to be circumcised in order to be saved. **Galatians 5:1-12**

Circumcision never actually saved a person or else all the women from Eve up to the time of Jesus could not have been saved. Abraham was not saved by circumcision but by faith in the coming Messiah. **Genesis 15:1-6; Romans 4:1-5**

THE OLD TESTAMENT

What do we do with the Old Testament? To correctly answer that question we must first know the content of the Old Testament:

1. **THE LAW** refers to the five books of Moses, also referred by the Jews as the Torah.
2. **THE PROPHETS** includes all the major and minor prophets.
3. **THE WRITINGS** includes all historical documents like Joshua, Judges, etc. and Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and the Song of Solomon.

Jesus accepted this division of the Old Testament. **Matthew 5:17-18**

THE DIVISION OF THE TORAH

The Book of Genesis is the divine historical record of the creation and life from Adam and Eve until Joseph. It contains moral laws, practical laws and sacrificial laws. But when God gave Moses the instructions as found in Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy, it was by direct divine revelation of how God wanted His people to live. This was not a suggestion but a command of how to live a holy life on earth. **Deuteronomy 4:1-9**

The instructions from God dealt with three areas:

1. **The Moral Law.** An example of this is found in **Exodus 20:1-17**
2. **The Practical Law.** An example of this is found in **Leviticus chapter 11**
3. **The Sacrificial Law.** An example of this is found in **Leviticus chapter 16**

The Moral Law did not save people from their sins.

The Practical Law did not save people from their sins.

Only the Sacrificial Law contained atonement for sin.



8341 Fair Oaks Blvd, Suite B, Carmichael, CA 95608

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 166 Sheridan, CA 95681

Phone: (916) 944-3724 • Toll Free: (888) 708-3232 • Fax: (530) 633-2918 • www.eaec.org

Jesus became the perfect sacrificial lamb that was offered up to pay for the sins of everyone on the earth. This was not an annual sin offering but a “once and for all” sin offering. The sacrificial law was fulfilled by Jesus on the cross. Hebrews 9:11-26

That leaves the Moral and Practical laws still standing. Matthew 5:17-19

The doctrine of the Christian church is found in the New Testament.

- ❖ The apostle Paul made a strong case for salvation through faith that did not destroy the Moral and Sacrificial laws. **Romans 3:31**
- ❖ Paul rebuked fornication. **1 Corinthians 5:1-5**
- ❖ The Old Testament was written for our admonition. **1 Corinthians 10:9-14**
- ❖ Separate yourself from the world. **2 Corinthians 6:14-18; 7:1**
- ❖ Do not walk in the flesh. **Galatians 5:13-26**
- ❖ Do not be unclean. **Ephesians 5:1-18**
- ❖ The apostle Peter called for holiness. **1 Peter 1:13-25**
- ❖ Peter referred to the Old Testament as a sure word. **2 Peter 1:19-21**
- ❖ Paul stated that the Old Testament is profitable. **2 Timothy 3:14-17**

If the Old Testament was good for Peter and Paul, is it not also good for us?

NO CHANGE

The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ did not change the vegetation, animal kingdom or human bodies. **Romans 8:19-25; 1 Corinthians 15:50-58**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

DO YOU HAVE AN EAR TO HEAR WITH?