

Jews For Yeshua

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To the Torah & the Testimony
If anyone does not speak according to these words
It is because they have no light in them.
Yesh'yahu (Isaiah) 8:20; Revelation 12:17; 14:12



Lawless Church, Lawless Nation

Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 7:21-23

I will be among the first to admit that obeying the Torah is not what saves us, only the blood of Yeshua through His death and resurrection does. When Yeshua saved me, He saved me when I was the chief of sinners, not the chief among the righteous.

When I came to Him I knew little to nothing about the Scriptures, much less about His commandments. In fact, I didn't even know that obedience was even a concept of Scripture at the time I was saved (though I would certainly have been willing to learn obedience at that time if I had known anything about the concept at the time). Is all I knew is that my life was a hell hole of misery, and I needed a Savior, and when I asked Yeshua to come into my life, almost immediately upon completing my prayer, the Holy Spirit came upon me and I felt a loving presence, warmth, and cleansing such as cannot be described with words. And the presence and warmth and cleansing penetrated every cell of my being, even into the core of my soul. And I have been with my Savior ever since. That was over 34 years ago.

At that time I had no concept of being obedient to somehow "earn" my way to heaven, and for a few years following my salvation didn't even know that God had any commandments I was supposed to follow. I only know that those first few years following my salvation, and prior to knowing much about Scripture, that a number of sinful behaviors were leaving my life just naturally as a result of the new nature He had implanted within me.

Then after a few years when I became more familiar with the Scriptures, and began going to church more regularly, I learned that God had commandments that He had given us as a template on how our lives as believers should look as we walk out our walk and mature in the Faith. And the Protestant/Reform Catholic churches clearly taught many of those commandments – from both the New and Old Testaments.

It was at this point that things began to become conflicting. Because once I learned obedience to the commandments they did teach, it became evident to me that there were more commandments than what they taught. And that was not the odd part, the odd part was that whenever me or somebody else would bring up any of these "other" commandments, this strange mantra suddenly began being chanted in various forms that went something like this.

You cannot earn your way to Heaven, you can only be saved by His grace, not by anything that you do. Or, "If you try to do anything, you will nullify His grace and not be saved". Or, "You are saved by grace, not by works"

So in my mind I would think, okay, I knew that. In fact, the thought that one could somehow earn their way to Heaven never once entered my mind until the church first made that statement to me. And they only made that statement when it came to obeying those "other" commandments. **

** Statements like this were originally used by Protestants exclusively to address the Catholic doctrines of indulgences, the mass, self-scourging, and other types of things Catholic adherents did to "earn" their salvation. But now these types of Protestant phrases are directed almost exclusively towards those who keep any commandments outside of those sanctioned by the Protestant church.

Protestants obviously “did” acts of obedience to many of His commandments, and they did not consider this as some kind of nullification of His Grace. In fact, concerning the commandments they did uphold they would say that you are once saved always saved, and say that there is nothing that you can do to lose your salvation. It was only if you tried to obey these “other” commandments that His grace would somehow be nullified placing your soul in mortal danger.

And they would say things like, well, that is the Old Testament. Keeping the Old Testament Law nullifies His grace. We only keep the New Testament commandments.

Well isn't obeying the New Testament commandments “doing” something. So how is it that “doing” some act of obedience in the New Testament doesn't nullify one's salvation, but “doing” some act of obedience in the Old does?

Isn't tithing an Old Testament Law? How about loving “the LORD your God with all your mind, soul, and strength”, and “Loving your neighbor as yourself”? What about not practicing witchcraft, or engaging in homosexual acts. Not cursing the deaf, or not changing your neighbor's boundary marker?

Well, we will do it if it is an Old Testament Law repeated in the New Testament.

Tithing is in the New Testament? Can you show me where that verse it at? Well hold it, you teach against cross-dressing – that is not in the New Testament.

And what about God's Feasts, what is wrong with celebrating those?

“Oh, that was only for the Jews, we are not under that”. Well, Christmas (the ancient Saturnalia festival and birthday of Mithras) and Easter (originally the celebration of Ishtar a murderous, sexually perverted fertility goddess) were originally only for the pagans **, you believe you are under that?

I can show you God's Feasts in the Bible, can you show me where in the Bible God commands you to celebrate Christmas and Easter? What day He commanded them to be observed on? How many days they are to be observed? The new names He gave them to change them from the Saturnalia festival and Ishtar, to Christ-mass and Easter?

I know beyond a shadow of a doubt that I was saved long before I knew anything about obedience. Your Protestant doctrine teaches that once a person is saved, they are saved forever and can do nothing to lose their salvation. But yet you say that if I keep God's Feasts, that I will nullify His grace by this and go to Hell? But that if you keep the pagan holidays Christianized by the Catholic church, that His grace will continue to shine upon you, and you will enter in with Jesus into glory?

Is it the same with pigmeat then? If I choose to eat kosher, will this displease God also? While on the other hand if you consume whatever animal your flesh craves, this will be pleasing to Him? You say you can eat anything, but yet in Acts 15, it states that the Gentiles coming to Faith are forbidden to eat things that have been strangled, and flesh that still has the blood in it. So clearly you cannot eat just anything. In fact, it is very likely that you do, or will eventually, avoid eating salt, sugar, and/or hydrogenated oils. You may even avoid eating peas, even though according to your belief, you can eat anything.

Well, anything includes all the above, as well as bats, rats, cats, maggots, flies, spiders, and scorpions.

These are the kinds of conversations I would end up in, but yet they would continue to follow the Protestant/Reform Catholic way because that is what everybody else is doing, therefore it must be right (obeying **Shemot (Exodus) 23:2** would have protected them from this kind of reasoning). But the contradictions are clear.

** Christmas was originally the ancient Saturnalia festival and birthday of the pagan god Mithras, and Easter originally the celebration of Ishtar, a murderous, sexually perverted, fertility goddess.

But yet in Protestantism, much more of God's law was kept in early America than what is kept now. In early America, Divorce was almost unheard of (less than 5% of the population vs more than 50% today) and divorcees and fornicators were shunned. Homosexuality was considered a mental illness, and homosexuality and adultery felony offenses.

The bed in marriage was a sacred place for making children, today Christian couples practice oral and anal sex, which in early America was also a felony offense. And though they did not keep the 7th day Sabbath, they were faithful to keep Sunday as a Sabbath.

In early America among the Puritans, Christmas, due to its pagan origins, was actually against the law to celebrate, and if I understand correctly, Easter was referred to as Passover and did not include bunnies and eggs, even though it was kept on the same day as Easter (double check me on this point).

Likewise, women were not allowed to lead a congregation. Men and women dressed modestly, and women, like their Christian ancestors, had long hair and covered their heads. No believer tattooed their bodies, most Christian men grew their beards, abortion was inconceivable, and our nation prospered.

That's right. The more of His Law we kept as a nation, the more our nation prospered. In fact, to become the most powerful and prosperous nation in the history of the world didn't even require us to keep the whole of His Law. That's how powerful the blessings of the Torah are. And if we would have kept His Torah fully, we would have become even more powerful and prosperous.

But today Protestants do not even keep Sunday holy. Women show up in church with flip flops, a halter top, and shorts. Pastors preach in blue jeans and a t-shirt. Women and homosexuals lead congregations. Tattooing is becoming rampant, believers are casual in their attitudes towards fornication, adultery, and divorce. You name it, and it is not there anymore, and our nation is falling as a result.

For even as an increase in obedience to the fullness of God's Law causes a nation to prosper more than any other nation in the history of the world through the blessings that naturally flow from His Law, even so an increase in disobedience to the fullness of God's Law will cause the most prosperous nation in the history of the world to fall, never to rise again, according to the curses that naturally flow through the breaking of that same Law.

You see, wherever the body of believers leads, the rest of the nation will follow. In other words, when the Protestants in America were strong in their leadership to uphold God's Law more fully, the whole nation, including the unbelievers within the nation, benefitted from their righteous leadership and values taught. But now that Protestant values are going astray from the fullness of God's Law, the nation as a whole is also now going astray from God's Law as well.

In others words, where the Church goes is where the nation will go. So that, it is not that the Church is becoming more like the world, but that America is continuing to follow the example of the church as it always has.

That is, it is when the Church lightened its stance against fornication, divorce, and adultery, that the unbelievers in the nation began to run with those things. It was when the church sanctioned homosexuality within some of its ranks, that unbelievers within the nation began to run with it. It is when the church began dressing immodestly that the unbelievers within the nation began to run with it.

That is, before the Protestant's began sanctioning these things within their ranks, even within just a minority of their ranks, all of the sinful behaviors taking over today were restrained, even among the unbelieving. But now that the Church has sanctioned these things, or treated lightly these things, within their ranks, now these Torahless activities (sinful behavior) are growing in our nation without restraint. In other words, it is because the Church is becoming more lawless, that our nation is becoming more lawless.

So what is the place of the Torah in the life of a believer? To mature us as believers and strengthen us spiritually. To prosper us in our spiritual walk and overcome sin. To be a blessing and strength and proper example to those around us. To glorify our Father in Heaven and honor His Son instead of ourselves and Satan.

So does obedience save us. No, of course not. But obedience does naturally flow from a born again heart. But along the way, that Wicked One places all kinds of traditions and false doctrines in our path, and throws labels such as “legalistic” or “Judaizer” at people to keep them obedient to God as little as possible. For the weaker we are, the stronger his influence in the world, in our nation, and in our communities and families. And the stronger we are, the weaker he is in these domains.

Shemot (Exodus) 23:2 states we are not to follow the majority to do wrong. And **Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 5:8,9** states that those who do traditions of men in place of the commandments of God - though honoring Him with their lips, have hearts that are far from Him.

And perhaps we are once saved always saved as they say; but if you are truly among that number then what is your walk going to look like? Are you going to be doing man's traditions in place of His commandments, or His commandments in place of man's traditions? Are you going to follow the majority or are you going to do what is right, regardless of what the majority is doing?

God's Law is opposite of Satan's and Satan's law opposite of God's. God's Law is to break Satan's law, and Satan's law is to break God's law. If we teach God's Law has been done away, does that now mean that if I obey God's Law that I am really now obeying Satan?

In other words, if God's Law is done away, then we are free to break it now – free to sin now. But breaking God's Law has been Satan's work from the beginning; **I Yehochanan (I John) 3:8**.

But if breaking God's law is now some evil thing to do then how come Satanists and witches, and atheists and evolutionists, are not celebrating Passover through Tabernacles throughout the world today? Why aren't they eating kosher? And doing all the “other” commandments now allegedly done away? If these things are evil now, then you would think that atheists nations throughout the world would be celebrating the feasts as national holidays now.

And if Satan's law has now become God's Law, then how come Satanists and witches, and atheists and evolutionists have not forsaken these holidays if they are now God's holidays?

Why is it that now that God's law is supposedly done away, that I can now eat anything I want, except what the doctor tells me not to eat? Why is it that I am to obey God, except where my denomination forbids me to obey Him? Why is it that I am to be like “Jesus” except when I actually begin doing what Yeshua did, and looking like Yeshua looked?

Why is it that God's Law was for His people in the “Old” Testament, and is for both His people and the gentile nations of the earth in the future 1000 year Kingdom when God's Law is going to go forth from Mt. Zion; **Yesh'yahu (Isaiah) 2:2,3** but that in the interim His Law has been somehow done away, nailed to the cross, and made obsolete?

Why is it that all His people kept His Feasts before, and in the future when Yeshua reigns on earth for 1000 years that not only will His people keep the feasts at that time again; **Colossians 2:16,17** (*they are a shadow of things to come*); **I Corinthians 15:51,52** (*Day of Trumpets is known historically as the Day of the “Last Trump”*); **but the Gentile nations throughout the earth will be keeping them at that time as well;** **Yesh'yahu (Isaiah) 66:23; Zechar'yahu (Zechariah) 14:16-19.**

And if we kept them in the past, and all of the earth is going to keep them during the 1000 year reign, then how is it that if we keep them now in the interim then we are somehow being legalistic, judaizing heretics destined to hell for nullifying His grace and allegedly trying to earn our salvation? And by the way, how does one earn a salvation they already received at the foot of the cross?

How is it that obeying Him after I have been saved nullifies His grace? But that disobeying Him after being saved somehow causes His face to shine upon me?

How is it that obeying Him in the “Old” Testament resulted in forgiveness, and eternal life; **D’varim (Deuteronomy) 30:16-19, Yechezk’el (Ezekiel) 18 and 33**; but now it mysteriously results in unforgiveness and death? That in the “Old” covenant, and apart from the indwelling power of His Holy Spirit, that His Law was in our heart so that we could do it; **D’varim (Deuteronomy) 30:11-14**, but that now, even with the indwelling power of the Holy Spirit, it is mysteriously too difficult for anyone to keep?

The writings of Apostle Paul whom Protestants esteem most highly even stated, “What shall we say then, shall we continue to sin (to be disobedient/to break God’s Law) so that His grace may abound? God forbid! For how shall we who died to sin live anymore therein?; **Romans 6:1,2 and 6:15-18**; The thought of which is echoed by John in **I Yehochanan (I John) 3:4-10**.

Do you see the contradictory nature of the Protestant/Reform Catholic positions concerning God’s Law? How their positions concerning God’s Law contradict plainly stated passages of Scripture, and even contradict the plainly made statements of the Emissary Shaul (Apostle Paul) - and even of Yeshua Himself; **Mattit’yahu (Matthew) 5:17-19**.

Yet, professing believers choose these contradictions over the truth all the time. But Yeshua said, that those who worship God **MUST** worship Him in Spirit and in Truth, for the Father is seeking such to worship Him; **Yehochanan (John) 4:22-24**. God’s Law is spiritual; **Romans 7:14**. God’s Law is truth; **Mizmor (Psalm) 119:142**.

And no, this is not saying that this is what one does to be saved. What it is saying is that this is the proper heart attitude towards God’s Law of those who desire to be saved, and that of those who are truly saved, this will be the natural outflow of their heart as expressed in their walk.

And I think I can safely say this is a true statement for most believers – that most believers desire to be obedient - until they are confronted with any truth that their denominational doctrines and human traditions have taught and mentally conditioned them to reject.

For people naturally desire to be obedient to whatever degree necessary to conform to the expectations of their peers. And that is fine concerning the commandments of God’s Law that Protestant denominations do teach and uphold. This is like **Ma’aseh (Acts) 15:18-21** where the gentiles coming into the fold were required to begin with just 4 basic commandments, and then from there to let them learn the rest of His commandments naturally over the course of time as they hear the teachings of God given through Moshe (Moses) taught in the Synagogues every Sabbath.

So the problem is not there starting point. They begin with salvation in Yeshua, which is the proper place to start, and similar the experience of the gentiles who came to faith in Acts 15. From there they taught whatever commandments of God their denomination upholds and determines are expedient for them as believers to keep. This is similar to the experience of the gentiles in Acts 15 who were given a basic set of commandments to begin their walk with.

But that is where the similarity stops – and the growing ends. For at this point, unlike the gentiles in Acts 15 who continued to learn more commandments every week, the Protestant believers as they go to church every week are only allowed to keep learning the same commandments they began with, over and over again, and are actually **FORBIDDEN** to learn any new ones. They are kept perpetually on milk, and never allowed to grow into spiritual adulthood through the rest of His commandments. And they conform to this expectation, because they have been conditioned to believe that what they have is all there is to learn.

We cannot be part of that number. We must be of those who continue to forsake all lies handed down to us when confronted with the Truth. To continue to crucify our flesh as we learn more of His commandments, as this is a true mark of a born again person.

For a truly born again person will always desire to do what is right once they know the truth about a matter – even in the face of economic sanctions, familial division, torture, or even death. And they may not arrive there instantly, but they will arrive there eventually – for even as a good tree can only bear good fruit, and a bad tree only bad fruit; **Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 7:17-20; 12:33** even so the tree of truth implanted into a person's soul and becoming deeply rooted in that person's heart, can at the time of full maturity only bear the fruit of truth, and of obedience to the truth, in that person's walk; **Yehochanan (John) 15:1-10**.

So what kind of tree are we to be? A Torahless tree, bearing fruit of sin and lawlessness? Or a Torah tree bearing the fruit of obedience and lawful conduct?; **Romans 6:15-22** They call us people who keep those “other” commandments legalistic, but if there is such a biblical concept (I have yet to find this concept or word anywhere in Scripture) then they, being opposite in their position to us, would naturally have to be illegalistic. Whatever that looks like, it doesn't sound like anything I would want to be.

Stand for the truth. But do it in love. Remember, God desires that none should perish, but that all should come to repentance and be saved; **Yehochanan (John) 3:16,17**. For He has no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that the wicked should repent and be saved; **Yechez'el (Ezekiel) 18:23-32** So none of this is about being right, or showing people how we know about Scripture, but is about saving souls and leading them into a place of obedience and maturity in the Faith. From there maybe we can make a difference in their lives for greater good and blessing than what Protestantism limits them to.

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