



By Faith Alone

The just shall live by faith.

Romans 1:17

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Preface

In this booklet you will read about the Law of Moses that God gave to Israel. Those who practiced its laws to please God were doing the works of the Law.

The law can be seen in two ways:

1. The first half of the law is the Israelite's individual responsibility, as the laws pertained to him.

2. The other half is the tabernacle, then later the temple laws that were kept in governmental order by the priests.

In Israel's history they corrupted both individual and corporate (temple) laws. They put away the Law of Moses and made their own laws in its place (Ezekiel 8:5-18; Mark 7:1-13).

The last three years of His life here on the earth, show that Christ fulfilled the Law of Moses and preached the gospel of His kingdom before He was crucified.

The gospel of Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 15:1-4), when believed from the heart, brings a person into the kingdom of Christ (Colossians 1:13). Only then is that person a member of the body of Christ, His church.

The voice of Jesus is now a Christian's only Master (Matthew 23:8-10). The voice of Jesus is heard through the New Testament, and through the Holy Spirit's leading (Matthew 28:16-20; 1 Thessalonians 2:13; Romans 8:14).

Today in Christianity there is much confusion and corruption in what it means to walk after the voice of Jesus. The Scripture also has been corrupted concerning assembly truths (Acts 2:42 JND). Some of this is done through the sins of omission or perhaps commission, adding to or twisting the Scriptures (Deuteronomy 4:2; 1 Timothy 4:1-2; 2 Peter 3:15-16). Most of these errors being taught or practiced, give religious leaders, with a carnal drive, (Nicolaitanism, The Revelation 2:6, 15) predominance over the Spirit of God and the Scriptures.

The Law of Moses, brought into the church, has been the major factor in making a place for the carnal nature to thrive and undermine the Spirit of grace and truth (John 1:14).

This booklet is presenting the individual responsibility of the believer to “contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 3).

The erroneous doctrines that corrupt the corporate church are not addressed in this booklet. However, they may be seen in other booklets sent out by our assembly. They are:

1. The Church as Presented in Scripture
2. The Grace of God or the License of Man
3. Are you a Priest?
4. A Comparison Chart between the Law of Moses & the Church of God
5. Nicolaitanism, the Rise and Growth of the Clergy by F. W. Grant (not on the website).

These and many other booklets can be seen on the website, SearchouttheScriptures.com

1. Man, God's creation, a failed project

“Then God said, let Us make man in Our image...” (Genesis 1:26).

“So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created Him, male and female He created them” (Genesis 1:27).

God's image and His likeness, created in man, is found in man's sovereign person. He has rationality and this makes him a moral being. Man is a thinking (Genesis 2:19), feeling (Genesis 3:6) and willing (Genesis 3: 6-7) creation. Man was created a triune being with a spirit, soul, and body (1 Thessalonians 5:23; Hebrews 4:12) (Scofield's Study Bible footnotes on man, Genesis 1). Man has written within him the knowledge of God's eternal laws, these are written in his heart (Romans 2:14-15). As God has rulership over all creation, including the heavens and the earth, so He gave man/Adam dominion over the whole earth and everything on it, except *“the tree of the knowledge of good and evil”* (Genesis 2:17, 19).

Most people are aware of the history of Adam's wife, Eve, who was tempted by Satan to eat the fruit of the forbidden tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Through the enticement of Satan, she ate of the fruit on the tree.

After she ate, she then gave to her husband and he also ate. A change in their very being came over them, an everlasting change. From that time forward, Adam and his wife no longer reflected the image and likeness of their Creator. Through this disobedient act, their persons and their nature were corrupted into Satan responders, alienated from the Creator. They had become, in their corrupted nature, enemies of God. Nature itself was changed from a God-created perfection to a corrupted state, with a propensity to do evil and violence.

When Adam ate of the forbidden fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, he received the knowledge between good and evil. (Before that, he only knew the voice of God to live by). Because Adam now had this knowledge, God gave him a conscience for his preservation. This conscience was given to protect him from following his nature, a nature that reflected Satan. All of the offspring of

Adam and his wife would now have Adam's fallen nature (Romans 5:12), a nature that would now be capable of every kind of evil. In fact, there would be no limit to the evil and violence that man would put into physical practice. World history bears out that man has acted upon what is in him, a propensity to do evil with a receiving ear to do the devil's bidding.

In spite of Adam's failure, the eternal purpose of God was to ensure success of men on the earth. This success would happen through those who would believe God, so He gave Adam a prophetic promise. It was the promise of a Redeemer, a Messiah, who would destroy the works of Satan, and at His appointed time, Satan himself (Genesis 3:15). The Messiah would be the hope of all mankind (John 1:29; 1 John 2:2).

2. Adam left a corrupt world for all his offspring to live in

“Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. And

the Lord was sorry that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. So the Lord said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the earth, both man and beast.... for I am sorry that I have made them” (Genesis 6:5-7).

It is estimated by some who have studied the chronology of years, from Adam to Noah, that there were 1500 years from the creation of Adam to the day of Noah. In those years, Scripture records that wickedness, evil intent, and thoughts of evil were flourishing in mankind.

By disobeying the word of the Lord, Adam, the perfect man, had given up his place of dominion over the earth and all creation, to the devil (John 12:31;14:30; Romans 8:20; 2 Corinthians 4:3-4; Ephesians 2:2; and 1 John 5:19).

“So God looked upon the earth, and indeed it was corrupt; for all flesh had corrupted their way on the earth” (Genesis 6:12). *“...and the earth was filled with violence”* (Genesis 6:11).

But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord (Genesis 6:8). Because of the evil intent of man and the violence that filled the earth, God told Noah that

He was going to destroy all flesh on the earth (Verse 13). This God did with the flood that He sent to cover the earth. Noah and his family alone were saved by building a large ark (a boat) and living in it during the flood (Genesis 7:13).

From the time Noah and his family entered the ark and the flood waters covered the earth (killing all mankind), until dry land appeared again, was 371 days (Genesis 7:11 and 8:13).

Noah and his family, and the animals he had taken with him, went out of the ark and started a new civilization in a new world. However, the evil that Adam received in his rebellion against the Creator was in Noah and his family. Through Noah and his family, mankind replenished all the earth. But again, death reigned throughout the earth.

“Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned” (Romans 5:12). All men were in the loins of Adam, and are his offspring, so all have sin in them.

3. God chose a man to bring forth a nation that would be unto Himself

“Now the Lord had said to Abram (Abraham) get out of your country, from your family and from your Father’s house to a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all families of the earth shall be blessed” (Genesis 12:1-3).

Abraham listened to the Lord, *“And he believed in the Lord and He (God) accounted it to him (Abraham) for righteousness”* (Genesis 15:6).

Because of Abraham’s faith, a blessing of God was on him throughout his life. Abraham and his wife, Sarai (Sarah) had a son, of whom God told Abraham to call his name Isaac. God’s blessing on Abraham would carry on down to Isaac and to Jacob his son, then to Jacob’s 12 sons who became the nation of Israel even to this day.

Through the nation of Israel God would bring forth the promised Messiah (Genesis 22:18; Deuteronomy 18:15-19; Isaiah 7:14; 9:6-7; 49:1-8, 16; 50:4-10; 52:13-15; 53; Daniel 9:24-26; Micah 5:1-2; Luke 1:26-38; 3:21-22; and John 1:29).

Through the Messiah, all families of people throughout the nations have been given opportunity to receive the gift of God, eternal salvation, through believing faith in the Messiah (Acts 10: 34-43).

God had chosen Israel to be His separated people above all people or nations upon the earth (Exodus 19:5). He would make them the head nation on the earth, **if** they would believe Him and **obey** Him (verse 5). God would make them a “kingdom of priests” and a “holy nation” (verse 6). God had purposed they would be a nation entirely unto Himself, living under His protection and blessing (Exodus 14:14).

However, Israel refused to believe God and follow His word. So God, through Moses, gave them His law, called the Law of Moses. They were to live by every word of God (Deuteronomy 8:3). This law consisted of 613 commandments which they were to obey; the Ten commandments were included in these

commandments. The people bragged and said “Amen” to keeping the whole law (Exodus 19:8; 24:3, Deuteronomy 27:26). But in the course of time Israel failed to keep God’s commandments and even rebelled against him. God called them “*a perverse generation, a people in whom there is no faith*” (Deuteronomy 32:20).

This rebellious nature continued in Israel throughout their generations. Hosea, the prophet, prophesied to Israel in 760 B.C. that, since they would not obey God, He would cast them away (force them out of their land), and they would be wanderers among the nations (Hosea 9:17). This prophecy has been fulfilled as follows:

1. 740 B.C. In approximately 740 B.C., Shalmaneser, King of Assyria, took captive the 10 northern tribes (2 Kings 17:6);
2. 610 B.C. Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, took into captivity the two southern tribes in Judah (Jeremiah 1:3). (They returned 70 years later as prophesied in Jeremiah 25:11);
3. 70 A.D. Titus, General of the Roman armies, again carried off part of the two southern tribes; and

4. 135 A.D. The Roman army carried off the remaining Jews into the Roman empire. Its fulfillment has existed to this day.

The Law of Moses was given only to Israel (not to the Gentiles). Israel would be unable to keep it, and they did not keep it (John 7:19; Acts 7:51-53; 15:6-10). The Law of Moses, if kept, justified no one before God. It only kept a penalty of the law from coming down on an Israelite for a violation. The violation of the law brought condemnation (2 Corinthians 3:9) and death (2 Corinthians 3:7).

In the beginning, God was looking for Israel to believe what He told them. The law was given to them because they refused to be thankful for His delivering them from Egypt, and slavery (Exodus 16:2-3). There was no eternal favor from God for the Israelite keeping the law. But Israel did not keep God's word or the Law of Moses. Because of their transgression against the Lord of heaven in not keeping the law, the question becomes: *“What purpose then does the law serve? It was added (given) because of transgressions (of Israel), till the Seed (Christ) should come to whom the promise was made”* (Galatians 3:19).

“Is the law then against the promises of God? Certainly not! For if there had been a law given which could have given life, truly righteousness would have been by the law” (Galatians 3:21).

“Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith” (Galatians 3:24).

“For the law was given through Moses” (John 1:17), to show men they were sinners before a Holy God. There is no eternal redemption in keeping the law; it was a ministry of death (2 Corinthians 3:7). Man’s fallen Adamic nature could not keep the Law. *“...but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ”* (John 1:17).

This grace and truth in Jesus Christ brought eternal life to all Jews and Gentiles who would believe on Him. Jesus said *“And whosoever lives and believes in Me shall never die...”* (John 11:26). Again He said *“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life”* (John 6:47).

The issue then for all men is to receive death and condemnation for failing to keep all 613 commandments of the law, or to receive the gift of eternal life through believing faith in Jesus Christ.

Scripture is clear. A person does not receive Jesus Christ (the Holy Spirit) through trying to keep the works of the law (keeping the commandments of the law) (Galatians 3:1-5, 10-14). No one ever received God's eternal favor by keeping any part of the Law of Moses (Romans 7:10-14). *"For the law made nothing perfect..."* (Hebrews 7:19).

"Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds (works) of the law" (Romans 3:28).

4. The Two Adams

"And so it is written, the first man Adam became a living being (soul) (JND). The last Adam became a life-giving spirit" (1 Corinthians 15:45).

"The first man was of the earth made of dust; the second man is the Lord from heaven (1 Corinthians 15:47).

God's original intent for the first Adam and his offspring was for them to live on the earth in a perfect environment. However, Adam brought sin and death into the world. All of mankind now has a

nature that is from the first Adam, and mankind cannot change the DNA of their nature. No man can be accepted by God in man's corrupted sinful condition.

When Noah came out of the ark after the flood, God gave him laws for mankind to follow in the new world (Genesis 9:1-9). These laws would give man a basis for government and civil order on the earth.

God chose Israel as His separated people unto Himself. They rebelled against Him (Exodus 16:28). He gave them 613 laws or commandments to keep, but they did not keep them (John 7:19; Acts 7:53). Why did man not follow either his conscience, the laws given to Noah, laws given to Israel, or the law of God written in the heart of man (Romans 2:14-15)? What is the answer? Has God made man on the earth just to suffer the judgment of God for not keeping His holiness and character? Serious questions indeed. Read on to find God's answers. The Old Testament is filled with stories of people who suffered the judgment of God for paying no attention to His word.

“O Lord our Lord — What is man that you are mindful of him...” (Psalms 8:1,4)?

It is evident that man's nature is contrary to His Creator, and he follows his nature. The natural man is of the first Adam, and he follows the deeds of the first Adam. This is the same as animals whose nature is to eat grass in the field, or a kid to suck milk from his mother.

A. The first Adam

“As was the man of dust, so also are those who are made of dust...” (1 Corinthians 15:48).

Man then is nothing more than dust of the field with a nature that Satan has corrupted into his own image. In short, man is a sinner against a Holy God. Scripture reveals truth on how God looks at the natural man.

Isaiah the prophet speaks the mind of God: *“For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways, says the Lord ”* (Isaiah 55:8). Again the Psalmist writes God's word: *“The Lord looks down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there are any who understand, who seek God. They have all turned aside, they have together*

become corrupt; there is none who does good, No, not one (Psalms 14:2-3).

B. What is the end of man?

“For as in Adam all die....” (1 Corinthians 15:22).

Since the first Adam is in all men, all men will die. However, in the Garden of Eden, God promised man a way out of this dilemma (Genesis 3:15). God would send a Savior, a Redeemer to save man from his eternal separation from his Creator. And the prophets, who prophesied throughout Israel’s history, added many prophecies of His coming: Where? (Micah 5:2). When? (Daniel 9:24-26). Who He would be? (Deuteronomy 18:15-18; Isaiah 9:6-7). What He would do? (Psalms 22:1-21; Isaiah 52:12-15; 53), and many other prophecies added to His description and works before He came.

C. The details of prophecies

The following are a few of the Messianic prophecies which show Him to be the Savior of the world (John 4:42; 1 John 2:2). Jacob prophesied

that this Messiah would come from the tribe of Judah, and that He would be a King (scepter) to whom the people would gather (Genesis 49:8-12).

Moses prophesied that He would be a prophet like himself and He would speak only the words of God (Deuteronomy 18:15-18).

Balaam prophesied that this man shall be a king (scepter) and put Israel's enemies to flight (Numbers 24:16-24).

Samuel prophesied that King David's seed would bring forth (in a generation to come) a man whose kingdom would last forever (2 Samuel 7:16).

King David prophesied an exact description of the Messiah dying on the cross a thousand years later (Psalms 22); fulfilled (Matthew 27); Messiah's suffering from His enemies (Psalms 69:1-4, 16-21, 26); and that He would be David's son and a priest without end, of whom Melchizedek was a type (Psalms 110:1-4).

Isaiah prophesied He would be born from a virgin (Isaiah 7:14), fulfilled (Luke 1:26-38).

Micah prophesied that He (the Messiah King) would be born in Bethlehem Ephrata in Israel and He would come from eternity past, everlasting. He

would be a King (Micah 5:1-5); fulfilled (Luke 2:1-20).

An angel prophesied to Joseph that Jesus would “...*save His people from their sins*” (Matthew 1:21).

Scripture reveals that Messiah, in his coming, was God (John 1:1), in a human body (John 1:14).

In His divine person, He was the Son of God (Matthew 16:13-17; John 6:69). And in Him, “...*God is light and in Him is no darkness at all*” (1 John 1:5).

As a man in a human body, He was Jesus, the second Adam, who would not fail, as did the first Adam. He would obey His Father’s every word (John 8:29). His main purpose in this world was to please His Father. From heaven His Father’s voice declared Him “...*My beloved Son in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!*” (Matthew 17:5).

“...*the last Adam (second) became a life-giving Spirit*” (1 Corinthians 15:45).

As the first Adam brought only death into the world, the last Adam brought only life. Jesus said, “*I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though He may be dead, he shall live. And*

whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die...” (John 11:25-26). Jesus made clear His purpose in coming, He said, *“I have come that they may have life and that they may have it more abundantly (John 10:10).*

Eternal death is put upon all mankind from the first Adam. Eternal life is given to all who believe God to receive Jesus Christ (John 1:12).

D. Righteousness of God

An important question regarding entering heaven’s gate is how much sin is in heaven? All people know the answer to this question, None! However, there is nothing in man that merits sinlessness. Man must have the righteousness of God in him to enter heaven’s gate. Among men, only the Lord Jesus had the righteousness of God in Him. He was the righteousness of God in human form. For all other people, this righteousness is obtained only one way, by a gift of God (Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:3-6).

Scripture shows what God did in Jesus Christ so all men may have God’s righteousness.

“For He (God) made Him (Jesus Christ) who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him (2 Corinthians 5:21).

God put the sins of all mankind on Jesus Christ. He died for the sins of the world (1 John 2:2). The sacrifice of Jesus paid for every person’s sins who would receive Him, a free gift offered to all people (John 1:29; 3:16; 4:42; 6:51; 12:47). With this gift comes the righteousness of Jesus Christ. He was God, totally righteous and a man who had no sin or guile (1 Peter 2:21-24). When this righteousness of God in Christ is imputed into the believer, that person becomes totally acceptable to God. He then has Christ’s righteousness to enter heaven’s gate to be with God forever (The Revelation 21:1-4; 22:1-5). With this gift of God, the Christian becomes as righteous as Jesus Christ, because the Spirit of Jesus lives in him (Romans 8:9). This person, through God’s gift, has become acceptable to God, a child of God forever (John 1:11-13).

He will never be the recipient of God’s judgment as those who refuse the gift. Jesus said, *“most assuredly I say to you, he who hears My word and*

believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life (John 5:24).

These words of Jesus give a great hope to every believer. This hope found in the words of Jesus belongs to every Christian for all his days on earth; not only the hope of Jesus, but the hope of His coming.

“Looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ” (Titus 2:13).

“God is not a man, that He should lie...”
(Numbers 23:19).

The person who believes and receives into his heart the gospel of Jesus Christ, enters into life everlasting (Romans 10:9-11).

E. The Gospel of Jesus Christ

“Moreover, brethren, I declared to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you – unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all that Christ died for our sins according to the

Scriptures, and that He was buried and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures” (1 Corinthians 15:1-4).

Believing faith in what God has done in the second Adam brings a person into God’s total and complete favor. Such a person is saved by the work of Christ and the action of God.

The Christian is the recipient of that “*life-giving Spirit*” through the second Adam (1 Corinthians 15:45). The Spirit, imparted into the believer, is life without death forever.

5. Which Adam?

Set before us in Scripture are two Adams

A. Adam, the natural man

As has been said previously, the first Adam was the natural man who sinned and set the course for all mankind.

The Apostle Paul made clear what the Israelites, and most people living after the first Adam, think the law will do for them “*And the commandment, which*

was to bring life, I found to bring death” (Romans 7:10).

Those living after the first Adam are living after death. *“For as in Adam, all die...”* (1 Corinthians 15:22). Nothing in the law of Moses brings forth in a person eternal life, nor does a person keeping any part of the law earn eternal life, or the eternal favor of God.

A rich young man came to Jesus to ask Him what he could do to inherit eternal life (Matthew 19:16). Jesus tested him and told him to keep the commandments. The rich young man said he had kept them since his youth. Jesus said if you want to be perfect (totally righteous) *“Go sell what you have and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven, and come follow Me”* (Matthew 19:21). This young man had tried to keep the law, but he was not perfect (he did not have God’s righteousness). However, Jesus said if he would give up his carnal life and follow Him (become his disciple), he would be perfect (have the perfect righteousness of Jesus).

Israel typifies the adamic nature in all people who think they can please God by keeping the Law of Moses (their own works). God spoke to Isaiah, *“But to Israel: All day long I have stretched out my hands to a*

disobedient and contrary people” (Isaiah 65:2; Romans 10:21).

The Holy Spirit, speaking through the Apostle Paul, speaks to any who attempt to keep any part of the law. *“I testify again to every man who becomes circumcised that he is a debtor to keep the whole law. You have become estranged from Christ, you who attempt to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace* (Galatians 5:3-4).

B. Adam the divine man

“...I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly” (John 10:10).

The first Adam was created a perfect man on a perfect earth. However, within a short time he corrupted the earth (Romans 8:20-22), and brought death on himself and all generations who would come after him (Romans 5:17-18).

The second Adam, the man from heaven (John 3:13; 6:32-33), came to give the riches of heaven to all people of the earth. These riches and the receiving of them had nothing to do with the works or goodness of man (Luke 19:10). The Apostle Paul

speaks these words, “*This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners of whom I am chief*” (1 Timothy 1:15). Jesus came to give His life a ransom for all people because all people are, by nature, the enemies of God. Christ, the second Adam, brought the gift of eternal life to all people who would receive Him.

Here are a few samples of the difference between the two Adams. The first Adam took away man’s future; Christ came to give the riches of heaven to all men and an eternal future (2 Corinthians 8:9). All people in the first Adam have only the grave for their hope; the last Adam brought the hope of being forever with the Lord (1 Thessalonians 4:17). The first Adam brought all people into a kingdom of condemnation and death. The last came to give a free gift of admission into the kingdom of God that can’t be corrupted because it is not of this world (John 18:36).

A Christian is a new man in Christ; Jesus is the new man in the Christian. This new man is fully in the favor of God, because He is “*Christ in You*” (Colossians 1:27), the total and complete

righteousness of God (2 Corinthians 5:21). If a person does not have Christ living in him, he is not righteous and he does not belong to God (Romans 8:9). The Christian has been sealed into “...*a kingdom that cannot be shaken...*” (Ephesians 4:30; Hebrews 12:28). The Law of Moses has not, can not, and will not bring a person into that kingdom.

C. The Holy Spirit

Romans 7:1-4 gives a metaphor of a woman who is married. She is under the law of her husband as long as he lives. However, when he died, she is free from the law of her first husband (verse 3). She is then free to marry again because the first husband is dead.

This metaphor is what the Holy Spirit has written through the Apostle Paul to show that the Law of Moses was the first husband and Jesus Christ is the second husband (verse 4). The Jew knew the law and it's application (verse 1). These verses are showing that the Law of Moses can no longer be applied to a person married to Jesus because that person is a part of the bride of Christ (John 3:29; The

Revelation 19:7-19; 21:9-10), His wife (The Revelation 19:7), and has no part with the first husband. He is dead to the law (verse 4). Christ fulfilled the law through His life without sin (1 Peter 2:21-22; 1 John 3:5); and then He died on the cross for all our sins (past, present, future). Every person in Christ has only one husband to live unto, the Lord Jesus.

D. How does this happen?

Jesus said, *“My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. And I give them eternal life and they shall never perish; neither shall any one snatch them out of My hand (John 10:27-28).*

The Christian has the Spirit of Jesus living in him to direct, lead, teach, and give revelation of Himself and the kingdom of God. This happens through the Holy Spirit opening up Scripture to reveal the kingdom of Christ, and to speak into a Christian’s spirit, words of truth and light. The person who follows only the voice of Jesus will develop into Christian maturity. If he listens to erroneous doctrines such as: The Bible is culture, the Law of

Moses or part of it is for the Christian to follow, religious flesh passing itself off as spiritual is fine, the worldly teaching and practices of today's church, and Christians can lose their eternal security, he will most assuredly not grow into a practical life of faith reflecting the Son of God (Romans 8:29).

The Holy Spirit's leading will bring a Christian directly into fellowship with Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 1:9). This is the highest spiritual development in this world any person can attain, direct intimacy with God (John 14:23). Only the Holy Spirit can lead a person into this place. *"For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure"* (Philippians 2:13).

In other words only the Holy Spirit of God is able to lead, direct and carry out the perfect will of God. Jesus said, *"Most assuredly I say to you, the Son can do nothing of Himself, but only what He sees the Father do; for whatever He does, the Son does in like manner"* (John 5:19).

Jesus Christ was in total submission to His Father. He said, *"...but the Father who dwells in Me does the works..."* (John 14:10).

The Christian is called to be a reflective light of Jesus, in a dependent life of faith. “... *Because as He is, so are we in this world*” (1 John 4:17).

The Christian’s development is totally a work of the Spirit of God who lives in him. However, for maturity to take place, all things connected to the first Adam must be put away, for these things bring death. A partial list of things to put away as well as the solution would be as follows:

(1.) The Law of Moses:

“But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for the just shall live by faith. Yet the law is not of faith...” (Galatians 3:11-12).

- a. Attempting to keep the 10 commandments to please God
- b. Keeping the tithing law, rather than giving by faith though the heart
- c. Trying to keep the Saturday Sabbath law
- d. Following your church through your clergyman (who is Moses to you) rather than Jesus Christ, through the word of God, with the unction of the Holy Spirit giving the leading and direction

e. Changing the Jewish Saturday Sabbath to make it the Gentile Sunday Sabbath

f. Practicing Nicolaitanism (The Revelation 2:6,15), is church people meeting to a church clergyman who presides over the laity. The law structure for assembling is what God gave only to Moses. The church is called to meet unto Christ as a brotherhood of priests to study the apostles doctrine, offering up prayers, gathering for fellowship and worship (breaking of bread) (1 Corinthians 11: 23-26). Each brother priest brings what he has to remember Jesus in his death (1 Corinthians 14:23, 26).

(2.) Philosophy of man:

“Now this I say lest anyone should deceive you with persuasive words” (Colossians 2:4).

“Beware lest anyone cheat you through philosophy and empty deceit, according to the tradition of man, according to the basic principles of the world, and not according to Christ” (Colossians 2:8).

a. The first Scripture is like the second in that the mind of man is what an unbeliever or carnal

believer builds his life on. William McDonald, author of *Believer's Commentary*, explains that truth is what a Christian has been called to build his life on. This does not include the philosophy, knowledge and wisdom of man. McDonald states, "*All knowledge is found in Christ. He is the incarnation of truth.*" Jesus said, "*I am the way, the truth and the life*" (John 14:6). Nothing that is true will ever conflict with His wisdom or His works. Knowledge is the understanding of truth, whereas wisdom is the ability to apply the truth that has been learned.

b. This applies to the individual and to assembly structure alike. Philosophy in Christian circles passes itself off as spiritual by charismatic leaders, or church people who use soulish methods and emotions (Hollywood techniques) to stir up the emotions of their followers. These same people see the Scriptures as something that will undermine their life and church.

c. Jesus Christ came into the world as grace and truth. Grace may be translated as love, as in forgiving ones enemies. He stood before Pilate, the Roman Governor, who would condemn Him to be

crucified. Jesus told him He was the king (son of David) and that He came to bear witness to the truth (John 18:37). Jesus was the embodiment of all truth, the true representative of God. Philosophy is the wisdom of man explaining his knowledge of God. It is a counterfeit of what is true.

(3) Churchianity (worldly Christianity) :

a. Jesus Christ speaks to the worldly church of Laodicea, and says, “...*These things says the Amen, the Faithful and True Witness, the Beginning of the creation of God: I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth*” (The Revelation 3:14-16).

The warning here is to the church and for each individual to heed the warning, if the church will not (verses 20-22). The church and the individual are called first and foremost to believe, receive, follow, and practice every word of God (Matthew 4:4). No clergyman or church person has the authority to change, put away, add to, or twist the word of God

(Deuteronomy 4:2; 1 Corinthians 4:6; 2 Peter 3:16; Revelation 22:18-19).

b. In the western world many churches have been converted to the world in doctrine and practice. For example, homosexuality is accepted as normal behavior. Lesbians are received as clergy-women, and divorce is rampant in almost every Christian body. The soulish music that is used in churches is passed off as spiritual.

c. Scripture teaches that a Christian father is commanded by the Lord, “*And you fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord*” (Ephesians 6:4). This means what it teaches. It does not tell fathers to take their children to the church and hand them over to the clergyman or youth clergy. The father is the one to teach his children by example, instructing them in the Scripture, and giving them wisdom and true knowledge of God. God has put the responsibility on the father to do this. How many Christian fathers do this today? NOTE! It’s never too late to start.

d. The priesthood of the believer has long since been removed from the church of today. The

culture of the world has fully invaded the church and has become the churches' culture.

e. After 1800 years of the church following Scripture, today it is following the culture of the world. Church women no longer are veiled when praying or prophesying (1 Corinthians 11:5). They wear men's clothes and teach their daughters to do the same. Scripture teaches modesty for Christian women (1 Timothy 2:9-10). Church women say modesty is how they feel about what they wear, not what Scripture teaches about modesty.

f. Churchmen do not practice headship in their homes or in the churches. They say that is what they pay the clergy for. In general, the world and the church have become synonymous, or one. *“Because you say, I am rich, have become wealthy, and have need of nothing - and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked. I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the shame of your nakedness may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may see”* (The Revelation 3:17-19).

(4.) Fellowship with darkness:

“Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness?” (2 Corinthians 6:14). *“And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them”* (Ephesians 5:11).

a. Homosexuality

The Scripture teaches that homosexuality increasing in this nation is the direct result of this, *“Because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened”* (Romans 1:21). This Scripture shows that this dark immoral practice comes from not retaining the inward knowledge of God in a person’s human spirit, or heart. And because they do not, a foolish heart is the result. Instead of glorifying the Creator, they make man or beast their God (verse 23). We are further told that God gives them over to uncleanness (darkness). Scripture teaches that God will judge them because they are

deserving of death (Romans 1:32), and they will not enter into the kingdom of God (1 Corinthians 6:9-10).

b. Women ruling in churches

Today in governmental laws, diversity is being taught and pushed in just about every way of life. The church in general has openly received this doctrine of darkness as well. It is seen through women becoming clergymen, women being given authority over men by their clergymen, and a general spiritual push to put away what God has commanded for the church and home. God's commandment is that women are to be silent in church meetings (1 Corinthians 14:34). Also they are not to be in a place of teaching men (1 Timothy 2:11-15). Dark doctrines from the culture of the world have made the commandments of God of no effect today in many, if not most churches.

Jesus rebuked the Pharisees for doing the same in his day because they made man-made worldly doctrines replace the commandments of God.

"...This people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of

men” (Mark 7:6-7). The end result is that God’s word has no effect on a heart of darkness. This doctrine of darkness is usually taught as being highly spiritual by those who receive it.

c. Filthiness of the spirit

“Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of the Lord” (2 Corinthians 7:1).

This subject deals with what man receives into his heart. Many of the doctrines of darkness are imbedded in church people’s hearts through religion. What was true of the Pharisees is still true today. When man’s religious doctrines are taught and followed in the church, and the commandments of the Lord are replaced by them, darkness, or filthiness of religious man prevail. These doctrines of Satan and man (1 Timothy 4:1) are received by the adamic nature in man, usually as highly religious. The word “love” is invoked, so church people will receive doctrines of demons. For example, homosexuals and lesbians are put into clergy positions to preside over church

people, using the word “love” as the reason. But Christians are instructed in 1 John 5:3 as to what God’s love is, *“For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.”*

d. Filthiness in the heart

This comes from man putting away the clear word of God and injecting the world, the flesh, and demonic doctrines. These false doctrines are presented to church people through church practices and teachings given as the word of God. Only by faith in Christ alone and the word of God, can a person be delivered from these deceptions.

(5.) Idolatry, will worship:

In Thorndike Barnhart’s Dictionary, idolatry is defined as the worship of idols or the worship of a person or thing. *“Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted. And do not become idolaters as were some of them. As it is written, the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play”* (1 Corinthians 10:6-7). *“Therefore my beloved flee from idolatry”* (1 Corinthians 10:14).

a. Idolatry is listed in the Bible with the works of the flesh (Galatians 5:19-21). It has to do with the affections of the adamic nature in man's heart being set upon anything and everything but the Creator. In the church today, religious leaders become the desire of the heart of many church people because of their charismatic ways and smooth words. Some church people cannot think, hear or follow the Holy Spirit through the Scriptures because their charismatic clergymen have made themselves their object of priority. This is true of denominations, sects, cults and doctrines of man and demons. The Lord Jesus Christ alone is not the center of worship, because most church people are programmed to only go through their clergyman or worship leader, with their traditions, or soulish doctrines (rather than spiritual). Jesus said, "*My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me*" (John 10:27). The voice of Jesus is found in Scripture, for Scripture and the Holy Spirit are one. Jesus said, "*The Father is seeking worshippers*" (John 4:23-24). However, mixing idolatry with worship of the Father and the Son may make a person feel good but does not fulfill the Father's desire for those who will worship Him

and do so without additions of man or demons (Exodus 32:1-10; Corinthians 10:21). The King James Version calls it will worship (Colossians 2:23), but the New King James Version calls it self-imposed religion. William McDonald defines it this way, “Self-imposed religion means that these people adopt a form of worship according to their own ideas of what is right, rather than according to God’s word. They seem to be religious but it is not true to Christianity” (Christ).

b. Priority of man’s heart is synonymous with his purpose or issue of life. Idolatry is the immorality that the adamic nature produces by following his carnal desires. This can be the worship of anything. For example, the love of sports can interfere with a Christian’s walk after the Spirit, or making money without regard to the Creator can become an idol or “...*an unruly desire to satisfy sexual appetite which is idolatry*” (William McDonald). Even being a good church person, without receiving the word of the Lord to walk after what He has commanded, can become idolatry in one’s life.

c. Physical images of the invisible God are clearly an attempt to bring the Creator into a person's self-made kingdom (Exodus 20:4-6). This may be money in a tray before the form of a statue; and even pray to these images for a blessing or to receive good fortunes. One of the more blatant of these practices is seeking God's favor by praying to the Roman Catholic Mary. Some even pay money to the Roman Catholic Church for indulgences (to get free from the penalty of a person's sins). Instead of going to God through Christ to confess a Christian's sins (1 John 1:9), the Roman Catholic Church people go to their priests to get absolution from their sins. Idolatry is giving obedience to man when it is due to God alone.

(6.) Doctrine of Christ:

“Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son” (2 John 9).

“You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the

commandments of the Lord your God which I command you (Deuteronomy 4:2).

Jesus answered the devil, “*It is written, man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God*” (Matthew 4:4).

There is a growing doctrine in the church today to reject this Scripture “*All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness*” (2 Timothy 3:16). It is no longer applicable in this modern new-age day. Various terms and words are used to back up this new doctrine of demonic origin.

a. For example, in Ruth Montgomery’s new-age books, she promotes necromancy. She tells us that the prohibition of God against attempting to speak or contact the dead, through mediums or other means, is no longer valid (Leviticus 20:6). Her statement, “Can anyone actually believe that the culture of that day in which Scripture was written still applies today?”

b. The Quakers do not water baptize or break the bread or drink the cup in remembrance of Jesus in

His death. Their doctrine is that a part of the New Testament does not apply to them.

c. Some evangelical churches believe that God's order of dividing the sexes does not fit the culture of our world today (western culture). The result is that churches bend to the culture of the world. This means that God's order of authority: God, with Christ under God, with man under Christ, and with woman under man, is no longer applicable. The result of this is seen in the divorce rate exploding in the last 40 years, with churches leading in the highest rate, according to marriage counselors.

d. Pentecostal churches and others say, "We have to understand the culture in the day in which Scripture was written to know if we should follow it today". This plays out in several new doctrines.

(7.) Headship and priesthood:

a. In 1 Peter 2:5, 9 and The Revelation 1:6, headship and priesthood is given to man by God over his family, but it no longer fits the culture of the world, therefore it is not followed.

b. The veiling of women is no longer accepted in the world's culture. Most churches teach that

they need to make the women feel good about themselves, and to blend into society, so that people will come to our church and be accepted.

c. Women have been liberated in many churches so they may rule over men. Their new-age doctrine is that church women should be free to rule in every position in these Pentecostal and Four-Square churches so they can teach, preach and rule in governmental offices.

d. The wearing of women's clothing (modest dress) is a cultural practice for another age, and only hinders women's freedom today. These new-age doctrines and the world are one and the same.

"Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God" (James 4:4).

"The faith which was once for all delivered to the saints" (Jude 3) is under demonic attack. This has always been so for the last 2000 years. In this day, it is the world that has integrated into the church to destroy it from within. If it were left up to man, he would destroy it.

However, Jesus said *"The gates of Hades shall not prevail against it"* (Matthew 16:17). God has always had a remnant who believe Him.

What does all of this have to do with the Law of Moses? Nothing, but it has everything to do with the first Adam in religion. The first Adam is a very religious entity. The first Adam will do anything and everything to be religious, even make major attempts to keep the Law of Moses. What he does not want is death to his nature, so that faith to the word of God has priority in the person's life. This means: *“For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God (Romans 8:14).* For example, the Law of Moses was given by God, to and for the people of Israel. What did it bring to them? Only death (2 Corinthians 3:7), and the knowledge that they are sinners. Why? Is there something wrong with the law? The answer of course is NO! Nothing is wrong with the commands of God, but for people who are without life eternal, keeping the commandments would not bring life to them (Romans (7:10). Israel's history is a true example of people trying to keep the law. The end result was failure and death.

For people who have life through the Christ, and then are introduced to the commandments of Moses to live by, the commandments bring a curse upon

those people (Galatians 3:10). When a person has been brought into Christ, and Christ is in him, God is in that person. When that person goes back to the things pertaining to the first Adam, only a curse and condemnation will result (2 Corinthians 3:9).

Scripture is clear! A believer (one whose name is written in the Lamb's Book of Life) cannot again take up with the things that bring or cause death, and expect that he will find favor with God or to continue to walk in the Spirit. This would pertain to any of the 613 commandments that are attempted, in order to please God, and obtain salvation.

The law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made a Christian free from the law of sin and death (Romans 8:2). Anyone attempting to keep the Law of Moses, and not keeping it completely, puts that person under the law of sin and death (Romans 8:2). If a person brings into his walk one or more of the commandments, he is bringing into his life that which was given to the first Adam, which only brought death. The Christian is a new man in Christ, a new creation of God, where eternal life abides. Death has no part with the Christian. *"The gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord"* (Romans 6:23).

E. The New Man

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. Old things have passed away; behold all things have become new (2 Corinthians 5:17).

This new creation in the second Adam is created to follow life in the Spirit, not the things that produce death. Christ Himself is God. The new creation in the believer has been created to follow Jesus Christ, plus nothing. This means the works of the law have nothing to do with the Christian.

In Exodus 34:26, Israel was told not to bring a sacrifice (a young goat) to the house of the Lord that had been boiled in his mother’s milk. Why? A dead goat was a type of the sacrifice to come, Christ Himself, and represents His sacrifice on the cross, which was the place of death. To boil the young goat in his mother’s milk, an element of continual ongoing life for the goat, would bring both death and life to the altar of God. The altar was a place of death only, the picture of the Christ to come.

The Christian has been created a new man (a dead man with a new life JND) (Ephesians 4:24; Colossians 3:10) in Christ. In this new man, there is

no death at all. The new man “...*is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him*” (Colossians 3:10). This new man is renewed in divine life, which is Christ, who gives living water (John 4:14; 7:37-39) and the Holy Spirit.

Hebrews 9:14 gives admonition to “*cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God*”. In plain words, put away the things of the law and direct your heart to the truths in Christ, and serve the living God. How? By believing and following God’s perfect man, the second Adam, Christ Jesus our Lord (1 Peter 2:21).

Jesus answered and said to her: “...*whosoever drinks of the water that I shall give will never thirst. But the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life*” (John 4:14).

D. Neely
5/03/16

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