

The New Pharisees: Calling Out All Christians

<u>Witness 1</u>



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If Jesus came back to Earth today and went into a few church services, do you think he would like the people there? My answer: Probably not. I've tried going to a bunch of churches, and I always end up stopping after a few months in a depressingly predictable pattern. I'm not even sure that the modern Christian church has the slightest idea of what is going on or what the real situation is.

When was the last time you heard a pastor tell you good reasons to be a Christian, instead of the same message over and over? Yeah, we've all read Ephesians[™], and we understand the concepts of sin and redemption[™] by now.

Let's talk about something a little deeper, like the Freemasonic Satanic infiltration of our government by a cabal of Zionists who have been pulling the strings since the Rothschilds had the Lusitania sunk, carried out World War I, and managed to finagle their way into the Balfour Declaration, which many people are not aware was actually <u>personally addressed to "Lord Rothschild</u>". Why aren't topics, such as these, ever talked about in churches?

Foreign Office, November 2nd, 1917.

Dear Lord Rothschild.

I have much pleasure in conveying to you, on ochaif of His Majesty's Government, the following declaration of sympathy with jewish Zionist aspirations which has been submitted to, and approved by, the Caoinet

"His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewich people, and will use their cest endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object. It being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country".

I should be grateful if you would bring this declaration to the knowledge of the Zionist Federation.

Angen 13 up

What about a sermon on the occult roots of Khazaria, its connections to the present-day war in Ukraine, and the Biden family's connections to Burisma? Maybe a sermon about how the government took away your rights, freedoms, and bodily autonomy over the least threatening virus in existence with a one percent death rate, then used their illegally self-granted powers to coerce a majority of the public to inject an untested, unproven form of gene therapy that strongly resembles the Mark of the Beast?

We are clearly in the end times, yet all we ever hear is another sermon about Moses[™] or being nice[™] again. I want to be clear here - I'm not undermining the importance of covering various topics like these in church sermons. Instead, I am criticizing the modern church for babying their audiences and sugar-coating God's Revelation. While we must always go back to the basics with the Bible in modern-day sermons, some of us are demanding meat, not milk.

I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready. - 1 Corinthians 3:2 We are in the end times. We are ready for the meat, and while the milk can still be dispensed, we are calling out the churches for serving only milk to their congregations.

This post is a critique of the modern day churches, which are truly no different than the Pharisees of the Old Testament. This post is calling out all Christians (even ourselves) in hopes that change, and even outrage, occurs.

But NO, did you know that Jesus Loves You™?

I swear, I don't think any of these pastors even really believe Jesus was who he says he was. It seems like everyone in church today thinks his name is nothing more than a lucky charm, a talisman that they invoke in pursuit of wealth, comfort, and stability.

Jesus was a complex, multi-dimensional character, who, along with giving us the sage advice contained within the Sermon on the Mount, was a disillusioned and disaffected young man who, in his life, was disbelieved by his own family and even his own followers who didn't believe he would really die for what he was saying. Jesus proved them wrong when he agitated the political climate so intensely that the power structures of society engineered a successful judicial murder, an "intentional and premeditated killing of an innocent person by means of <u>capital punishment</u>."

Now, this attitude of rebellion, and dare I say – *coolness* - is largely dead in the modern Christian church. Jesus never tolerated religious hypocrisy; in fact, while being uniformly the most kind human ever, he was similarly uniformly contrarian, provocative, and antagonistic to the Sanhedrin and Pharisees (lawyers and politicians), whom he couldn't stand. He repeatedly calls them devils, serpents, and hypocrites, and intentionally disrupted their lifestyles, like when he conspicuously healed people on the Sabbath in front of them.

Luke 14: 1-6

One Sabbath, when he went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, **they were watching him carefully.** And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, **"Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?"** But they remained silent. **Then he took him and healed him and sent him away.** And he said to them, "Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?" And they could not reply to these things. By now a crowd of many thousands had gathered around Jesus. So many people pushed to be near him, they began to trample one another. Jesus turned to his disciples and warned them, "Beware of the hypocrisy of the Pharisees. It permeates everything they do and teach, like leaven. Everything hidden and covered up will soon be exposed. For the facade is falling down, and nothing will be kept secret for long. Whatever you have spoken in private will be public knowledge, and what you have whispered secretly behind closed doors will be broadcast far and wide for all to hear.

Uh-oh! Jesus also said that the generation that sees the "blossoming of the fig tree", <u>a symbol of Israel</u>, will be the last generation alive, and that, coincidentally, almost all of them would be <u>deceived</u> by something resembling <u>pharmakeia</u>, or pharmaceuticals, into taking something like the Greek word <u>charagma</u>, Mark, derived from <u>charax</u>:

a pale or stake, a palisade a palisade or rampart



Now, what the HECK does this remind me of? I just can't place it. Anyways, let's move on.

Here's another sermon idea: Bill Gates' miraculous skills of clairvoyance (excerpt from *The More Rational Worldview*):

Going by Bill Gates' apparent miraculous abilities of clairvoyance, given his *Event 201* in 2019 that stimulated a Coronavirus pandemic immediately before the real-world outbreak,¹ along with his 2017 prediction in *Forbes* that a, "a fast-moving airborne pathogen could kill more than 30 million people in less than a year",² perhaps he has also *Coincidentally* predicted the exact form the Mark of the Beast will take - a "quantum dot" luciferase encoded "digital tattoo" vaccine passport embedded within the human skin, with a patent number of 060606. Our intellectual bankrollers in the media remind us in the *Forbes* article that, "Bill Gates is a smart guy who knows something about global health. So, when he gives a grave warning about a potential catastrophe, it's a good idea to listen."

Well, what's 'ol Bill predicting next? On September 24th, 2022, he said:

"I admit that political polarization may bring it all to an end, we're going to have a hung election and a **civil war**," he recently <u>said</u> in the keynote conversation at this year's Forbes 400 Summit on Philanthropy. "I have no expertise in that. I'm not going to divert my money to that because I wouldn't know how to spend it."

Wow, **what a shocker** - when society collapses, Bill Gates isn't going to give out his money anymore! I guess he got what he wanted with the fake pandemic and the Mark of the Beast.

Well, I guess my sermon ideas are boring, anyways. Have you ever heard of a guy named Lazarus^M? He was really mean to that homeless guy \bigotimes .

That being said, I'm sure there are still some wonderful, dedicated, intelligent Christians who love talking about ontological arguments for the existence of God or using inductive reasoning to examine the historicity of Jesus' resurrection to build a comprehensive Theological and Eschatological framework. **Unfortunately, I just haven't met them.**

¹ <u>https://www.centerforhealthsecurity.org/event201/</u>

² <u>https://www.forbes.com/sites/brucelee/2017/02/19/bill-gates-warns-of-epidemic-that-will-kill-over-30-million-people/</u>

The Modern Christian Archetypes Witness 2

I write this part not to make anyone feel bad, but rather, to reflect on where we all stand in the body of Christ. This post is just as much for us as it is for anyone reading. We are NOT without sin. We are not "holier than thou", and finally, we are not better than anyone else. Rather, we are frustrated, and we know there are others out there like us.

Another thing to note is that the art of self-reflection is mostly gone from society. Our society now tolerates and accepts nearly every type of bad behavior or sin. People are no longer rebuked, and this is especially true in modern churches. While the message of love is important, there is a way to lovingly rebuke people, and the Bible calls for us to <u>lovingly rebuke one another</u> in order for all of us to avoid hell.

So, in this post, I challenge you to ask yourself, Are you one of these types of Christians OR are you associating with a group of Christians who have these traits? If so, it is time to reflect, repent, and change. Here we go!

1.) "I'm a Christian but..."

This Christian loves to tell others they are a Christian, but they can't quite believe the Bible as it is. They are a "cherry-picker", and they create division in the church. They love fitting in the with the world, and their true God is the world itself. "I'm a Christian but..."

- 1) I don't like that anti-LGBT stuff in the Bible.
- 2) I don't like when God gets angry or mad. I don't like when God has wrath.
- 3) I don't trust that Paul guy. I'm in the anti-Pauline movement.
- 4) I don't really like the Old Testament.
- 5) I only follow Jesus's teachings I ignore the rest.
- 6) I'm too lazy to read the Bible.
- 7) It seems old-fashioned. I believe all religions have some good.
- 8) I think Jesus was just a good guy we should try to follow.
- 9) I think everyone is going to Heaven.
- 10) I don't like all the suffering stuff. Can't we all just be happy?

Remember, loving the world is enmity with God.

2.) The Ritualistic Christian

This type of Christian is exhausting because they become obsessed with the rules, and love often goes out the window. They are always watching for someone to do wrong in the church, and they often bring up petty issues of debate, <u>like the length of the pastor's beard (and many other funny ones!</u>).

I see this A LOT on YouTube and Bitchute channels. The message of Jesus gets lost in what people think is acceptable and not acceptable. In a channel I was watching the other day, a person said eating fast food was a truly terrible sin. While we could sit here and argue that back and forth, this is an example of what takes away from love in our message. People start to get obsessed with <u>"doctrinal purity" like the</u> <u>Pharisees</u>, and have lost the ultimate message of the <u>Law of the Prophets</u>.

There are many reminders about avoiding petty quarreling in the church, such as this verse from $\frac{2}{2}$ <u>Timothy</u>.

Warn them before God against quarreling about words; it is of no value, and only ruins those who listen.

3.) The Self-Righteous Christian

This one works with the ritualistic Christian, but the ritualistic Christian admits to sin here and there. The self-righteous Christian; however, is good about pointing out others' sins, but they NEVER acknowledge their sins to others.

First, we all fall short of the glory of God. There is not one reading, not me or you, without sin.

Second, the Bible calls for us to confess our sins to God, and <u>when appropriate, to others</u>. Imagine pastors more openly admitting sins to their congregation. Imagine going to churches where confessing and helping others with a sin was a normal routine. Now, I'm not saying that doesn't happen at some churches out there, but for the most part, sin is discussed in generalizations, kept quiet, and hidden.

While people should not be brought to humiliation over their sins, I imagine that a system of love and compassion, as well as rebuke when necessary, would help many overcome sin.

I know for myself; I find it nearly impossible to openly discuss my sins with other Christians without harsh judgment or being looked down upon. I often notice if I confess my sins to others, they do not "offer up" their sins to me. They use it to look down on me, and that has made it difficult for me to trust other Christians. I want to be clear here that this doesn't always happen, but it is a reminder of the dangers of self-righteousness in the church. This parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector is a reminder to all of us reading to humble ourselves:

The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. 11 The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

4.) The Hypocrite

<u>God hates hypocrites</u>, and we have all met a hypocritical Christian. These are the ones that are often good at painting themselves as "good and holy", but then you hear about their secret affair, money laundering scheme, or their nights of debauchery.

On some level, when we sin, we are all hypocrites. We also must remember that our sins are dangerous because they can cause other members of the church to <u>stumble or fall</u>.

A way to avoid hypocricy is to confess sins to others, as we discussed above, as well as to do our best to turn away from sin.

Remember, sin is a daily, moment by moment battle. While none of us are without sin, we must remember the path to Heaven is narrow, and Jesus is looking for those who have <u>cleansed their</u> <u>garments</u>.

5.) The Lukewarm Christian

I went to the concordance for this famous verse (Revelation 3:16):

3:16 So <u>3779</u> then because <u>3754</u> thou art <u>1488 5748</u> lukewarm <u>5513</u>, and <u>2532</u> neither <u>3777</u> cold <u>5593</u> nor <u>3777</u> hot <u>2200</u>, I will <u>3195 5719</u> spue <u>1692 5658</u> thee <u>4571</u> out of <u>1537</u> my <u>3450</u> mouth <u>4750</u>. Lukewarm: Heb Strong: G5513

1) tepid, lukewarm

2) metaphor: the condition of the soul wretchedly fluctuating between a stupor and a fervor of love

Spue: Heb Strong: H6892

1) to vomit, vomit forth, throw up

I really like the second definition for lukewarm, as it gives us a better feel of what God hates. I see this a lot in the modern church (and I have been guilty of it, too). There are times when we are on fire for God, and times when we don't think of him or even care. Lukewarm can also mean to just not care that much, all the time. We must break out of the lukewarm stronghold in the church, or God will literally "vomit" us out of his mouth! Now that sounds terrifying.

6.) The Cowardly Christian

The lukewarm Christian is often cowardly, as well. In fact, many of these archetypes intermix. The lukewarm, cowardly Christian often loves the world, and they are afraid of upsetting anyone in the church, or outside of it for that matter.

They remain politically correct, and they want to be loved and tolerated, just as they love and tolerate all types of sin.

Have you ever seen this verse (Revelation 21:8)?

But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—they will be consigned to the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death.

The cowardly are put first in that list, which is a little eerie. As you can see, God hates cowards, and I would say cowardly behavior is why the church is where it is today.

When Covid happened, most churches willingly closed their doors, without question, without thought. This was cowardly, and if churches had united and spoke out against the lies and unethical losses of freedom, the world would be in a very different place right now.

7.) The "I don't read the Bible" Christian

This type of Christian is extremely dangerous and is destroying our churches. These Christians simply listen to others about what the Bible says, whether that be a pastor, a friend, or a YouTube video.

Not reading the Bible and researching topics on your own is one of the most dangerous things you can do as a Christian. While fellowship is important, we must always remember to <u>take refuge in the Lord and</u> <u>trust fully in no man</u>.

There are many people today who are idolizing their pastors or favorite YouTube channel. This is probably one of the most dangerous things happening, and in my opinion, why many took the mark of the beast. How many "pastors" told their congregations it wasn't the mark?

8. The "Prosperity Gospel" Christian

As mentioned earlier, many believe Jesus is like a genie that can make all our dreams come true! <u>The</u> <u>prosperity gospel has many critical errors</u>, but the biggest one is establishing a belief in followers that they will never go through trials or tribulation.

The truth is, when you truly become a Christian, your life is probably going to get harder. While God provides for us and supports us, <u>the path is narrow</u>. Following Christ means <u>carrying our crosses and</u> <u>denying ourselves daily</u>. When you truly follow Christ, you may obtain blessings, but you will also face challenges, trials, persecution, and for some, <u>even death</u>.

Again, there are many flaws in the prosperity gospel that have been written about, so I won't overdo it, but the point is, if you are following Christ daily, it probably isn't going to be an easy walk at all times.

9.) The "Sunday-Morning" Christian

This is a Christian who is trapped in a church bubble. They have gone to the same church for the past twenty-something or thirty-something years, every Sunday and Wednesday. They have never questioned their pastor, and they have never changed their routine. While they may read the Bible at home, they have limited their Christian world to their church and their little bubble.

At work, you probably wouldn't even know they are Christian, as many are ashamed of it. In other words, this Christian has found a way to create a bubble around their Christian life, so that somehow, it is separated from the rest of the lives. They also do not open themselves up to doing their own research or creating fellowship with those outside of their congregation.

While there is nothing wrong with having a home church, the main problem here is duplicitous thinking, or <u>double-mindedness</u>, and ultimately, "<u>a double-minded man is unstable in all ways</u>."

10.) The Ashamed Christian

This one makes me sad. I see so many Christians who are simply ashamed of Christ. They don't talk about Him. They don't preach about Him. They don't let others know they believe in Him.

Remember, the Bible calls for us to spread the gospel and to not be ashamed of it. Jesus warns,

"But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven."

To me, that is terrifying. Never, ever miss an opportunity to preach or proclaim your love for Jesus and the Word. In an upcoming post, I will share some tenets of preaching, but in the meantime, this is a topic you can begin researching yourself as a homework assignment (if you haven't been spreading the gospel).

To conclude, I am sure I have fallen into many of these archetypes at different points. This post is not to judge others, but rather, to warn other Christians, with love, that we need to change, and we need to change now.

My dreams have shown me that Jesus is coming sooner than we think, and once our lives are over, there is no opportunity for repentance in hell.

Sidenote: Are you a lonely Christian?

Soon I will be writing how to deal with loneliness in the end times. Walking this path is difficult, and it can lead to isolation and loneliness, but always remember, with Jesus by our side, we will never be truly without Him or without hope.

The Pharisees, The Sanhedrin and You Witness 1

It's interesting how, when you read the Bible, the Sabbath keeps coming up. Just a day of rest, starting all the way back in Genesis. A focus on "rest" - not quite what you'd expect from an omnipotent deity. When you think about it, the concept of God existing, rather than not existing, is just crazy. Here you have this eternal humanoid deity, immensely, unmeasurably powerful, existing outside of space and time itself.

There's one day referred to more than any other day in the Bible: <u>The Great and Terrible Day of the</u> Lord, also known as the Last Day. It's funny, because God is hinting at something with the Sabbath - if you go on to study Biblical prophecy and genealogies further, you find that prophetic years are described as days, and the age of the Earth is approximately 6,000 years old (see our *Scientism: The One World Religion You've Been Waiting For* writing for more on this).

Now, from there we can extrapolate an eschatological framework, within which we also know that other verses equate one day with a thousand years for God. The answer to the puzzle of *why* exactly the Sabbath is so important to God is found in Revelation: the last 1,000 years of the Earth's history is *it's* "Sabbath", where there will be 1,000 years of peace, described as follows in <u>Isaiah 11: 6-10</u>:

The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. The cow will feed with the bear, their young will lie down together, and the lion will eat straw like the ox. The infant will play near the cobra's den, and the young child will put its hand into the viper's nest. They will neither harm nor destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to him, and his resting place will be glorious.

Now, this is interesting, as it's actually a Messianic prophecy made hundreds of years before Jesus was born, and one of several that weave a complete prophetic picture of Jesus' ancestry ("the Root of Jesse"). Anyways, you can bet the house on the fact that this all will be wrapping up shortly and the last 1,000 years will be smooth sailing. For some of us, at least. Because before that, there's that day we are being inexorably pulled towards - the Great and Terrible day of the Lord.

On that day, humanity will finally be gathered all together, and what we've all known deep down inside was coming will finally happen: We will be judged by our maker, Jesus, specifically, who is the only one given authority to judge man, as the son of a woman. Have you ever heard of the <u>Bema Seat?</u>

The term Bema Seat of Christ is a term that comes from <u>2 Corinthians 5:10</u>.

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each of us may receive what is due us for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

The word for judgment used in the Greek is the word bema. The word bema means judgment seat, judicial court or judicial bench. In the first century, the bema was an elevated platform from which political speeches or judicial decisions were made. If you can picture the imagery as it relates to Christ in this verse, Christ is seated on his elevated throne and one day we will stand before him. At that point, Jesus will deliver his judicial decision to all who are believers.

It's speculated that this Judgement Seat is going to be the top of the Ark of the Covenant. Now, according to <u>mainstream thought</u>:

There are actually two different types of judgment. The believer and the unbeliever will be judged but the experience will not be the same.

The unbeliever will experience the Great White Throne judgment mentioned in Revelation. For [true] Christians, we will experience the judgment seat or Bema seat of Christ which is a judgment for different reasons and for a different purpose.

Of course, no one can say that they know for certain how it will play out. Revelation is a very mysterious subject, and anyone who claims to be 100% sure of their eschatology is lying to you.

Judgment may be a lot more strict than anyone thinks it will be, or it might be a lot more lenient. One thing I can say for sure is there will be a lot of surprises. For more on this, see our *Two Witnesses: Theology, Ontology, and Eschatology* writing.

So, what do you do to ensure salvation? It's really quite simple, Jesus gave us the metric we will be judged by so that the test isn't too hard. <u>Matthew 25:35 - 40 says</u>:

'For I was hungry and you gave me food I was thirsty and you gave me drink I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me I was sick and you visited me I was in prison and you came to me.'

Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

Literally Just do this one simple trick and judgement day will go pretty smoothly for you: Be kind to the poor. Feed the hungry, look not with judgement on the downtrodden but deliver them from trials and tribulations when you can. <u>And ultimately, follow the Law of the Prophets</u> – to Love one another.

Idolization of the Old Testament Witness 2

I have been seeing a recent rise in Christians who are taking on practices and celebrations of the Old Testament. I want to be clear here: <u>I believe in studying the whole, entire Bible, and that all scripture is beneficial to Christians.</u>

That being said, I believe modern Christians are being distracted by rules and laws of the Old Covenant, when we are supposed to be following the New Covenant (<u>Hebrews 8:13</u>):

In that He says, "A new covenant, " He has made the first obsolete. Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.

Now if you feel compelled to eat pork or not eat pork, that is between you and God, but I believe we must dive deeper into one question: Should Christians be following any aspect of the Old Testament in the first place?

This morning, God has led me to many scriptures, so let's start with this one:

Titus 3: 9-11

But avoid foolish controversies and genealogies and arguments and quarrels about the law, because these are unprofitable and useless. Warn a divisive person once, and then warn them a second time. After that, have nothing to do with them. You may be sure that such people are warped and sinful; they are self-condemned.

If you read that verse in context, there is a reminder that we are saved in order to do good, and that practices that lead to controversies and strife in the church should either a) not be discussed or b) be avoided altogether.

In this post, I want to break down a troubling issue I am seeing in modern fellowship: a resurgence of the *New Pharisees* who are obsessed with the law, a distraction from following Jesus.

Why Don't We Follow Old Testament Laws?

I was inspired to write this post based on different groups I have joined over the years online. Essentially, what happens is there is always someone who must voice that they follow specific rules and laws of the Old Testament. Interestingly, they never seem to follow the <u>animal sacrifices</u> required in the Old Covenant, but they will certainly tell you every other rule, celebration, or practice they follow.

It is important to understand the types of laws in the Old Testament. From the link,

The Civil Laws, for instance, were set up so the nation of Israel could thrive. Jesus actually emerged from this nation, but he started a new Israel—a spiritual Israel, the Church. We're no longer bound by the civil codes of Leviticus because God doesn't have a nation-state on earth anymore. Of course, we may wisely look at some of the principles in Israel's civil laws as we think of our own societal politics (principles about public health, caring for the poor, etc.), but the specific rules were all fulfilled in Jesus.

The Ceremonial Laws illustrate for us God's holiness, our unholiness, and what God would do about it. The entire sacrificial system should have ingrained into Israel's minds just how large the gap was between sinful humanity and a perfect God—and just how costly it would be to bridge that gap. And as the book of Hebrews shows us, the sacrifices were all fulfilled in Jesus' perfect life and death. If we accept Jesus, the ultimate sacrifice, we don't need the lesser sacrifices anymore. In fact, it would actually be offensive to go back to them, because that would communicate that Jesus' sacrifice wasn't sufficient.

The Moral Laws are fulfilled in Jesus as well, in that he kept all of them perfectly, every day, always, for his entire life. But unlike the civil and ceremonial laws, which were more timebound, these laws reflected God's assessment of good and evil, right and wrong. They reflect God's character, and since his character doesn't change, his views on morality don't either. In fact, whenever Jesus mentioned the moral laws, he either reaffirmed them or intensified them! To follow Jesus is to love what he loved, including the moral law.

Now, even though we still defend the moral laws of the Old Testament, we have to keep in mind that Jesus fulfilled it all. The Christian is not under obligation to keep the moral law as a way of earning her way to God. Instead, she is changed by the presence of God's Spirit to desire to keep God's laws. Because God isn't just after obedience; he's after a whole new kind of obedience, an obedience that comes from love and delight in God. Christians keep the moral commands, not because "it's the law," but because they love God and want to be like him.

So the next time someone starts saying that you're arbitrarily picking and choosing from the Bible, arm yourself with the civil/ceremonial/moral. You aren't being arbitrary. You're being faithful. You're reading the Old Testament how the New Testament teaches you to. So eat your shrimp without guilt, and don't throw away your 10 Commandments just yet.

The Consistent Characteristics of God From Old to New Testament

OLD TESTAMENT	JUST IN	NEW TESTAMENT
	PUNISHING SIN	and the second of the second se
Deuteronomy 32:35; Psalm 145:20; Isalah 59:18; Ezokiel 18:20	Ponisining sin.	Romans 2:5-6;6:23; 12:19; 2 Thessalonians 1:8; Revelation 21:8
	··· PEACE-LOVING ···	
Numbers 6:26; Psalm 91:1-2; 119:165; Proverbs 16:7; Isalah 26:3; 32:17	MERCIFUL AND	Luke 24:36; John 14:27 Romans 15:13; Philippians 4:7; 2 Corinthians 13:11
	FORGIVING	
Exodus 34:7; Nehemiah 9:17; Psalm 89:14; 119:132; 145:9; Isaiah 54:8; Micah 6:8		Matthew 6:14; John 8:11; Romans 2:4; 5:8; Ephesians 1:7; 2 Peter 3:9; 1 John 1:9
	LOVING	
Leviticus 19:18; Deuteronomy 6:5; 7:7-9; 10:12-15; 33:3; Psalm 92:2; Proverbs 3:12; 15:9; Isaiah 43:4; Ezekiel 16:8		Matthew 5:43-44; 19;19; 22:37- 39; John 3:16; 11:5; 13:1, 34; 15:9, 17; Romans 5:8; 1 Corinthians 13:4-8; 2 Thessalonians 2:16; 2 Timothy 1:7; 1 John 2:5; 4:8, 10
	KIND AND GENTLE	
Deuteronomy 10:18; 1 Chronicles 16:34; Psalm 86:5; 117:2; 146:7-9; Isalah 40: 11		Mark 1:40-42; 10:13-16; 2 Corinthians 1:3-4; Ephesians 2:7; Titus 3:4; James 3:17
	······ JUST ·····	
Genesis 18:25; Psalm 9:4, 16; 37:28; 98:9; Isalah 61:8; Jeremiah 9:24		John 16:8; Acts 17:31; Romans 2:2-3; 1 Peter 1:17; Revelation 19:2, 11
	ETERNAL AND	
	UNCHANGEABLE	
Numbers 23:19-20; Psalm 33:11; 90:2; 102:27; 103:17; 119:90; Isaiah 40:8; Malachi 3:6		2 Timothy 2:13; Hebrews 6:18; 13:8; James 1:17; 1 John 1:5; Revelation 22:13
Galan Hule, Marsell 3.0	ZEALOUS IN	Revelation 2213
	COMMANDING	
Exodus 15:26; Leviticus 22:31; Deuteronomy 4:40; 1 Kings 8:58; Nehemiah 1:9; Psalm 119:60	LAW KEEPING	Matthew 5:17-19; 7:23; 19:17; John 14:15, 21; 15:10; Romans 3:31; 1 John 2:3-4; 5:2-3
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To summarize, Jesus fulfilled the law, and anything that is still required of us from the Old Testament (the 10 commandments, for example) will be done so by following Jesus. While studying the Old Testament is still valuable, we are not to follow the Old Covenant ways, UNLESS it is through Jesus.

Remember, the over-arching thematic qualities and characteristics still apply from Old Testament to New Testament (love, justice, forgiveness, etc.) and that is what we should be focused on.

So, why then are Modern Christians Following the Old Covenant?

First, to be clear here, they are not FULLY following the Old Covenant, as most do not do animal sacrifices to account for sin, one of the main practices mentioned throughout the Old Testament.

From what I gather from speaking to these people, they mainly claim it helps them lead a more holy life and be closer to God.

I do not want to disregard this, so I won't. If this is true, then these people can do that; however, there is no need to mention this all the time in fellowship groups. Can a person do these practices without sharing what they do with others? Why is it necessary? **Would they still even do them if they had no one to "brag" about them to?**

This reminds me of what Jesus said about fasting - <u>to not be like the hypocrites and make it known to</u> <u>others</u>.

In other words, when there are things that we do for God, such as giving to the poor, fasting, or maybe avoiding pork, this is between us and God. If we are truly developing a personal relationship with God, then there are times where there is no need to let others know. When giving to the needy, for example, <u>do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing</u>.

I think this applies to many other things we do for God - not just giving to the poor. In prayer, if God compels us to do something specific for Him to develop our relationship with Him, I don't see the need to share that with others (for the most part).

Can you share it with others? It depends. I believe if you can do so in a way that doesn't create conflict and strife, then do so. However, from my experience, as soon as someone brings up following specific practices of the Old Covenant, it almost always brings division and strife, which leads us back to the original verse in this post (Titus 3).

In my mind, the reason people want to bring up what they do in their own time of worship is to create a sense of "superiority" or "self-righteous" stature over others. Now, who did this in the Bible....oh yeah! The Pharisees, who Jesus constantly called out due to their love of the law over their love of Christ.

If you need a reminder about the Pharisees and their hypocricy and self-righteousness, <u>this is a pretty</u> good link.

The point is that if what you do in secret for God brings up division amongst Christian groups you are in, then it is probably best to leave that to a private, individualized form of worship for God. For example, if God leads you not to eat pork, but you see other Christians eating pork, is it something you should mention? Probably not. Instead of bringing loving discussion to the table, you will bring an air of self-righteousness that brings others down. What if, for example, that person goes to the food bank and they are only given pork to eat? Do you really feel it necessary to bring that up to them? Besides, modern Christians are allowed to eat pork, even if you have taken a vow with God not to.

This, of course, isn't just about pork. If you are led to follow some practice of the Old Covenant, and speaking of it does not encourage fellowship but creates division instead, it is best to keep the practice private.

Now, this leads to my next question:

Should Christians Take ANY Part in the Old Covenant?

At the very least, I believe that those partaking in practices of the Old Covenant are simply creating a distraction from Jesus. In my mind, many of these practices could take away from what Jesus actually commanded us to do:

- Fasting and praying
- <u>Serving or helping the poor</u>
- <u>Preaching about the good news</u>
- Having fellowship with other Christians

And so on. Most importantly, does partaking in these practices fulfill what Jesus wants us to do? No.

The point is - many of the Christians I know who are partaking in these practices end up spending an awful a lot of time to doing so. Many of them spend hours focused on studying these practices on Bitchute or YouTube, and I wonder, could that time be spent giving some food to the needy?

Remember, I am not perfect, myself, and I write these posts so that I can improve my character, as well, I know there are things I do that distract me, too, and I do not want to appear "holier than thou" to anyone reading.

With that being said, the question is "Should we partake in any of these laws?" I'd argue no - that it is a distraction from what we should be doing <u>as followers of Christ</u>.

There is no obligation for a Christian to abide by a list of rules. The reason we have no rules is because following Jesus is about belief, not behavior.

So back to the original question, are we supposed to obey Old Testament laws? No. Not because they are irrelevant to modern culture, but because Jesus freed us from all civil and ceremonial laws when he died on the cross, and while on the earth, He raised the standard for all moral laws. He showed up making radical, unheard of statements like:

Matthew 5:2

"You have heard that our ancestors were told, 'You must not murder. If you commit murder, you are subject to judgment.' But I say, if you are even angry with someone, you are subject to judgment!

Matthew 5:27-28

"You have heard the commandment that says, 'You must not commit adultery. But I say, anyone who even looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

In other words, Jesus showed up and said, "The problem is not what you do, the problem is what you want to do." Jesus doesn't want you to follow the letter of the law, He wants you to fall in love with the guy who wrote the rulebook.

Further, When I was praying this morning, God led me to this part of the Bible (Galatians 3).

Faith or Works of the Law

You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified. I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the **works of the law**, or by **believing what you heard?** Are you so foolish? After beginning by means of the Spirit, are you now trying to finish by means of the flesh? Have you experienced so much in vain—if it really was in vain? So again I ask, does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you by the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard? So also Abraham "believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness."

Understand, then, that those who have faith are children of Abraham. Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: "All nations will be blessed through you." So those who rely on faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith. **For all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse**, as it is written: "Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law."

The Law and the Promise

Why, then, was the law given at all? It was added because of transgressions until the Seed to whom the promise referred had come. The law was given through angels and entrusted to a mediator. A mediator, however, implies more than one party; but God is one.

Is the law, therefore, opposed to the promises of God? Absolutely not! For if a law had been given that could impart life, then righteousness would certainly have come by the law. But Scripture has locked up everything under the control of sin, so that what was promised, being given through faith in Jesus Christ, might be given to those who believe.

Children of God

Before the coming of this faith, we were held in custody under the law, locked up until the faith that was to come would be revealed. So the law was our guardian until Christ came that we might be justified by faith. Now that this faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian.

So in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

To clarify, if a person is going to follow the Old Testament, then they must follow it entirely. **However**, according to Galatians, this is essentially a curse because no one can do it. We all fall short. We are FREED from the chains of the old law, and everything is fulfilled through Christ.

I believe any Christian "picking and choosing" some of the old law to follow is doing so in vain, perhaps even angering God. Instead of promoting the modern Christian kingdom, this person is stuck on following this ritual or not following that one - eating this, or not eating that, wearing this, not wearing that, and finally, dividing the church itself.

Christians must now fulfill the new law through our love for others by preaching, helping others, giving to the poor, and really, <u>being servants of God.</u>

The End Times Church

We are in the end times. Times are getting hard, and though those in Babylon (America) may not have experienced it yet, there is a time of hardship, famine, and more pestilence coming.

When this time comes, will any Christian even be able to uphold aspects of the Old Testament in any way? Will we be able to be picky and choosy about the food we eat? Will we have the time and energy to celebrate certain rituals?

I don't think so, and I think it is time to prepare spiritually, mentally, and physically for what is to come not what once was.

I call all Christians reading this to stop arguing about the petty things of the Bible. We truly need to <u>cleanse our garments</u> and STOP creating division in what little is left of the church. If we truly are the remnant, the last thing we should be doing is arguing about whether to eat shrimp. Rather, it is time to start fulfilling the new law, <u>the law of the prophets</u>.

How Modern Christianity Gave Up the Ghost Witness 1

To give up the ghost means to expire or die, or in the case of a mechanical object, to stop working. The phrase "give up the ghost" may be traced back to the King James Bible, printed in the early 1600s. The term is used in several places in the Bible, including Mark 15:37: "And Jesus cried with a loud voice, and gave up the ghost." The phrase is usually translated in these times as giving up one's spirit or passion, rather than ghost.

Let's look at some verses that sum this all up quite well:

The Patches and the Wineskins

(Matthew 9:16-17; Luke 5:36-39)

No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment. If he does, the new piece will pull away from the old, and a worse tear will result.

And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the wine will burst the skins, and both the wine and the wineskins will be ruined. Instead, new wine is poured into new wineskins.

The Lord of the Sabbath

(<u>1 Samuel 21:1–7</u>; <u>Matthew 12:1–8</u>; <u>Luke 6:1–5</u>)

One Sabbath Jesus was passing through the grainfields, and His disciples began to pick the heads of grain as they walked along. 24So the Pharisees said to Him, "Look, why are they doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?"

Jesus replied, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need? During the high priesthood of Abiathar, he entered the house of God and ate the consecrated bread, which was lawful only for the priests. And he gave some to his companions as well."

Then Jesus declared, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. Therefore, the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath."

Recall that David was a "man after God's own heart". **The Law was never meant to be followable**, and the Bible is, rather than a story of the Jews many successes and ways they upheld the Law, a story of their **many failures**, where time and time again they let God down and failed to follow his commandments.

The Law is a mirror, meant to make us realize that we can never live up to God's expectations. When Christians go back to the Law, they are showing that they don't understand the Bible at all. <u>This</u> is why Jesus said that about the wineskins:

The two parables relate to the relationship between Jesus' teaching and traditional <u>Judaism</u>.

According to some interpreters, Jesus here "pits his own, new way against the old way of the <u>Pharisees</u> and their scribes." In the early second century, <u>Marcion</u>, founder of <u>Marcionism</u>, used the passage to justify a "total separation between the religion that Jesus and Paul espoused and that of the <u>Hebrew Scriptures</u>."

Why do we even have to write this post? The answer is that people are, and always have been, obsessed with acting and appearing as if they are perfect, or "holier than thou". There's a recent trend of Christians looking down on others because *they* wear a prayer shawl and follow the Sabbath every week, and *those Christians* don't, or (insert cherry-picked Old Testament rule here).

In other words, the Law can never save you, and it never saved anybody. All it can do is make you realize that you need to be saved.

The Bible is also a story of mankind's development. When it first appeared, it was in a savage time, when people thought nothing of wanton acts of genocide and bloodshed. As humanity slowly matured, we became capable of understanding God with more nuance. Jesus referenced Hammurabi's "an eye for an eye", and then declared an astonishingly radical new idea - that of "turning the other cheek", instead.

Going back to Old Testament laws is showing personal immaturity and a true lack of understanding. As our knowledge and ways of life have developed, so has the morality within each one of us. Here, in the end times, Christians are supposed to be at a stage where they follow the Ten Commandments because they want to, not because they are forced to. "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another."

About this, combined with loving God, Jesus said, "On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." Don't put new wine into old wineskins or sew a patch of new cloth onto an old garment. Don't be the New Pharisees.

-The Two Witnesses