

# Are We Under The Old Testament?

## A quote:

‘If we keep the ten commandments and believe in Jesus, we will be saved’

‘You mean we can break the ten commandments?’

Almost all Protestant churches teach that God expects everyone to observe the OT today

# I. The Confusion



To say we're not under OT  
is NOT saying . . .

1. We don't believe it.

To say we're not under OT  
is NOT saying . . .

1. We don't believe it.
2. We are not under law today.

For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ  
Jesus has set you free from the law of  
sin and death – Ro.8:2

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is NOT saying . . .

1. We don't believe it.
2. We are not under law today.

...to those who are without law, as without law (not being without law toward God, but under law toward Christ), that I might win those who are without law – 1 Co.9:21



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is NOT saying . . .

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Bear one another's burdens, and  
so fulfill the law of Christ – Gal.6:2

To say we're not under OT  
is NOT saying . . .

1. We don't believe it.
2. We are not under law today.

But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does – Ja.1:25



# To say we're not under OT is NOT saying . . .

1. We don't believe it.
2. We are not under law today.
3. OT is unprofitable.

- Hb.11:7 - By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith.

# To say we're not under OT is NOT saying . . .

1. We don't believe it.
2. We are not under law today.
3. OT is unprofitable.
  - Hb.11:7
  - Ro.15:4 – Ps.110
  - Hb.3-4, warns Christians. Jude 5

# To say we're not under OT is NOT saying . . .

1. We don't believe it.
2. We are not under law today.
3. OT is unprofitable.
4. We have right to violate NT repeats.
  - Ro.13:8-10
  - 1 Tim.1:...6-11, desire to teach  
LOM is good (2:13-15 ↔ Gen.3)



## 1 Tim.1:6-11 – the problem: false teachers

1. They have embraced error, 6
2. They want to shine, 7 (Ro.2)
3. They are outlaws, 8 (Mt.15:3, 6)
4. They should have been crushed by Law; instead, spiritualized it, 9

# Medieval Quadriga

- Fourfold method of interpreting Bible
- 'Jerusalem'
  1. **Literal:** plain, obvious: the city
  2. **Moral:** my soul: how should I act
  3. **Allegorical:** Christ, the church
  4. **Anagogical:** our ultimate fate

I. The Confusion

II. The Correction



# If we are under OT today we must...

1. Celebrate Passover (by family),  
Ex.12:3
2. Keep sabbath, Ex.35:3 – no fire
3. Offer animal sacrifices for sin, Lv.16
4. Practice annual atonement, Lv.16
5. Go to Jerusalem three times a year,  
Dt.16:16

# God gave OT to Israel...alone

- Dt.5:1-3 [4:8; Ps.147:19-20; Ro.2:14]
  - Patriarchs did not have Passover, Sabbath, etc.
  - Christ is our Passover, 1 Co.5:6-8





# Why did God give OT to Israel?

- Ro.3:20, give knowledge of sin
- Ga.3:24, bring people to Christ



# God never permitted anyone to keep only part of OT

- Gal.5:1-4

‘These expressions must be understood as explicit denials of salvation to those who committed themselves to the works of the law as necessary to justification’

– Hogg & Vine. [1:6-9]

# No one is under OT today

- Ro.7:1-7

Woman has  
two husbands:  
Adulteress

Living under two  
laws (OT-NT) is  
spiritual adultery

Woman's husband  
dies: free to  
remarry

Made dead to Law  
to be joined to  
Christ

# No one is under OT today

- Ro.7:1-7
- Gal.3:23-25, schoolmaster (pedagogue) slave who conducted boy to / from school
  - When boy became of age, no more conductor
  - Law: Israel's conductor to bring to Christ



# No one is under OT today

- Ro.7:1-7
- Gal.3:23-25
- Ep.2:14-15 –
  - *Abolished*: nullify, make invalid
  - *Enmity*: hostility
  - *Law of commandments*. Jn.7:49

“But this crowd that does not know the law is accursed.”

# No one is under OT today

- Ro.7:1-7
- Gal.3:23-25
- Ep.2:14-15
- Col.2:14-17
  - OT ordinances nailed to cross
  - 16: let no one judge you by law...
    - Nu.15:32-36
  - 17: shadow vs reality. Cf. passover

# No one is under OT today

- Ro.7:1-7
  - Gal.3:23-25
  - Ep.2:14-15
  - Col.2:14-17
  - Hb.7:12-14, Jesus is our High Priest.
- Conclusion: Law changed.



# No one is under OT today

- Ro.7:1-7
- Gal.3:23-25
- Ep.2:14-15
- Col.2:14-17
- Hb.7:12-14
- Hb.9:15, mediator of new covenant.