

Why Christians Should Keep the Law (Part 9)—The Way, the Truth, and the Life

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The following text is a message from Corner Fringe Ministries that was presented by Daniel Joseph. The original presentation can be viewed at <https://www.cornerfringe.com/media/wsppkfr/pt-9-why-christians-should-keep-the-law>

***Portions of this document have been edited from the video message to better present a comprehensive, written document. Special attention was given to preserve the original context, but this document is not verbatim. Scripture verses are in the red text with other quotes in blue. Therefore, it is recommended that this document is printed in color. The Hebrew words are generally accompanied by the transliterate, English word. In most cases, the Hebrew is to be read from right to left.**

Welcome everyone, to Episode 9 of our series *Why Christians Should Keep the Law*.

Today, we will build upon what we covered in our last episode where we were seeking to gain an understanding of what exactly is the Law. I'm not looking for public opinion or man's opinion; I want God's opinion. I want to know how Scripture defines the Law.

Charles Haddon Spurgeon—I love what Spurgeon said—*The Word of God is like a lion. You don't have to defend a lion. All you have to do is let the lion loose, and the lion will defend itself.*

That is exactly what we will do today. We will turn Scripture loose. It will defend itself. We will see the Law define itself in a really amazing way. To get things started, I want to read from the Gospel of John. When Jesus talked to his disciple, Thomas, He made an incredibly profound statement:

John 14:6a—^{6a} **Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life.** (Emphasis added.)

I want you to appreciate something. Every single one of the descriptors Jesus used to describe Himself are used explicitly in Scripture to define the Law. Since His disciples were first century Jews and grew up in the synagogue, studied the Torah, and heard the Prophets preached and taught over and over again, the descriptors Jesus used would have resonated with them as terms used explicitly of the Law itself. So, when you look at this statement, Jesus was basically saying, "I am the Law." This is incredibly profound.

As we dig into this further and further, you will see this amazing inseparable association between Scripture and Jesus. They are like a tapestry woven together.

John 1:1—¹ **In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God** (Emphasis added.)

John 1:14a—^{14a} **And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us.** (Emphasis added.)

John 5:39—Jesus said—³⁹ You search the **Scriptures**, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me. (Emphasis added.)

He keeps pointing you back and saying, “This is all about Me.”

John 5:47—⁴⁷ For if you **believed Moses**, you would **believe Me**; for **he wrote about Me**. (Emphasis added.)

So, you have this concept of the Law becoming flesh. For me, as a believer, this gives me a totally different perspective of the Law. I don't see something that's oppressive and abhorrent and should be avoided as a curse. I see the true character and nature of Jesus because that's what Scripture says.

I want to discuss each one of these descriptors in chronological order. We will only cover two of them today. We will cover the next one in the next episode. I want to show you how these descriptors are explicitly used regarding the Law. We will continue to develop a greater understanding of this entire discussion.

First, I want to talk about: the Law is the way.

Psalms 103:7—⁷ He made known **His ways** to Moses, His acts to the children of Israel. (Emphasis added.)

If you want to know the way of the Lord, go to the Law of Moses because the Law of Moses comprises the heart, the mind, the wisdom, and the understanding of God; what He loves and what He hates; what He likes and what He dislikes. That's the mind of the Lord.

The Law of Moses is not a product of Moses. I make this statement specifically because of conversations I've had with Christians whose perspective of the Law is astonishing to me. They believe it's rabbinical law. They conflate rabbinical law with the Law of Moses, not understanding there is a distinction. The Law of Moses is not a product of Moses or a product of man; it's a product of God alone. It's His heart. It's His mind. Rabbinical law is something completely different. It is a product of rabbis, which is a product of man, so it is aptly and appropriately named rabbinical law.

Let's move to the next one: the Law is truth.

Psalms 119:142—¹⁴² Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, and **Your Law is truth**. (Emphasis added.)

The Law holds immense power, absolutely incredible power.

Think about the reality that every day, Christians are hit with a barrage of lies where the enemy tries to get them to succumb to lie after lie, whether from a corrupt media, a corrupt government, corrupt politicians, or from principalities, powers, and spiritual hosts of wickedness, which are demonic attacks. Each lie is marked for their death. When you are in an environment of what I would call “all-out war” (spiritual warfare) and are being assailed with one lie after another, my goodness, you need the truth. We have to have the truth, and Jesus told us:

John 8:32—³² And you shall know the truth, and **the truth shall make you free**. (Emphasis added.)

Again, you see the power of the Law. The Law is the way of the Lord. The Law is the truth of the Lord. I want the truth.

Is it any wonder why Satan wants to take the Law from Christians and convince them that it's completely antiquated, of no value, and not for the believer in Jesus? Do not wonder. Every step of the way in this discussion, you find how much power, importance, and value the Law has and how much it truly points to Jesus. It is Jesus. The Law describes the character and nature of Jesus: what He loves and what He hates.

Psalm 119:160—¹⁶⁰The entirety of **Your word is truth**, and every one of Your righteous judgements endures forever. (Emphasis added.)

“The entirety of His Word” means the Law, traditionally called the *Torah*, and the Prophets, the *Nevi'im*. That is truth. For believing Christians today that includes everything from Genesis to Revelation; **the entirety of His Word is truth**.

Let's go back to the first century and look further into the Gospel of John. In John 17, Jesus prayed a famous intercessory prayer to His father. It is a well-known, beautiful, long discourse. I want to point out one thing Jesus prayed to His Father that is extremely relevant for our discussion:

John 17:17—¹⁷Sanctify them—how—**in Your truth**. (Emphasis added.) Then Jesus quoted Psalm 119:160—**Your word is truth**. (Emphasis added.)

The Law is truth. Jesus interceded on our behalf and petitioned the Father to sanctify us, set us apart from the world. We are called to be a holy priesthood, totally set apart from the world (1 Peter 2:5, 9). The Lord said, “**Be holy, for I am holy**.” (1Peter 1:15-16, Leviticus 11:44-45, etc.)

Jesus prayed the will of the Father: **Sanctify them**—how—**by your truth**. **Your word is truth**. The intent of His disciples, those who follow Him, would be to submit to His Word. They would submit to His Law.

That's all we have time for today. May the Lord *Yeshua*, Jesus, of Nazareth, bless you and keep you.