

The Ten Commandments - Part 23: The Sabbath and the Law of Continuance (9/17/2022)

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/bpdhcp9/the-ten-commandments-part-23>

***Portions of this document have been edited from the video message to better present a comprehensive, written document. Special attention was given to preserving 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.**

We will continue looking at the Shabbat. Theoretically, it is possible we could finish next week, but I emphasize theoretically. We'll see. It will be the Lord's will on where he goes with this, but we are getting close.

If you were with us last week, remember we delved into a certain commentary by a very renowned prolific scholar, an author of numerous books. In one of his books, he covers the Shabbat from a very traditional, mainstream Christian perspective. He does an amazing job of taking his audience "a through z" of why Christians today don't keep the Sabbath and why we receive Sunday in lieu of the Sabbath.

We are not quite done. There are two more things Dr. Jeffrey says within that chapter that I want to bring to the forefront which I think this is important in regard to this discussion. Without further ado, we will jump right into this. This is what Dr. Jeffrey says:

Unveiling Mysteries of the Bible by Dr. Grant Jeffrey:
[Why did Jewish Christians Worship on Both Days?](#)

Obviously, he's bringing this to the table to legitimize Christians worshiping on Sunday by pointing out the Christian Jews, the Messianic Jews, in the first century were doing as we do today. Then he says this. Pay attention:

[During the first century historical evidence confirms that many Jewish Christians continued to worship on Saturday Sabbath](#)

Think about this statement. If I took this statement and compartmentalize it on its own, I would stand with Dr. Jeffrey 100%. Historical evidence confirms this internally and externally. Internally, the New Testament, Matthew through Revelation, confirms Messianic Jews were abiding with the Shabbat. No question. Externally, evidence shows for century after century, in early church Christianity, this was absolutely the case. In fact, it is still happening today. The Messianic Jews are still holding fast to the Shabbat.

Next, Dr. Jeffrey makes a statement and tells us why. This is one of the most profound things he says in the entire chapter and probably arguably the most profound thing he recognizes. Check this out. This is

amazing. He says: **because Christ and His disciples never instructed Jews to cease this biblically authorized practice for Jews from the Torah.** *(emphasis added)* *Unveiling Mysteries of the Bible* by Dr. Grant Jeffrey.

Let that sink in for a moment. Dr. Jeffrey acknowledged something which is massive. It's monumental to this entire discussion of the Sabbath. In fact, whether intentionally or unintentionally, he brought a principle to the table which will change the way you read the Bible. Absolutely incredible! What do I mean? I mean he brought the law of continuance to the table. This is simply me coining a phrase to a biblical reality.

What is the law of continuance? I want you to appreciate the following: the law of continuance says that everything we read within the Torah and in the Prophets, all the commandments God gave to His people, stand uninhibited and unchanged unless otherwise stated in the New Testament. That is truly the law of continuance.

For example, as you read through the New Testament, you will notice Jesus didn't specifically address certain things you see specifically addressed in the Torah. He didn't go around telling people, "Hey, don't kidnap. Kidnapping is wrong." Well, kidnapping is specifically addressed in the Torah.

Guess what? Neither Yeshua, the apostles, or anyone in the New Testament said that a man can't take an animal as a wife. Now, you may say, "Well, that's absurd Daniel." Well, it's happening in this society. Are you reading the articles where people are getting caught trying to mate with animals? Who can think of this? People are marrying their animals. I want you to think about something. There's no prohibition against mating with animals in the New Testament. There doesn't have to be because the law of continuance says it begins with the Torah and the Prophets. Everything the Torah and the Prophets say carries over unless otherwise stated. This is a huge principle. Do you want to talk about revolutionizing the church and where it's at? This would do it.

Let me give you an example of how this would look. In the Torah, it specifically says only Aaron and his sons can be kohanim, period. This is the Torah. It established it. However, we have the law of continuance. When we get to the New Testament, we recognize there is a massive change. Now, Yeshua is the Kohen Gadol. He is the High Priest. There has been a change, but I can support the change within the New Testament. I can confirm every change given in the New Testament can be confirmed in the Prophets.

If the church would grab hold of the principle of the law of continuance, it would radically change their faith. It would change the way they apply the scriptures. It would change the knowledge of what they have. It would change their understanding because right now the church's perspective is: if it's not in the New Testament, I'm not doing it. That is not the perspective of Yeshua or the apostles.

Keep in mind that for centuries there was no New Testament. What was the well that they drew from? How did the Bereans go home and make sure these things were so? When they heard the gospel, they went to the Torah and the Prophets. Paul said multiple times, as he preached the gospel, I think in Acts chapter 24, 26, 28, and in 1 Corinthians 15, no other things than that which the Torah and the Prophets said would come. He legitimized his statement and the resurrection of Yeshua by the true resource, which is the Torah and the Prophets. Think about that. It'll change everything. The devil has totally interrupted that. He has severed the Torah and the Prophets.

The New Testament was never meant to be read apart from the Torah and the Prophets. The New Testament itself bears witness because everywhere in the New Testament when the apostles were proving a point, they drew from the Torah and the Prophets. Every single time you see “it is written”, “it has been said”, “as scripture has said” or you see the word “scripture”, it is explicitly talking about the Torah and the Prophets.

All this to say this statement by Dr. Jeffries is incredibly profound. By saying “[biblically authorized](#)”, he is recognizing the law of continuance. The Jewish Christians never stopped anything because Yeshua and the apostles never said anything else. The New Testament doesn't tell them otherwise. Amazing statement! I wish it had ended there.

Continuing in *Unveiling Mysteries of the Bible* by Dr. Grant Jeffrey: **However, evidence confirms** – this is where we get into the evidence that he's speaking of – [that from the beginning Jewish believers joined with their Gentile Christian brothers in worshipping at the Lord's Supper on Sunday, the day of Christ's resurrection. In other words, many Jewish Christians worshipped on both Saturday and Sunday.](#) (*emphasis added*).

That is an interesting statement. If you remember, last week we talked about how in Acts 2:46 they worshipped every day. We have scriptural, factual proof for that statement; they went to the temple every day. Why were they going to the temple daily? To worship. They were breaking bread from house to house daily. They worshiped every day.

Listen to me carefully. That doesn't make every day holy. There is a significant difference whether they decide to worship on Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday. Understand your actions on what you decide to do in regard to the Sabbath. Suppose you say, “You know what Daniel? Wednesday is my Sabbath.” Understand something very clearly: your observance of Wednesday as holy in no way alters the word of God. It in no way impacts it whatsoever. As I mentioned before, we have simply two choices because we are not God. We can either receive His words, His commands, as is, or we can reject them. But making maybe Friday or maybe Tuesday your Sabbath doesn't alter Saturday as the Sabbath. You are on your own.

That being said, I want to address this evidence which Dr. Jeffrey is referencing. It is not biblical evidence. It is not in the confines of the New Testament; it is outside of the New Testament. Dr. Jeffrey references a specific group which you are familiar with, the Ebionites. Remember, this early Jewish Christian group, the Ebionites, were deemed heretical and rightfully so. They are the ones that love their vegetables. It was not for health reasons but for spiritual reasons. Their heresy did not necessarily begin so much with their vegetable diet; it began with their idea that Christ never eternally pre-existed. They believed He only came into existence upon conception in Mary's womb.

The Ebionites broke off into two branches. One branch totally rejected any notion that Mary conceived of the Holy Spirit. The other branch believed she conceived of the Holy Spirit, but they still maintained Yeshua did not eternally pre-exist. The Ebionites are the group Dr. Jeffrey is referencing.

This is a comment from the great church historian, Eusebius: *Church History* by Eusebius of Caesarea— [These men \(the Ebionites\), moreover, thought that it was necessary to reject all the epistles of the apostle \(Paul\)....](#)

The Ebionite's heresy did not stop with Yeshua not eternally pre-existing and Mary never conceived of the Holy Spirit. The group totally rejected all the writings of Paul. Well, you can understand why they had to reject Paul. In Romans 14 and 1 Timothy 4, Paul attacked the main source of their expression of the faith, meaning their vegetables. Also, Paul's epistles are filled with statements that Yeshua eternally pre-existed. So, the Ebionites saw Paul as an enemy to the gospel.

Church History by Eusebius of Caesarea continued: [whom they called apostate from the law; and they used only the so-called Gospel according to the Hebrews and made small account of the rest.](#)

For clarity's sake, we are not talking about the book of Hebrews. This gospel of Hebrews doesn't exist today. It would be a fascinating read, but it would reflect all of the ideology the Ebionites possessed. So, this was their primary book. You can smell heretical groups that pop up. You know why? Because they rip out sections of scripture that mess with what they want to believe. They start ripping out books of the Bible. This is what happens, and it's very dangerous.

Now, we read the evidence: *Church History* by Eusebius of Caesarea continued: [The Sabbath and the rest of the discipline of the Jews they observed just like them](#), – In other words, there were truly Jewish Christians who maintained the Passover and clung to the discipline of the Shabbat. But then it says – [but at the same time, like us](#), – “Like us” refers to Christians who didn't keep the Sabbath, were not involved in Passover, and separated themselves from the Jew and those Jewish things. – [they celebrated the Lord's days](#) – Eusebius is using the term “Lord's day” as Sunday. They celebrated Sunday, how? As a Sabbath? No, as a memorial. – [as a memorial of the resurrection of the Savior.](#) (*Emphasis added*)

It doesn't say they celebrated the Lord's Day as a Shabbat. No one, not even the Ebionites, declared Sunday a holy convocation or that Sunday replaced the Sabbath. You will not find that. It doesn't exist. In fact, the evidence of this very statement is sparse, and I mean really sparse. But yes, we can look at church history and recognize there is historical evidence that shows there were early Jewish Christians, whether heretical or not, who recognized Sunday in the capacity of the resurrection of the Lord.

Here's my response to that. All true, God-fearing believers, specifically Torah observant Christians, identify with Sunday. It's woven into the tapestry of the gospel, is it not? The bedrock of the gospel says this: the women went to the tomb on Sunday, the first day of the week, and the tomb was empty. That's the birth of true Christianity. That's the birth of salvation. Yeshua wasn't in the grave because He rose from the dead on the first day of the week, Sunday. So, every time somebody shares their faith with you, this point is coming across, and every time you share your faith with someone else, this point is coming across. It is memorialized in the gospel.

Let me take it a step further. When you read the Torah, you realize that God Himself memorialized Sunday, the first day of the week. We read this passage last week, but we will look at it with different eyes today: Leviticus 23:10 – ¹⁰ [Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: ‘When you come into the land which I give you, and reap its harvest, then you shall bring a sheaf of the firstfruits of your harvest to the priest.](#) (*emphasis added*)

In Hebrew, the word for sheaf of the first fruits is *‘ō-mer rē-šîṭ*, עֹמֶר רֵאשִׁית. This was a very special portion that was set aside from the rest of the harvest. It was exclusive and an exalted portion presented to the Lord. The *‘ō-mer rē-šîṭ* was so important that none of the harvest could be touched, you couldn't partake of it, until the *‘ō-mer rē-šîṭ* was brought before the Lord. This is where things get interesting because the *‘ō-mer rē-šîṭ* is a typology of Yeshua. This is not Daniel's creative interpretation

where I'm just trying to read something into the text. This mystery was unlocked by the Apostle Paul. He wrote this to the church at Corinth: 1 Corinthians 15:20 – **20 But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.** (*emphasis added*)

Yeshua is the 'ō-mer rē-šît. Think about what Paul is saying. He's referencing Leviticus 23. He's removing the veil of what this whole process is about. There is a reason for all the things the LORD commands in the Torah. Paul says this is the reason that you have done this. Year after year you have brought the 'ō-mer rē-šît of your harvest to the priest who brought it to the LORD because it foretells of the Messiah Yeshua. So, the sheaf of the first fruits, 'ō-mer rē-šît, is Yeshua.

It gets better: Leviticus 23:11 – **11 He** – meaning the priest – **shall wave the sheaf before the Lord,** – now look at this – **to be accepted on your behalf;** (*emphasis added*). All eyes are on the 'ō-mer rē-šît. This is huge. The harvest can't be touched until this sheaf comes forward. Notice the wording: it is to be brought forth so that it is accepted on your behalf.

In 2 Corinthians 5:21, Paul wrote – **21 For He** – God – **made Him** – Yeshua – **who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.** It is on our behalf. We are accepted through the 'ō-mer rē-šît, Yeshua. When did this happen? Paul uses the term first fruits (*aparchē* in Greek, 'ō-mer rē-šît in Hebrew) explicitly in the context of the resurrection. So, when does the priest wave the sheaf of first fruits? We find out as we continue in Leviticus 23:11– **11 ... on the day after the Sabbath the priest shall wave it.** (*emphasis added*)

Sunday. You want to talk about this awesome radical notion of the first day of the week, Sunday, being preserved; it was memorialized every year during the harvest on Sunday, the day after the Sabbath, when the priest waved the sheaf of first fruits. Jewish commentators say, on Sunday, the priest put his hands under the sheaf of first fruits, walked toward the altar, lifted it to heaven, and began to wave it. This happened on the day after the Sabbath. You can't make this stuff up. This is all about the resurrection. God Himself has truly preserved the first day of the week, Sunday. But notice, even in the Torah, it's not a Sabbath. There is a distinction made. If it was a Sabbath, he would have said so, but this is the day after the Sabbath.

Let me take it a step further because the impact the sheaf of first fruits, 'ō-mer rē-šît, made was massive. Let's jump ahead a couple of verses: Leviticus 23:15 – **15 And you shall count for yourselves from the day after the Sabbath, from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering: seven Sabbaths shall be completed.** (*emphasis added*).

Unreal! The day after the Sabbath is when the priest brought this exalted portion and lifted it up before the altar as an offering to the Lord before any of the harvest could be touched started a countdown. It wasn't simply that they were to bring a sheaf offering and that's the end of the story. That is not the end of the story. This started a chain of events, and fifty days later where would you be? You would be on Sunday, period. It was exactly Sunday. Every single year the countdown ends on a Sunday. It is a special celebration also known as the Feast of Weeks, Feast of Harvest, Feast of Pentecost, *Shavuot* or in Hebrew it is *Ḥāḡ HaqQāšir*. It goes by many names.

This was the day the apostles gathered in Jerusalem because this day was a sacred assembly. This was a pilgrimage festival where all the Jews from all over the world came to Jerusalem on this day. And we know what happened. Remember what Yeshua said. After He resurrected, He presented Himself to His apostles and said to them: Luke 24:49 – **49 ... but tarry in the city of Yerushalayim/Jerusalem until you are**

endued with power from on high". The Sheaf of First Fruits, 'ō-mer rē-šît, had risen from the dead, and something was coming. There was a countdown. Yeshua conveyed this to His apostles, "...tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high".

The giving of that power happened on the day after the Sabbath, on Sunday. And yes, that Sunday is a Sabbath. But listen to me carefully. It's the law of continuance. It always was a Sabbath. One time a year Sunday would be a Sabbath, and it was the Feast of Pentecost. But what started that process was not a Sabbath. So, every Sunday that goes by is not a Sabbath. Why? Because God said so. God has preserved these templates. This wasn't hard for Messianic Jews to wrap their head around. I want to be clear because this is where Christians can get themselves in trouble. This includes us. We get ourselves in trouble when we want to honor the Lord in a way that we see fit.

You know who I think about when this happens? I think about King Saul who was commanded to destroy the Amalekites. God commanded him to destroy everything: every man, woman, child, and all the beasts. What does Saul do? Saul destroyed the Amalekites, but he didn't destroy all the animals. Do you know what he did? He saved the best of the animals to honor the Lord. He was excited to honor the Lord. Saul's perspective of what he had done was glorious until Samuel arrived in town and said, "What has gone on. You were commanded to destroy everything." Do you know what Saul's response was? "No, worries, I have kept the commandment of the Lord. I've gone on the mission which he sent me, and I took out the Amalekites." Samuel said, "What are you talking about? Is this bleating of sheep that I hear and the lowing of oxen? You've done no such thing. Saul responded, "No, no, you don't understand, Samuel. I have kept the commandments of the Lord." Then Samuel rebuked him one last time, and the Lord was done.

²² So Samuel said: "Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, As in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams. (1 Samuel 15:22).

When I read 1 Samuel 15:22, and it says – ²² ...to obey is better than to sacrifice, and to heed than the fat of rams, I get concerned about the church saying they will honor the resurrection of Yeshua because they want to honor Yeshua. I can empathize with that feeling. We should all want to honor Yeshua, but do you know how to honor Yeshua? It's not to abandon His commandments. It's to keep His commandments. That's how we need to honor Him.

Don't think for one moment the devil isn't going to leverage the gospel and the resurrection against salvation, the commandments of God, and what Yeshua has really done so you do the unthinkable and abandon a commandment of God for the sake of your tradition.

Getting back to the commentary by Dr. Jeffrey: *Unveiling Mysteries of the Bible* by Dr. Grant Jeffrey continued: [The attempt to observe Saturday Sabbath worship, rather than the normal Sunday worship of all Christians for the last two thousand years, is a spiritually misguided attempt to place believers under the impossible and failed Law recorded in the Old Testament ... \(emphasis added\).](#)

In other words, Dr. Jeffrey is saying that if you or anyone else attempts to tell others they should keep the Ten Commandments of God and consider strongly what the Lord has spoken in His word to remember the Sabbath to keep it holy, then you are harming other Christians. You are bringing them under a curse and under the law. That's a vile thing to do.

Look at the two key descriptors Dr. Jeffrey uses regarding the law: the “impossible” and “failed” law. I would argue that this is a very common perspective amongst modern day Christianity. When Christians hear the law, this is what they think. You say law; they say curse. You say law; they say impossible. You say law; they say failed. This is the common perspective. So, I want to share some thoughts on this that I think are important to the discussion as a whole; not just to the Sabbath, but about the whole of the Ten Commandments themselves.

First, I want to look at the concept that the law is impossible. Obviously, Dr. Jeffrey is implying that nobody can keep the law. It's impossible. None of us has done it. You know Ecclesiastes 7:20 says – ²⁰ **For there is not a just man on earth who does good and does not sin.** And Romans 3:23 says – ²³ **For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.**

I agree with Dr. Jeffrey that nobody has kept the law perfectly. Every single one of us has fallen short, except Messiah Yeshua, which is why He is our Savior. He overcame. He was the one who—**was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.** (Hebrews 4:15). I don't care what side of the debate you're on, whether you believe in the Sabbath or don't believe, I think we should all be able to stand on that principle clearly.

But I have a problem with the idea that because we sinned, we should continue to walk in sin. That becomes problematic. Romans 6:1-2 says – ¹ **...Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound?** – Paul said – ² **Certainly not!** We are not to do that. Our inability to save ourselves in no way absolves our responsibility to walk faithfully in the name of Yeshua, to love Him and to keep His commandments.

I think of one of my favorite verses in all of scripture, Psalm 119:88 – ⁸⁸ ***kā-ḥas-dā-kā ḥay-yē-nî wā'eš-mā-rāh 'ê-dūṭ pî-kā, Revive me according to your loving kindness*** – The psalmist recognized he was broken, helpless and needed a Savior – **Revive me according to your loving kindness** – Let your mercy and grace fall upon me. Then the psalmist tells you why – **So that I may keep the testimonies of your mouth.** The ones God spoke that I may keep them. The response of someone who has received Yeshua as Lord and Savior and received grace and mercy is to go on in righteousness.

We read in 1 Chronicles 16:29 – ²⁹ **... *hiš-ta-ḥā-wū Yah-weh bā-ḥaḍ-raq qō-des, worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness!*** That is true worship when we walk in holiness.

The writer of Hebrews said in Hebrews 12:14 – ¹⁴ **Pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord.** We are to pursue peace and holiness. Our failure to keep the law is not a legitimate justification to continue to fail to keep the law. That's hatred against God.

2 Timothy 2:19 – ¹⁹ **Let everyone who names the name of Christ depart from iniquity.**

Let's bring this back to the table. Yeshua said in Matthew 5:48 – ⁴⁸ **Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.** That is a mind-blowing statement, especially when you put it in its context. In Matthew 5, Yeshua taught the Torah. Go read it. You don't need to believe me. From Matthew 5 all the way through Matthew 7, Yeshua taught the principles of Torah. It is the greatest exegesis and teaching on Torah anywhere in the world ever. This is what He did. After teaching the Torah, He hit a crescendo at the end of Matthew 5 and said— ⁴⁸ **Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.** This is right after He said – ⁴⁴ **love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you; and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you.** I'm going to let you in on a little secret, that comes directly out of the Torah.

The whole concept of the scary book of Leviticus is you shall not take vengeance against your neighbor. This is what Yeshua taught in Matthew 5: you shall love your neighbor as yourself. Exodus 23 talks about loving your enemy. This is what the Torah is. Paul said in Galatians 5:14 – ¹⁴ **For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”** He just told us that the whole Torah is all about love. That's what it is. Yeshua taught that we are to love. This is an amazing thing to me. As we look at this concept of an impossible law as a means of justification to walk away from Shabbat, biblically you don't have anything to stand on. It doesn't work.

Let me share a passage with you which scares me to death. It is found in Jeremiah. To me, Jeremiah is one of the most intense books in the Bible. We are living in the days of Jeremiah right now. Jeremiah was living in the days where there were many believers, people of God, who believed they were right with God. Deception was running amok. The prophet Jeremiah tried to speak God's word, and yet it was not received. God called His people to repentance, but they did not listen. That terrifies me because I look at what's going on right now in this country and throughout the world. The word is speaking, but nobody's listening.

Jeremiah 18:11 – ¹¹ **Now therefore, speak to the men of Judah and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying, ‘Thus says the Lord: “Behold, I am fashioning a disaster and devising a plan against you. When you are walking in sin with no conviction, the Lord is behind the scenes planning your demise. Does that not trouble you?**

It says in Psalm 7:11 – ¹¹ **... God is angry with the wicked every day. If he does not turn back, He will sharpen His sword; He will bend his bow and makes it ready. He also prepares for Himself instruments of death.** If you want to continue to walk in your sin, He makes instruments of death. That terrifies me. If that doesn't terrify you, you don't have the fear of the Lord. This is real.

So, the Lord tried to get His people to turn back, and He said this in Jeremiah 18:11– **Return now every one from his evil way,** – lawlessness, you're not walking in my commandments – **and make your ways and your doings good.”** (*emphasis added*).

How can humanity make their ways and doings good? You turn back to the commandments of the Lord. Now, here's where we get into this whole concept of Christianity's and Dr. Jeffrey's description of the law as impossible. How did the inhabitants respond when the Lord called for repentance? This call for repentance was the mercy and grace of God. He was trying to preserve His people. Just listen to me, I'm begging you. How did they respond? Jeremiah 18:12 – ¹² **And they said, “That is hopeless!** (*emphasis added*).

We can't do it! It's impossible! So, when Dr. Jeffrey says the law is impossible, I've heard it before in the book of Jeremiah. This is how the people that refused to hear the word of the Lord responded: Jeremiah 18:12 – ¹² **And they said, “That is hopeless! So we will walk according to our own plans, and we will every one obey the dictates of his evil heart.”** (*emphasis added*). In other words, we have a better way. Okay, it says this, but you know what? We don't like what it says, so we'll rip the page out. We'll move on. We don't like the Old Testament. We'll just throw out three quarters of the Bible. We'll throw it away because we want to do the dictates of our own heart. We will create a Christianity that's totally foreign to scripture that looks nothing like first century apostolic Christianity. It's insane. So, as we look at this statement where Dr. Jeffrey talks about an impossible law, that concerns me.

Let's move on to the aspect of a failed law. Think this through for a second. If the law failed, now pay attention, if the law failed, would Christ had to have come? And the answer is, absolutely not. It's because the law didn't fail that He had to come because there was condemnation. The law testified that we sinned. The law didn't fail on any level. In fact, let me read the words of Paul because he articulates this so beautifully. He says: Romans 8:3 – **For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh....**

Is the law itself weak? It's not. It's incredibly strong; it's pure, and it's righteous. Remember what the law is? It's the character of God. We are talking about the holy nature of God, but what was the problem? Us.

Remember what the prophet said in Jeremiah 31:31 which is quoted in Hebrews 8:8 – **Because finding fault with them He says: "Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah."** The law didn't fail. The law is pure, holy, and very strong. So, it was weak through the flesh. Since we failed, how did God rectify our failures? We find the answer in Romans 8:3-4 – **God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: – meaning lawlessness – He condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ that the righteous requirement of the law –** What does the law require? Righteousness. This is the character and nature of the Most Holy God. He's pure holiness and righteous. – **might be fulfilled in us.** But here's what's interesting. Paul didn't stop there. He grabbed a select group by which this righteousness is fulfilled: those who confess Yeshua as God's only begotten Son and – **who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.** (*emphasis added*).

They don't walk according to the flesh means they don't continue to walk in sin. They walk in the Spirit. They walk above the law where the law can say nothing. But we are being told that it's impossible. Would Yeshua set us up for failure? I don't think so. We are being told that this law has failed. And yet the Apostle Paul is telling us to get on the path and walk in the Spirit.

Romans 8:5-7 – **For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.** – In Romans 7, Paul called the law, spiritual, so as we go to the Torah, this is the aspect of the Spirit and what we are supposed to be walking in. – **For to be carnally minded is death,** – meaning I'm rejecting His law, His commandments, and His voice – **but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.** – that means brokenness and humility before God where you are grabbing hold of His commandments. – **Because the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.** (*emphasis added*). Don't fall into the trap where you don't subject yourself to the law of God because people are saying it's impossible and it has failed.

Thinking about failed law, let's go back to Paul's words in Galatians 5:14 – **For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."**

We now know the Torah and all the commandments in it are all about love. What did God give Israel? He gave them His heart. When they met Him on Mt. Zion, he poured out His heart to his wife. They made a marital covenant. God became vulnerable, and He promised to do certain things as a husband for his wife. That was a moment of love. This is the reality.

One thing I know about love by reading 1 Corinthians 13:8 – **... whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease,** but guess what? **Love never fails.**

So, when you try to convince me that the law fails, and Paul tells me that the law is all about love, you are not right. You are completely wrong. Love never fails, period. We were the ones that failed, and what happened? The love of God, Yeshua, came and saved us.

Let's close in prayer.