

# Why Christians Should Keep the Law (Part 1)—Because Jesus

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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/6rpmyb9/pt-1-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 our new video series project called *Why Christians Should Keep the Law*. This will be a very comprehensive and lengthy series. However, having said that, so as to not overwhelm you, we are breaking each segment into a roughly 10-minute video or less.

If I may use the analogy of a puzzle, this series is much like a puzzle. You dump out all the pieces of a puzzle and put the puzzle together one piece at a time. Only after you collect all the pieces and put them together will you see the picture that is being portrayed on the puzzle. Only then does it come into view.

I want you to understand that this series is the very same way. Each video we release is like piece of a puzzle. The video, in and of itself, is incomplete as it pertains to the subject as a whole. Like pieces of a puzzle, only after we put all the videos together will this make sense. I mention this because I want to encourage you to journey with us in this series all the way to the end.

We will virtually go from Genesis to Revelation, scouring the Word of God, to see what it has to say about the Law of God, whether it's relevant for a believer in Jesus or whether it's not. We will analyze the teachings of Jesus and look at the teachings of Paul. We will discuss common objections to the Law, which typically keep Christians away from the Law.

If you are a pastor, and congregants are coming to you and talking about the Law, or what they would call the *Torah*, and saying that they are now keeping the Sabbath, or they are now not eating pork, and you are wondering why these people are returning back to the Law and putting themselves under a curse, then this series is for you. You will want to go through this.

If you are one of those Christians that grew up as I did and look at the Law of God as the antithesis to grace, and any attempt to submit oneself under the Law of God is nothing more than a feeble attempt to earn your own salvation, and ultimately your submission to the Law is a rejection of Jesus Himself, then this series is for you.

If you are simply a Christian seeking to investigate what all the hullabaloo is about and why you have friends which you feel might be going off the deep, but you are not quite sure because you haven't been able to articulate it through the Word, this series is for you.

So, I encourage all of you to take this journey with us piece by piece.

I want to open up by taking the title of this series and changing it to a question. Instead of saying, "Why Christians Should Keep the Law," let's ask the question, "Why Should Christians Keep the Law?" I can give a one-word answer to that. This one word governs the entirety of this discussion. It is foundational to everything we will cover throughout this series. Everything is built upon this one word, and that one word is Jesus. The only reason for a Christian to keep the Law is because they believe in Jesus.

When we understand who Jesus is, what He taught, what He desires from His followers, and what a true healthy relationship looks like between Jesus and His followers, instead of running away from the Law, you will find yourself running to the Law.

Let's read in the Gospel of John, the words of Jesus. He has an amazing lesson for us today.

In John 5:46—Jesus said—<sup>46</sup> **For if you believed Moses** (Emphasis added.)

What was Jesus talking about? He was talking about the Law of Moses. He was talking about Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. The first five books of the Bible are identified as the Law, the *Torah*, the Chumash, or by Christian Scholars, the Pentateuch. They go by many names or just simply the Law of Moses. Everything else that follows are considered to be the writings and the Prophets.

John 5:46 continued—<sup>46</sup> **For if you believed Moses—the Law of Moses—you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me.** (Emphasis added.)

In my personal faith journey, this passage was lifechanging for me. This absolutely changed my life because as a Christian, I was of the opinion that the Law was antiquated, outdated, and had nothing to do with Christ. I wanted to progress in Christ, so I was of the mindset that I didn't want anything to do with the Law. I didn't study the Law. When I came across this passage, I was dumbfounded. I kept reading it many times to make sure I understood what Jesus was saying, and no matter how many times I read it, I kept understanding that Jesus was calling me to the Law of Moses to seek Him.

I will tell you my testimony. After reading this passage, I began to read the Law of Moses seeking Jesus, not seeking to earn my own salvation. I was seeking Him, and guess what? I found Him in the most profound way imaginable. I was dumbfounded by the number of Messianic prophecies that were embedded within the Law, which I thought had nothing to do with anything Christian or anything to do with Christ.

I was dumbfounded by the Messianic typologies that were all over the place. We have men of the likes of Adam. Think of Abel and what he experienced when he was killed because of his righteousness. Think about Moses himself and about Joseph. Think about Isaac and how Abraham took Isaac, who was called his only son, to sacrifice him. We don't need to get into the reality of that typology. All of these things foreshadowed what Jesus himself would go through and experience. Think about how Joseph was betrayed by his brothers. This was exactly what happened to Jesus, but what they meant for evil,

God meant for good. Even when Jesus was rejected by his own brothers, it was for good. It was ultimately so he could save all humanity. Absolutely beautiful!

But here's the other thing I found regarding the Law. I found the character of Jesus and His love. I didn't expect to find His love in the Law because I thought of the Law as only condemnation. I found His character, love, wisdom, understanding, and personality. I found His likes and dislikes. It was incredible the amount of His wisdom and His understanding. I began to have a very in-depth relationship with the Lord through something I thought had nothing to do with Jesus, whatsoever. That's mind-blowing.

Now, let me build on this. Apostle Paul threw his hat into the ring and said:

2 Corinthians 3:14-16—<sup>14</sup> But their minds were blinded. For until this day **the same veil remains unlifted** in the reading of the Old Testament, because **the veil is taken away in Christ.** <sup>15</sup> But even to this day, **when Moses is read**—when the Law of Moses is read—**a veil lies on their heart.** <sup>16</sup> Nevertheless when one turns to the Lord (Jesus), **the veil is taken away.** (Emphasis added.)

Do you understand how insane this is? The Apostle Paul communicated that the Law of Moses is only for the believer in Jesus. The true riches of the kingdom of God, the beauty, the mysteries of God, the wisdom, and the understanding are only given to believers in Jesus, to those believers who follow after Him and seek Him.

What an awesome lesson for us. That's all we have time for today. I look forward to seeing you in the next episode. Lord bless you.