

Proper Use of The Old Testament

- Tells Us About Deity
- Tells Us About Mankind
- O.T. Enfolds the N.T.
And N.T. UNfolds or fullfills the O.T.
- Purpose of the O.T.
- Earthly(O.T.) Vs Spiritual (N.T.)

Good morning!

The lesson is entitled, “**Proper Use of The Old Testament**”.

Have you ever been accused of NOT believing, in the Old Testament?
Sometimes christians are accused of such.

God’s word is TRUE and has Timeless Principles,
but we MUST be able to understand its valid use
so that we can make PROPER application in our lives,
BOTH as individual christians AND as the collected spiritual body, or church.

Consider [Romans 15:4](#)

- “For whatsoever things were written **AFORETIME** (referencing the Old Testament) were written for our **LEARNING**, that **WE** through patience and comfort of the **SCRIPTURES**, might have **HOPE**.”
- The Old Testament things, “were our examples” ([1Cor.10:1-12](#))

From these two passages, we can understand the general purpose of that part of God’s word, KNOWN as the Old Testament. The old Law was written for the Jewish Nation at Horeb ([Deut.5:1-3](#)), but the application for Christians TODAY is that we can learn so much from its teachings ([Rom.15:4](#)).

I. The Old Testament Tells Us ABOUT Deity

In fact,

A. The O.T. portray’s HIM for WHO and WHAT He really IS.

The Bible says:

- “For **MY** thoughts, are **NOT**, your thoughts, **NEITHER** are **YOUR** ways, **MY** ways, saith the LORD. For **AS** the heavens, are **HIGHER** than the earth, so are **MY** ways **HIGHER**, than **YOUR** ways, And **MY** thoughts, than **YOUR** thoughts” ([Isa.55:8-9](#))

B. The O.T. Portray’s God as ALL-POWERFUL or Omni-potent and Solely Responsible for Creation and Life

Consider the following passages:

- “In the beginning God **CREATED** the heaven and the earth” ([Gen.1:1](#)).
- “Consider **THY** heavens, the work of **THY** fingers, the moon and the stars, which Thou **HAS** ordained” ([Psa.8:3](#))
- “And the LORD God **FORMED** man, of the **DUST** of the ground, and **BREATHED** into his nostrils, the **BREATH** of life; and man became a **LIVING** soul” ([Gen.2:7](#)).
- “In (God’s) hand is the **SOUL** of every **LIVING** thing, and the **BREATH** of **ALL** mankind” ([Job 12:10](#)).

- “Thus saith God the LORD, He that **CREATED** the heavens, and **STRETCHED** them out; He that spread **FORTH** the earth, **AND** that which cometh out **OF** it; He that giveth **BREATH** unto the people **UPON** it, and **SPIRIT** to them that **WALK** therein:” ([Isa.42:5](#))

A parallel passage in the N.T. says this:

- “God that **MADE** the world and **ALL** things therein, seeing that He **IS** Lord of heaven **AND** earth, dwelleth **NOT** in temples **MADE** with hands; **NEITHER** is worshipped with **MEN’S** hands, as though He **NEEDED** anything, seeing He **GIVETH** to **ALL** life, and breath, and **ALL** things;” ([Acts 17:24-25](#))

C. The O.T. Portray’s God as ALL-KNOWING or Omniscient

God knows all about what HE has done.

Isaiah recorded for us this passage:

- “Lift **UP** your eyes on high, and behold **WHO** hath created these things, that bringeth out their **HOST** by number: He calleth them **ALL** by names, by the **GREATNESS** of His might, for that, **HE** is **STRONG** in power; not **ONE** faileth.” ([Isa.40:26](#))

Yes indeed, God’s knowledge is unbounded.

The Psalmist declared:

- “O lord, Thou has **SEARCHED** me, and **KNOWN** me.
Thou **KNOWEST** my downsitting **AND** mine uprising,
Thou **UNDERSTANDEST** my thought afar off.
Thou **COMPASSEST** my path **AND** my lying down,
and art **ACQUAINTED** with **ALL** my ways.
For there is **NOT** a word in my tongue,
But **LO, O LORD**, Thou knowest it **ALTOGETHER**.
Thou has **BESET** me, behind and before,
and **LAI**D Thine hand **UPON** me.
Such knowledge is too **WONDERFUL** for me;
it is **HIGH**, I can**NOT** attain **UNTO** it” ([Psa.139:1-6](#)).

The N.T. puts it this way:

- “Neither is there **ANY** creature that is **NOT** manifest in His **SIGHT**: but **ALL** things are naked and opened, **UNTO** the eyes of HIM, with whom we **HAVE** to do” ([Heb.4:13](#)).

D. The O.T. Portray's God as ALL-PRESENT or Omni-present

Meaning God can be anywhere.

The Bible says

- “**WHITHER** shall I **GO** from Thy Spirit?
Or **WHITHER** shall I **FLEE** from Thy presence?

If I **ASCEND** up into heaven, Thou **ARE** there:
if I make my bed in (Sheol), **BEHOLD**, thou **ARE** there.

If I **TAKE** the wings of the morning, and **DWELL** in the uttermost **PARTS** of the sea;
Even **THERE**, shall Thy hand **LEAD** me, and Thy right hand shall **HOLD** me.

If I say, **SURELY** the darkness shall **COVER** me;
EVEN the night, shall be light, **ABOUT** me.

Yea, the darkness hideth **NOT** from **THEE**;
BUT the night **SHINETH**, **AS** the day:
the darkness and the light are **BOTH** alike to **THEE**” ([Psa.139:7-12](#))

The Old Testament Reveals to us that,

E. God is UNLIMITED by Time, and or Space as well

Soloman declared:

- “Will God indeed **DWELL** on the earth?
BEHOLD the heaven, and **HEAVEN** of heavens **CANNOT** contain Thee;” ([1Kings 8:27](#))

The O.T. shows,

F. God's Attitude Toward Evil

The prophet Ezekiel declared:

- “The soul that **SINNETH**, it shall **DIE**” ([Ezekial 18:20](#))

The Old Testament also shows,

G. God's Attitude Toward Righteousness

Consider [Genesis 6:7-9](#),

- “And the **LORD** said, I will **DESTROY** man whom I have **CREATED** from the face of the earth;
Both **MAN**, and **BEAST**, and the **CREEPING** thing, and the **FOWLS** of the air;
For it **REPENTENTH** Me, that I have **MADE** them.
But, **NOAH** found **GRACE** in the eyes of the **LORD**. **THESE** are the generations of Noah:
Noah was a **JUST** man and **PERFECT** in his generations, (that is, Noah was righteous)
And Noah found **GRACE** in the eyes of the Lord.”

We all know God's attitude toward Noah, as he and his family were the only humans spared from the global flood

The Bible says:

- “The longsuffering of God **WAITED** in the days of Noah, while the **ARK** was a preparing,
wherein **FEW**, that is, **EIGHT** souls were **SAVED** by water.” ([1Pet.3:20](#))

These thoughts certainly show a need for our study of the Old Testament, but there is so much more...

II. The Old Testament Tells Us ABOUT Mankind

A. Regarding His Creation

The Bible teaches us that:

- “God created **MAN** in His **OWN** image, in the **IMAGE** of God, **CREATED** He him; **MALE and FEMALE** created He them.” ([Gen.1:27](#))
- “**FURTHERMORE** we have had fathers of our **FLESH**, which corrected us, and we gave them **REVERENCE**: Shall we **NOT**, much rather be in **SUBJECTION**, unto the **Father** of **SPIRITS**, and **LIVE**?” ([Heb.12:9](#))

The Old Testament tells us,

B. How the First MAN & WOMAN Chose to Disobey

The Bible says this:

- “And the **LORD** God **TOOK**, the man, and **PUT** him into the garden of Eden, to **DRESS** it and to **KEEP** it. And the **LORD** God **COMMANDED** the man, saying, **OF** every tree of the **GARDEN**, thou mayest **FREELY** eat: **BUT** of the tree of **KNOWLEDGE** of good and evil, thou shalt **NOT** eat of it: For in the day that thou **EATEST** thereof, thou shalt **SURELY** die.” ([Gen.2:15-17](#)).

Then came the first revealed lie, shortly after:

- “And the serpent **SAID** unto the woman, Ye shall **NOT** surely die:

For God **DOETH** know, that in the day ye **EAT** thereof, **THEN** your eyes shall be **OPENED**, and ye shall be **AS** gods, **KNOWING** good and evil.

When the woman **SAW**, that the tree was **GOOD** for food, (which is, the lust of the flesh) and that it was **PLEASANT** to the eyes, (which is, the lust of the eyes) and a tree to be **DESIRED**, to make one **WISE**, (which is, the pride of life)

she **TOOK** of the fruit thereof, and did **EAT**, and gave **ALSO** unto her husband **WITH** her; and **HE** did eat.” ([Gen.3:4-6](#))

Formerly Adam & Eve could only **THINK** good, **SAY** good & **DO** good, But when they **ATE** of the fruit, their **EYES** were opened and **KNEW** between right & wrong. Thus **ALL THE GENERATIONS** after Adam & Eve were removed from the scene of **GOOD ONLY**.

In this environment, we too sometimes choose wrong:

The Bible reveals that

- “There is not a **JUST** man upon earth, that **DOETH** good, and sinneth **NOT**” ([Ecc.7:20](#))
- “**YEA, ALL** have sinned, and come **SHORT** of the glory of God” ([Rom.3:23](#))

C. Consider How the Creator Looks Upon WRONG Choices

The Bible teaches:

- “Your iniquities have **SEPARATED**, between **YOU** and your God, and your sins have **HID** His face , **FROM** you, That He will **NOT** hear.” ([Isa.59:2](#))
- “Thou art of **PURER** eyes than to **BEHOLD** evil, AND canst **NOT** look ON iniquity:” ([Habakkuk 1:13](#))

The previous passage reminds me of [Prov.23:31-32](#). Which says:

- “**Look NOT** thou upon the **WINE** when it is red
When it giveth his colour in the cup, When it moveth itself aright.
At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder.”

So, we are not even to **LOOK** upon that which is sinful;

- or upon that, from which sin originates, ...”when lust hath conceived” (read [James 1:13-16](#)).

In fact, the Bible teaches that christians are to,

- “Abstain from **ALL** appearance of evil” ([1Thess.5:22](#))

According to Vines, “Abstain” means to hold or Keep oneself from.

So, we are to keep ourselves from all appearance, or from every form of EVIL.

- Flee, run away, like Joseph did from Potiphar’s wife ([Gen.39:12](#)), don’t even look upon that which is sinful ([Habakkuk 1:13](#); [Prov.23:31](#))
- “Be not deceived: evil communications (that is, bad company) corrupt good manners (or good morals)” ([1Cor.15:33](#))

So christians are not to associate with those that practice evil, lest we ourselves become corrupted. AND lest we participate in their sin.

The Bible says that some,

- “did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;
²⁹ being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, ³⁰ backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, ³¹ without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable (or unloving), unmerciful:
³² who knowing the judgment of God, that they which **COMMIT** such things, are **WORTHY of DEATH**, not only DO the SAME, but **HAVE PLEASURE** in them that do them.” ([Rom.1:28-32](#))

This passage not only says those that commit sin are worthy of Death,

But those who have pleasure, or give their hearty approval of other men’s sins, are also worthy of Death.

The bible says:

- “**Have NO** fellowship with the unfruitful works of **DARKNESS**, but rather **REPROVE** them” ([Eph.5:11](#))
- “**NEITHER** be **PARTAKER** of other men’s sins: **KEEP** thyself **PURE**” ([1Tim.5:22](#))
- “If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine (or teaching), **RECEIVE** him **NOT** into your house, **NEITHER** bid him God speed:
¹¹ for he that biddeth him God speed is **PARTAKER** of his **EVIL** deeds.” ([2Jn.vs.10-11](#))

D. How MERCIFUL God was in PROVIDING a Law of Restrain

Guilty mankind, **WAS & IS** Responsible.

The Bible says

- “**EVERY** moving thing that **LIVETH**, shall be **MEAT** for you; **EVEN** as the **GREEN** herb, have I **GIVEN** you, **ALL** things.

BUT flesh with the **LIFE** thereof, which is the **BLOOD** thereof, shall ye **NOT** eat.
And **SURELY** your blood of your **LIVES**, will I **REQUIRE**;
at the hand of every **BEAST** will I **REQUIRE** it,
And at the hand of **MAN**; at the hand of every man’s **BROTHER**, will I require the **LIFE** of man.

Whoso **SHEDDETH** man’s blood, by **MAN** shall his blood be **SHED**:
for in the **IMAGE** of God, **MADE** He, **MAN**.” ([Gen.9:3-6](#))

Later, the Law of Moses was given to a **NATION**, recorded in Exodus, Leviticus & Deuteronomy.
But the Law of Moses condemned and can**NOT** save.

The Bible teaches us:

- “**NO** man is **JUSTIFIED** by the law, **IN** the sight of God,
it **IS** evident: for the just shall **LIVE**, **BY** faith” ([Gal.3:11](#))

That is, the just or righteous are to live by the faith of the gospel, the N.T. gospel.

Some might ask: Wherefore then SERVETH the law?

- “It was added **BECAUSE** of transgressions, Till the Seed should **COME**,
to whom the **PROMISE** was made: And it was **ORDAINED** by angels, in the **HAND** of a Mediator.” ([Gal.3:19](#))
- “For the law made **NOTHING** perfect (that is, complete),
BUT the bringing **IN** of a **BETTER** hope **DID**
(that is the bringing in of the N.T. gospel **DID** make perfect **AND** is a **BETTER HOPE** than the Old Law)
BY the which we draw **NIGH** unto God.” ([Heb.7:19](#))
- “Is the law then **AGAINST** the promises of God?
God **FORBID**: For, **IF** there had been a law **GIVEN**, which could have given **LIFE**,
Verily **RIGHTEOUSNESS** should have been, **BY** the law.” ([Gal.3:21](#))

E. Admonishes or Warns Mankind, By Example

Many examples in Pre-Israel time (Noah, Abraham & Job; just to name a few)
AND Many examples from ISRAEL's history

- “But with **MANY** of them, God was **NOT** well pleased:
For they were **OVERTHROWN** in the wilderness” ([1Cor.10:5](#))

So, God punished them for their sin.

The Bible says this of God:

- “So I swear in My **WRATH**, They shall **NOT** enter into My **REST**.” ([Heb.3:11](#))

We must all read of the divinely revealed history; understand it and Take **HEED**.

The apostle Paul informed us:

- “Now these things were our **EXAMPLES**,
to the intent, we should **NOT** lust after **EVIL** things, **AS** they **ALSO** lusted.

NEITHER be ye idolaters, as were **SOME** of them;
as it is written, the people sat down to **EAT** and **DRINK**, and rose **UP** to **PLAY**.

NEITHER let us **COMMIT** fornication, as **SOME** of them committed,
and **FELL** in one day, three and twenty thousand.

NEITHER let us **TEMPT** Christ, as some of them **ALSO** tempted, and were **DESTROYED** of serpents.

NEITHER murmur ye, as **SOME** of them **ALSO** murmured, and were **DESTROYED** of the destroyer.

Now **ALL** these things **HAPPENED**, unto them, for **EXAMPLES**:

And they are **WRITTEN** for **OUR** admonition, (that is, for our warning)
upon **WHOM**, the ends of the world are **COME**.

Wherefore let him that **THINKETH** he standeth, take **HEED** lest he **FALL**.” ([1Cor.10:6-12](#))

- **INDEED**, “Take **HEED** unto thyself, **AND** unto the doctrine; **CONTINUE** in them: for in doing this
Thou shalt both **SAVE** thyself, **AND** them that **HEAR** thee.” ([1Tim.4:16](#))

QUESTION: How is anyone going to hear us, if we are not teaching & preaching?
not from the pulpit necessarily, but certainly people can hear us, by our applying the teachings of Christ
in our everyday lives, by how we speak, how we dress and by the decisions we make.

We who have obeyed the gospel, know the basic elementary teachings of the gospel;
And surely we need to prepare ourselves, to share those teachings with others;
As doors of opportunity are opened to us.

We need to be ready to plant & water, so that God can maketh the increase ([1Cor.3:6-8](#)).

We need to emulate or mirror N.T. christians, in that they went everywhere teaching the gospel ([Acts 8:4](#)).

So certainly, Mankind can make APPLICATION of O.T. principles.

III. The O.T. ENFOLDS the N.T. and the N.T. UNFOLDS or Fulfills the O.T.

Jesus said:

- “Think that I am come to **DESTROY** the law, or the prophets:
I am **NOT** come to destroy, **BUT** to **fulfill**.” ([Matt.5:17-18](#))

A. Consider Prophecies concerning the KINGDOM

The Bible says

- “And it shall come to **PASS**, **IN** the **LAST DAYS**,
that the mountain of the **LORD’s House**,
shall be **ESTABLISHED** in the **TOP** of the mountains...
For out of **ZION**, shall go **FORTH**, the law,
And the **WORD** of the **LORD**, from Jerusalem” ([Isa.2:2-3](#))

From this passage it is clear that the LORDS’ HOUSE was to be established IN the LAST DAYS in the city of JERUSALEM. Two questions now arise: **What is the LORD’S HOUSE?**

The Bible answer can be found in [1Tim.3:15](#)

“...behave thyself **IN** the **HOUSE** of God, which **IS** the **CHURCH**...” **So, the Lord’s House, is the church!**

Second question: **When are the LAST DAYS?** The Bible answer can be found in [Heb.1:1-2](#)

- “God, ...hath **IN** these **LAST DAYS** spoken unto us, by His Son”

So, the age or dispensation in which God speaks through Christ, **IS** the **LAST DAYS**;

But according to this passage, God **NOW** does that, therefore **we are NOW** living “**IN** These **LAST DAYS!**”

We can even learn **WHEN** the “**Last Days**” **BEGAN!**

- On the day of Pentecost, AD33, the apostles were together in Jerusalem when they were inspired by the Holy Spirit to speak the word of God (Read [Acts 2:1-5](#)).

On this occasion Peter quoted Old Testament prophecy, stating:

- “But **THIS** is **THAT**, which was spoken, by the prophet Joel;
And it shall come to pass **IN** the **LAST DAYS**...” ([Acts 2:16-17](#))

The prophet said it would BE in the “LAST DAYS”.

Peter said “THIS IS THAT” which the prophet spoke;

therefore THE LAST DAYS had come at that time, in the 1st Century.

- A few years later, Peter spoke of that occasion and called it “the **BEGINNING**.” ([Acts 11:15](#))
- The **LAST DAYS** had their **BEGINNING** on the day of Pentecost, AD 33,
- And that is when the **LORD’S HOUSE** or **HIS CHURCH** or **HIS KINGDOM** **began**.

The prophet Daniel declared

- “in the **DAYS** of these **king’s**, (that is, in the days of the Roman Empire, that 4th great kingdom)

shall the God of **HEAVEN**, set **UP** a **KINGDOM**, Which shall **NEVER** be destroyed:... and it shall **STAND** for **EVER**." ([Dan.2:44](#))

The Hebrew writer said:

- "Wherefore we **RECEIVING** a kingdom, which canNOT be moved, Let us have **GRACE**, Whereby we may serve God **ACCEPTABLY**, with **REVERENCE** and godly **FEAR**." ([Heb.12:28](#))

B. Consider Prophecies Concerning the Messiah

Regarding His **BIRTH**, the Bible says:

- "But thou, **BETHLEHEM** Eph-ra-tah, though thou be **LITTLE** among the **THOUSANDS** of Judah, Yet out of **THEE**, shall **HE** come **FORTH**, unto **ME**, that is to be **RULER** in Israel; Whose goings **FORTH**, have been **FROM** of old, **FROM** everlasting." ([Micah 5:2](#))
- "And when he had **GATHERED** all the chief priests and scribes of the people **TOGETHER**, He **DEMANDED** of them, where **CHRIST**, should be **BORN**. And thou **BETHLEHEM**, in the land of Juda, art not the **LEAST**, among the princes **OF** Juda: For out of **THEE**, shall **COME** a governor, that shall **RULE**, My people Israel." ([Matt.2:4-6](#))

Regarding the Messiah's **DEATH**, Consider this prophecy:

- "For dogs have **COMPASSED** Me: the assembly of the **WICKED** have **ENCLOSED** Me: They **PIERCED** My hands **AND** My feet. I may tell **ALL** My bones: they **LOOK** and **STARE** upon Me. They **PART** My garments **AMONG** them, and cast **LOTS** upon my vesture" ([Psa.22:16-18](#))

The N.T. parallel passage says this:

- "And they **CRUCIFIED** Him, and parted His garments, casting lots: That it might be **FULFILLED** which was spoken by the prophet, They parted My garments **AMONG** them, And upon My vesture, did they cast lots." ([Matt.27:35](#))
- "When the **MORNING** was come, **ALL** the chief priests and elders of the people, **TOOK** counsel **AGAINST** Jesus, to **PUT** Him to **DEATH**:" ([Matt.27:1](#))

Regarding the Messiah's **RESURRECTION**, consider this prophecy:

The Psalmist declared:

- "I have set the **LORD ALWAYS** before me: because He is **AT** my right hand, I shall **NOT** be moved. Therefore my **HEART** is glad, and my **GLORY** rejoiceth: my **FLESH** also, shall **REST** in hope. For **THOU**, wilt **NOT**, leave my soul in (Sheol); **NEITHER** wilt thou **SUFFER**, Thine Holy One, to **SEE** corruption. Thou wilt **SHOW** me, the path of **LIFE**: in **THY** presence is **FULLNESS** of joy; At **THY** right hand, there are pleasures for **EVERMORE**" ([Psa.16:8-11](#)).

The N.T. passage says almost the exact same things:

- "For David speaketh **CONCERNING** Him, I foresaw the Lord **ALWAYS** before my face, For He **IS** on my right hand, that I should **NOT** be moved: Therefore did my **HEART** rejoice, and my **TONGUE** was glad; Moreover **ALSO**, my **FLESH**, shall **REST** in hope: Because thou wilt **NOT** leave my soul in (Hades),

NEITHER wilt thou **SUFFER**, Thine Holy One, to **SEE** corruption.
Thou has made **KNOWN** to me, the ways of **LIFE**;
Thou shalt make me **FULL** of joy, **WITH** Thy countenance.” ([Acts 2:25-28](#))

And thus shadows and prophesies assure us!
So certainly, there is a need to study the O.T.

C. The O.T. clearly POINTS to the N.T.

Jeremiah declared:

- “**BEHOLD**, the days come, saith the **LORD**, that I will **make a NEW covenant**, **WITH** the house of Israel, And **WITH** the house of Judah:

NOT according to the covenant that I made **WITH** their **FATHERS**
IN the day that I took them by the hand, to bring them **OUT** of the land of Egypt;
which my covenant they **BROKE**, Although I was an **HUSBAND** unto them, saith the **LORD**:

But this shall be the **COVENANT** that I will make **WITH** the house of Israel;
AFTER those days, saith the **LORD**, I will put My **LAW** in their **INWARD** parts,
and write it, **IN** their **HEARTS**; and will **BE**, their **GOD**, and **THEY** shall **BE**, My **PEOPLE**.

And they shall **TEACH** no more,
EVERY MAN his neighbor, and **EVERY MAN** his brother,
Saying, **KNOW** the **LORD**: for they shall **ALL KNOW** Me,
from the **LEAST** of them, unto the **GREATEST** of them, Saith the **LORD**:
for I will **FORGIVE** their iniquity, and I will remember their sin **NO** more” ([Jer.31:31-34](#)).

The N.T parallel passages, reveal the following:

- “In that He saith, **A NEW covenant**, He hath made the **FIRST** old.
Now that which decayeth and waxeth **OLD**, is ready, to **VANISH** away.” ([Heb.8:13](#))
- “For if the **BLOOD** of bulls and of goats, and the **ASHES** of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, **SANCTIFIETH** to the purifying of the **FLESH**: How much **MORE** shall the blood of Christ, **WHO** through the **ETERNAL** Spirit, **OFFERED** Himself, **WITHOUT** spot, **TO** God, **PURGE** your conscience from **DEAD** works, to **SERVE** the **LIVING** God?” ([Heb.9:13-14](#))

D. Clearly the Ordinances & Statutes of the O.T. are NOW Set Aside

Consider the following passages:

- “Stand **FAST** therefore, **IN** the liberty, wherewith Christ hath made us **FREE**,
and be **NOT** entangled again, **WITH** the yoke of bondage.
BEHOLD, I Paul say unto you, that **IF** ye be circumcised, Christ shall profit you **NOTHING**.
For I testify **AGAIN**, to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the **WHOLE** law.
Christ is become of **NO** effect unto **YOU**, **whosoever of you are JUSTIFIED** by the (old) law;
ye are FALLEN from grace” ([Gal.5:1-4](#)).
- Jesus, “blotting out the handwriting of ordinances (that is, the O.T.) that was against us,
which was contrary to us, and **took it (the O.T.) out of the way, nailing it to his cross;**” ([Col.2:14](#)).
- “We are delivered from the law” (that is, we are discharged, we are released from the Old Law) ([Rom.7:6](#))
- “Wherefore, my brethren, ye **ALSO** are become **DEAD** to the law, **BY** the body of Christ;

That ye should be **MARRIED** to another, (that is married to another law, the NEW Testament) even to **HIM** who is **RAISED** from the dead, (that is, married to Jesus Christ) that we should bring forth **FRUIT** unto God.” ([Rom.7:4](#))

By His death on the cross, Jesus brought the O.T. covenant to an end (read [Eph.2:14-16](#))

E. We are now free from sin and the Law of Moses

Consider the following passages:

- “Now the God of **PEACE**, that brought **AGAIN** from the dead, our Lord Jesus, that great **SHEPHERD** of the sheep, through the blood of the **EVERLASTING** covenant (that is, through the blood of the New Testament)” ([Heb.13:20](#)).
- “And from Jesus Christ, who is the **FAITHFUL** witness, and the first **BEGOTTEN** of the dead, and the **PRINCE** of the kings of the earth. Unto **HIM** that **LOVED** us, and **WASHED** us from **OUR** sins **IN** His **OWN** blood” ([Rev.1:5](#)).
- “Being then made **FREE** from sin, ye became the **SERVANTS** of righteousness.” ([Rom.6:18](#))

F. So, there is a Proper Use for the O.T.

Paul said unto Timothy:

- “From a child, thou has **KNOWN** the **HOLY** scriptures, which are able to make thee wise **UNTO** salvation, through **FAITH**, which is **IN** Christ Jesus. **ALL** scripture is given **BY** inspiration of God, and is **PROFITABLE** for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, **THOROUGHLY** furnished unto ALL good works.” ([2Tim.3:15-17](#))

IV. Remember the Purpose of the Old Testament is,

A. To REVEAL SIN to Man

The apostle Paul said:

- “What shall we **SAY** then? Is the law **SIN**? God **FORBID**. Nay, I had not **KNOWN** sin, but **BY** the law: for I had not **KNOWN** lust, **EXCEPT** the law had said, “Thou shalt **NOT** covet.”” ([Rom.7:7](#))
- “Therefore by the **DEEDS** of the law, there shall **NO** flesh, be **JUSTIFIED**, in His sight: For **BY** the law, is the **KNOWLEDGE** of sin.” ([Rom.3:20](#))

The purpose of the Old Testament is,

B. To Be A SCHOOL MASTER unto CHRIST

The Bible says:

- “the law was our **SCHOOLMASTER** to bring us **UNTO** Christ, that we might be justified **BY** faith. But after that, faith **IS** come, (that is, the N.T. gospel is come) we are **NO** longer, **UNDER** a schoolmaster.” (Read: [Gal.3:19-25](#))

That is, we are no longer under the Old Law.

In fact, Gentiles were never under the Old Law, it was for the Israelite Nation ONLY. (Read [Deut.5:1-3](#))

The purpose of the Old Testament is,

C. To Reveal a SHADOW of GOOD things to come

The Hebrew writer said:

- “For the law, having a **SHADOW** of good things to **COME**, and **NOT** the **VERY** image **OF** the things, can **NEVER** with those sacrifices which they **OFFERED**, year by year, **CONTINUALLY** make the comers thereunto perfect. He taketh **AWAY** the first, that he may **ESTABLISH** the second.” (Read [Heb.10:1-9](#))

That is he took away the Old Law, that he may establish the New Law.

The purpose of the Old Testament is,

D. For Our Learning AND for our example

The Bible says

- “**WHATSOEVER** things were written **AFORETIME** were written **for our LEARNING**, that **WE** through **PATIENCE** and **COMFORT** of the scriptures **MIGHT** have hope.” ([Rom.15:4](#))

- “Moreover, brethren, I would **NOT** that ye should be **IGNORANT**, how that **ALL** our fathers were **UNDER** the cloud, and **ALL** passed **THROUGH** the sea; And were **ALL** baptized **UNTO** Moses **IN** the cloud and **IN** the sea; And did all **EAT** the same **SPIRITUAL** meat; and did all **DRINK** the same **SPIRITUAL** drink:

for they **DRANK** that **SPIRITUAL** Rock that **FOLLOWED** them: and that Rock **WAS** Christ.

But with **MANY** of them, God was **NOT** well pleased: for they were **OVERTHROWN** in the wilderness. Now **these things were our EXAMPLES**, to the intent, we should **NOT** lust after **EVIL** things, as they **ALSO** lusted.” ([1Cor.10:1-6](#))

Very briefly, we'll notice just a few,

V. Earthly (O.T.) Things vs. Spiritual (N.T.) Things

Have you noticed that everything IN Christ is spiritual or heavenly, as opposed to earthly?

1. The old testament had an **earthly place** for Israel (land of Canaan), now we have "the **heavenly places** IN Christ" ([Eph.1:3](#); [Eph.2:6](#)).
2. Moses was AT an earthly **mountain** (Sinai) receiving the stone tablets, but we have come to a "**mountain** that cannot be touched" to heavenly Jerusalem ([Heb.12:18,22](#)). We have His law written in our hearts ([2Cor.3](#)).
3. They had an earthly **temple**; we have a spiritual **house** or temple ([Eph.2:19-22](#))
4. They had animal and other earthly **sacrifices**, we have Christ and our following Him as "an offering and a **sacrifice** to God for a sweet-smelling aroma" ([Eph.5:2](#)).
5. They had the earthly altar, and we have a spiritual altar in Christ ([Heb.13:10](#)).
6. They had the Levitical priesthood, singers and players of instruments; we have a spiritual priesthood and ALL are singers and players of the heart-strings ([1Pet.2:5](#); [Eph.5:18-19](#)).
7. They had earthly incense; we have spiritual incense ([Rev.5:8](#)).
8. They had an earthly army to protect the country and citizens; we have a spiritual army and the weapons are not carnal or earthly ([Eph.6:10-18](#); [2Cor.10:5](#)).

9. They had the earthly sabbath (7th day physical rest);
and we have spiritual rest in Christ ([Matt.11:28](#); [Heb.4](#); [Col.2:13-16](#)).
10. Their priests had physical garments designed for symbolism;
we **wear** the spiritual righteousness of Christ, by **putting on** Christ ([Gal.3:26-27](#)).
Truly, the early church shows us that the "**time of reformation**"
from earthly to spiritual had arrived ([Heb.9:10](#)).

We are under the greater, spiritual system of Christ.
Christ is now the king over His spiritual kingdom ([Col.1:13-14](#); [2Pet.1:10-11](#)).

VI. IN-CONCLUSION

They entered their nation through physical birth;
but we enter Christ's spiritual kingdom through a spiritual rebirth ([John 3:1-6](#)).

Have you entered His kingdom?
Are you enjoying all the spiritual blessings in Christ ([Eph.1:3](#))?

Will you be saved by the Good News, which the OLD TESTAMENT foresaw?

If you have a spiritual NEED, come

- **Believing** ([Jn.8:24](#); [Heb.11:6](#)),
- **Repenting** ([Lk.13:3](#); [Acts 17:30](#); [2Pet.3:9](#); [1Jn.1:9](#); [Jn.8:11](#)),
- **Confessing** ([Acts 8:37](#); [Matt.10:32-33](#); [Rom.10:9-10](#)),
- Be **Baptized** ([Gal.3:26-27](#); [Rom.6:3-5](#); [Mk.16:16](#); [1Pet.3:21](#); [Acts 22:16](#))
- And Remain **Faithful** ([Rev.2:10](#); [Matt.24:13](#)).

If we can help you, the Lord invites you,
Please COME, as together we stand and sing.

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