

# The Torah Law & Christians

*Is the Mosaic Covenant for everyone?*



## The Mosaic law problem

After 35yrs in the Jewish Christian Ministry and after hearing and seeing dozens upon dozens of thoughts, points of views, and opinions on the Mosaic law, and the Christian, I can only come up with one thing “Misunderstandings”.

For so many years this issue about whether Christians or Jewish believers should go on hailing the Mosaic law in their lives today really boils down to personal points of views. On the Jewish believer or the completed Jews side they say or believe that it is essential for them to observe this covenant. Everything from keeping Kosher, wearing Tzitzit, keeping Shabbat and as many mitzvot [Commandments] as they can. But I then ask a question? Did Yeshua [Jesus] command all believers both Jewish and gentile to follow all the law of Moses or did he say to obey the b’rit ha dasha [New Covenant]? In keeping with scripture, we have Yohanan [John]14:15 which by the way is pretty clear cut. There Yeshua said specifically *“If you love me, you will keep my commandments”*

## Yeshua’s Commandments

Now what were Yeshua’s specific commandments apart from the mosaic covenants commandments? As far as we know, it was [John.13:34] *“A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another.”* Other than this specific command to “love one another as he has loved us”, there are no additional ones. But generally, all of Yeshua’s teachings were



framed around the moral laws of the mosaic covenant. But remembering and keeping in mind that in 1<sup>st</sup> century Yeshua came and taught what was relative to the people. He addressed the abuse and abolishing of Gods word which had been done by the Jewish leaders of his time. He correctly taught and interpreted what was the

right way on following Gods moral commandments.

### **Yeshua's sacrifice does not remove keeping the Commandments**

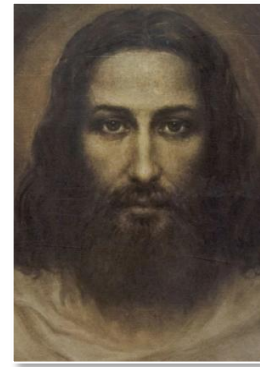
He did this because of the gross errors and misleading of our Jewish people at that time [**Matt.15:3-7-and in Mark 7:9-13**] and even today the same thing is still going on within the Jewish community. But another reason why Yeshua also taught on these moral commandments was to validate his messiahship in answer to messianic prophecy that a teacher of righteousness would come and lead his people in the right way [**Joel.2:23**]. However, we should realize that Yeshua never at any point said that these moral commandments of God were null and void or obsolete because of his sacrifice. In looking more into what Yeshua said in [**John.14:15**] *"if you love me, you will keep my commandments"*. It would more or less be like keeping all of his teachings which are looked at as his commands. Another point here is that we all know that Yeshua's commandments are the fathers' commandments because they are one in the same. If you've seen him, you've seen the father. Yeshua's commandments would be the same as the fathers there's no difference with the exception of [**John.13:34**].



### **Yeshua's commandments are the father's commandments**

And so all moral commandments which are given by God are expected to be followed as Messiah followed and kept them. God's commandments are Yeshua

commandments. But the wonderful thing about the B'rit ha dasa is that if we fall short of keeping them, we have an advocate with the father [**1John.2:1-2**], in that unlike the mosaic covenant when you fell short and sinned you risked total separation and harsh judgment. But under the New Covenant we can never be separated nor judged from God ever again because of what Yeshua has done for us [**Rom.8:38-39**]



### **Misunderstandings on the Mosaic Covenant**

Now when it comes to following theses commandments of God and Yeshua some within the messianic circles and Judaized Christians still feel that we must observe



and keep all the laws of the mosaic covenant. This includes kosher, biblical holidays, shabbat and the wearing of certain garments like prayer shawls and tassels, head coverings. While some things can still be observed by anyone if they choose to do so under the New Covenant, but what seems to be a conflict among some Jewish believers and Christians is when some claim that everyone must still adhere to the forementioned. And here is where a rift happens.

### **What's never explained clearly**

You see, what isn't made clear is that under the New Covenant people have freedom to practice kosher, biblical holidays, shabbat and the wearing of certain garments like prayer shawls and tassels, head coverings, circumcision. This isn't forbidden and it's not an obligatory commandment to keep any longer under the New Covenant. Freedom to practice any of these things is truly an issue that's up to each individual believer. But the real damage happens when someone tries to demand others to do the same as they do believing it may have something to add to their salvation or else their sinning and they are not following God correctly [**Rom.14:1-23**].

## Past and current problems

This was also a past problem between the early believing Jewish congregation in 1<sup>st</sup> century and new gentiles joining the church community. The final decision was that



gentile believers should not be burdened with these issues as it has nothing to do with salvation. An example of this instruction can be found in [Acts.15:24-29]. The New covenant for both Jewish person and Gentile is the same, if a Jewish person wants to go on observing certain things because of Jewish identity they have that freedom but should

never condemn or insist that gentiles must follow the same practices when its not required. And for the gentiles, if any gentiles wish to observe anything such as kosher, biblical holidays, or keep shabbat they have the same freedom to do so under the new covenant [Col.2:16-17], but if they demand and condemn other gentiles to follow their practices this is unbiblical and unrequired.

## Closing thoughts

But Keeping Yeshua & Gods commandments are done out of love, and by love we fulfill all of them [Matt.22:37-40] and if we love him and God, we live with him by obeying them. We don't keep them out of rote or ritualistic practices. We keep them because they continue teaching us about Gods righteousness [2 Tim.3:16-17]. The following the commandments and teaching of our messiah is not an endless chore list but is a way of right living in and through the Messiah[1John.5:3]