

God's laws have not been done away with

Very many churches in America teach that Jesus Christ “did away” with God's laws of the Old Testament, and that we are now under an era of a type of grace that eliminates the need for laws. In truth the Scriptures do teach that we are saved by grace that is in Jesus Christ and what He did on the cross, namely, He died to pay our penalty for our sins. But the grace we now have in Christ has by no means “done away” with all of God's laws.

It would be more than silly to believe that since Christ died and was resurrected that we can now steal, cheat, lie, murder, promote immorality, become gluttons and drunkards, permit thieves and subversives to rule over us, abuse children, harm nature, or any other type of ungodly behavior – and it's supposedly “now ok” just because Christ has come. Nonsense. All of God's laws are NOT done away with by the New Testament and Christ's arrival.

The Bible teaches us that under the national and family laws which we find in the Old Testament there were four basic sections of the law. 1) Judgments 2) Statutes 3) Commandments 4) Ordinances. The first three (judgments, statutes, commandments) contain the laws for family rules and for national government. They included laws such as: no interest on loans or placing a debt system in the land because it will ruin an economy, no eating unclean foods as they cause much sickness and misery, no race mixing which defies “kind after kind” of God's creation, do let the ground go fallow once every 7 years when farming, plus laws on warfare, marriage, raising children, honoring the Sabbath, and many more laws that if upheld will result in a strong and safe nation in which to live and worship God.

Jesus Himself said, “*Think not that I am come to destroy the law or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill.*” (Matthew 5:17) Just because Jesus fulfilled the prophecies of the Old Testament proving Him to be the Messiah, does not mean God's law was eliminated.

The apostle Paul tells us, “*Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid, yea, we establish the law.*” (Romans 3:31)

The entire New Testament teachings inform us that the only part of the law that has been done away with was that of #4 above mentioned – the ordinances of the altar. These ordinances of the Old Testament days were the animal sacrifices performed by the priesthood for the sins of the people and sins of the nation. The shedding of blood of animals (lambs, goats, etc.) back then was symbolic of the then coming “Lamb of God” who would offer Himself for sins once and for all, putting an end to those old sacrifices. The Lamb of God is Jesus Christ. If we were to continue the old animal sacrifice ordinances we would be saying that The Lamb of God, Jesus, has not come. Thus the only law done away with by Christ's coming was that of the ordinances. (see Hebrews chapters 9 & 10) The rest of the laws for family and nation still apply and must be obeyed today, or else our society will fall into misery and disarray. Eternal salvation is not obtained by keeping these national laws. Salvation is purely a gift by faith in the shed blood of Jesus Christ. (Romans 6:23) But blessings and curses for society still follow God's laws. Remember it this way: ***Christ's blood for salvation; God's laws for the nation.***