

Genre of Covenant and Law
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INTRODUCTION TO OLD TESTAMENT COVENANTS

Hebrew word *berit*

- *Berit* means covenant, contract, agreement, or treaty.
- A covenant establishes a legal relationship between at least two people.
- O.T. Prophets: Lawsuit oracles (metaphorical)

Personal Covenants in the Old Testament

- Abraham and Abimelech (Genesis 21:22-32)
- Jacob and Laban (Genesis 31:44-54)
- David and Jonathan (I Sam. 18:3)

Theological Covenants in the Old Testament

- Noahic Covenant (Genesis 6:18; 9:8-17)
- Abrahamic Covenant (Genesis 15:8-18; 17:1-27)
- Mosaic Covenant (Exodus 19-24)
- Davidic Covenant (II Samuel 7:12-17)
- New Covenant (Isaiah 42:6; Jeremiah 31:31)

THREE TYPES OF COVENANTS IN THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST (A.N.E.)

Parity Covenants

- Bilateral. Equals participated in reciprocal covenant.
- Conditional. Each person fulfilled specified stipulations.
- O.T. Examples: Personal covenants

Royal Grant Covenants

- Unilateral. King took initiative to grant land or other benefit.
- Unconditional. Generally, there was no obligation upon the servant.
- O.T. Examples: Noahic, Abrahamic, Davidic, and New Covenants

Suzerainty Covenants

- Unilateral. King (suzerain) initiated covenant to protect vassal.
- Conditional. Vassal pledged loyalty and service.
- O.T. Examples: Mosaic Covenant

MOSAIC LAW

Introduction

- Mosaic law consists of 613 commandments.
- 364 prohibitions and 248 prescriptions

List of 613 Commandments: https://www.jewfaq.org/613_commandments

Three Major Collections of Laws

- Ten Commandments and Covenant Code (Ex. 20:1-23:33)
- Deuteronomic Code (Dt. 12-26)
- Priestly Code (Ex. 25-31; 34:29-Lev. 16, parts of Numbers)

***Lex Talionis* (“law of retaliation”)**

- Ex. 21:23-25; Lev. 24:18-22; Dt. 19:21
- Not about personal revenge
- It’s about proportionality (i.e., fairness).
- To be administered by judge in court of law.
- Proverb: “Let the punishment fit the crime.”

TWO TYPES OF LAW IN THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST

Casuistic Law—Case laws for criminal or civil matters

- These laws are conditional: "if...then."
- The “if” clause introduces the case.
- The “then” clause describes the legal penalty for the infraction.
- These laws provide specific examples of cases that require legal action.

Apodictic Law—Moral and religious instruction

- Consists of prohibitions and prescriptions: "Thou shalt (not)..."
- These laws express unconditional and absolute standards of behavior.

HITTITE SUZERAINTY TREATIES (18TH CENTURY B.C.)

Introduction to Hittite Suzerainty Treaties

- Legal agreement between suzerain (Hittite overlord) and vassals.
- This written treaty described benefits bestowed by Hittite king.
- Vassals promised under oath to fulfill the list of responsibilities.

Literary Pattern of Hittite Suzerainty Treaty

- Preamble. Identity parties involved.
- Historical prologue. Describe relationship.
- Stipulations. Express responsibilities and take oath.
- Curses and blessings. Specify consequences.
- Divine witnesses. List gods to enforce covenant and offer sacrifice.

Mosaic Covenant as Suzerainty Treaty (Exodus 20-24)

Preamble "I am the Lord your God" (20:2a)

Prologue "who brought you out of the land of Egypt" (20:2b)

Stipulations The Ten Commandments (20:3-17)

1. You shall have no other gods before Me
2. You shall not make for yourself an idol
3. You shall not take the name of God in vain
4. You shall remember the sabbath day
5. Honor your father and mother
6. You shall not murder
7. You shall not commit adultery
8. You shall not steal
9. You shall not bear false witness
10. You shall not covet

The Book of the Covenant (20:22-23:33)

1. Prologue--20:22-21:1
2. Cases involving slaves--21:2-11
3. Cases involving homicide--21:12-17
4. Cases involving bodily injuries--21:18-32
5. Cases involving property damages--21:33-22:15
6. Cases involving society--22:16-30
7. Cases involving justice--23:1-9
8. Law on sacred seasons--23:10-19
9. The Epilogue--23:20-33

Oath "All that the Lord has spoken we will do" (24:7)

Sacrifice "So Moses took the blood and sprinkled it on the people, and said, 'Behold the blood of the covenant, which the Lord has made with you in accordance with all these words.'" (24:8)

Blessings/
Curses Contained within Ten Commandments (cf. Dt. 28:1-68)

Divine Witness The Lord God (24:12)

CLARIFICATION OF MOSAIC COVENANT

Mosaic Covenant was partial fulfillment of Abrahamic Covenant.

- Great Nation and Land of Canaan (Ex. 3:7-17; 6:2-8)
- Israel's election based upon God's promise (Dt. 7:6-8; Ex. 2:24).

⁷ The Lord said [to Moses], “I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. ⁸ So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites” (Ex. 3:7-8).

² God also said to Moses, “I am the Lord. ³ I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob as God Almighty, but by my name the Lord I did not make myself fully known to them. ⁴ I also established my covenant with them to give them the land of Canaan, where they resided as foreigners” (Ex. 6:2-4).

⁶ For you are a people holy to the Lord your God. The Lord your God has chosen you out of all the peoples on the face of the earth to be his people, his treasured possession. ⁷ The Lord did not set his affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples. ⁸ But it was because the Lord loved you and kept the oath he swore to your ancestors that he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹ Know therefore that the Lord your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commandments” (Dt. 7:6-9).

Mosaic Covenant established the nation of Israel as the people of God.

- God redeemed the Hebrew people from slavery in Egypt.
- God initiated a covenant with these people.
- Israel was created to be a theocracy (nation ruled by God).
- The tabernacle was in the center of the camp, where the king resided.
- The Mosaic law served as the constitution for the newly formed nation of Israel.

Mosaic Law Set Boundaries for Holiness

- Based on the Mosaic Covenant, God will be present with Israel in the tabernacle/temple.
- Because God is holy, Israel is called to be a holy nation.
- Israel has left Israel, a pagan nation.
- Israel will soon enter Canaan, a pagan nation.
- How will Israel distinguish itself from pagan nations?
- The law was a gift to Israel to clarify God's expectations.

NATURE OF THE MOSAIC COVENANT

Type of Covenant: Suzerainty Covenant (Ex. 20-24; Deut.)

- God initiated covenant to be Israel's God.
- Israel pledged loyalty and service.

Parties to the Mosaic Covenant: God and the nation of Israel

Terms of the Mosaic Covenant (Ex. 6:7).

- God: I will be your God (presence, protection, provision)
- Israel: You will be my people (loyalty)—Mosaic law

Duration of the Mosaic Covenant: Limited (transitory)

Sign of the Mosaic Covenant: Sabbath Observance

Blessings and Curses

- Blessings: peace, safety, health, prosperity.
- Curses: disease, plagues, draught, destitution, invasion, exile.
- Success in the land was conditional (Ex. 19:4-5; Dt. 26:16-19).
- Removal from the land was possible (Lev. 26:31-33; Dt. 28:49-68).
- Divorce was the ultimate curse (II Kings 17:18; Jer. 3:8; Lev. 26:31-33; Dt. 28:49-68).

APPLICATION OF THE MOSAIC LAW

Application of Mosaic Law in Mosaic Covenant (Consensus)

- God initiated the Mosaic Covenant out of love for Israel.
- Mosaic law served as stipulations of the Mosaic Covenant.
- God expected Israel to apply the Mosaic law literally.
- Mosaic law was never intended to be a means of self-righteousness.

Application of Mosaic Law in New Covenant (Perennial Debate)

- What is the relationship between the Mosaic Covenant and the New Covenant?
- Are the stipulations of the Mosaic Covenant binding in the New Covenant?
- To what extent has the Mosaic law been fulfilled or abolished?
- Are Christians under (obligated to obey) the 613 commandments in the Mosaic law?
- In other words, is the Mosaic law descriptive or normative for Christians?

ROLE OF THE MOSAIC LAW IN THE NEW COVENANT

Common Approaches to Mosaic Laws

- Covenant Theology: All O.T. laws apply unless repealed by the N.T.
- Dispensationalism: None of the O.T. laws apply unless reaffirmed by the N.T.

Common Distinction between Mosaic Laws

Civil Laws. Legal System and Governance

- National Constitution
- Legal Relationships
- Business Practices
- Farming Regulations
- Liability and Restitution

Cultic Laws. Rituals and Ceremonies

- Sabbath Observance
- Circumcision
- Clean and Unclean
- Dietary laws (kosher)
- Tabernacle and Priesthood
- Sacrifices and Offerings
- Feasts and Festivals

Moral Laws. Rules of Right Behavior

- Decalogue (10 Commandments)

Old Covenant was Superseded by New Covenant

“This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you” (Lk. 22:20).

“By calling this covenant ‘new,’ he has made the first one obsolete; and what is obsolete and outdated will soon disappear” (Heb. 8:13; cf. Jer. 31:31-34).

¹¹ Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called “uncircumcised” by those who call themselves “the circumcision” (which is done in the body by human hands)—¹² remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world. ¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴ For he himself is our peace, who has made the two groups one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, ¹⁵ by setting aside in his flesh the law with its

commands and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace,¹⁶ and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility.¹⁷ He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near.¹⁸ For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.¹⁹ Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household,²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.²¹ In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord.²² And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit (Eph. 2:11-22).

Cultic Laws Have Been Superseded

- Jesus' sacrifice eliminated cultic laws (Mk. 10:45; Heb. 9:11-15).
- Circumcision has no value (Gal. 2:3ff; 5:2-6; Rom. 2:25-29; 4:9-12).
- All foods declared clean (Mk. 7:17-23; Gal. 2:11ff; Rom. 14:15).
- Holy days don't apply (Gal. 4:10; Rom. 14:5ff).

¹¹ But when Christ came as high priest of the good things that are now already here, he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not made with human hands, that is to say, is not a part of this creation.¹² He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption.¹³ The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean.¹⁴ How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death, so that we may serve the living God!¹⁵ For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant, that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance—now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first covenant (Heb. 9:11-15).

² Mark my words! I, Paul, tell you that if you let yourselves be circumcised, Christ will be of no value to you at all.³ Again I declare to every man who lets himself be circumcised that he is obligated to obey the whole law.⁴ You who are trying to be justified by the law have been alienated from Christ; you have fallen away from grace.⁵ For through the Spirit we eagerly await by faith the righteousness for which we hope.⁶ For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love (Gal. 5:2-6).

¹⁸ “Are you so dull?” he asked. “Don't you see that nothing that enters a person from the outside can defile them?¹⁹ For it doesn't go into their heart but into their stomach, and then out of the body.” (In saying this, Jesus declared all foods clean) (Mk. 7:18-19).

⁵ One person considers one day more sacred than another; another considers every day alike. Each of them should be fully convinced in their own mind (Rom. 14:5).

Have the 10 Commandments been Superseded (Ex. 20: 3-17)?

³“You shall have no other gods before me.

⁴“You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷“You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.

⁸“Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁰but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore, the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

¹²“Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

¹³“You shall not murder.

¹⁴“You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵“You shall not steal.

¹⁶“You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

¹⁷“You shall not covet your neighbor’s house. You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

JESUS ON THE MOSAIC LAW

Jesus Did Not Come to Abolish the Law

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but fulfill" (Mt. 5:17).

"The Law and the Prophets were proclaimed until John; since then the gospel of the kingdom of God is preached...[Yet] it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away than for one stroke of a letter of the Law to fail" (Lk. 16:16-17).

Jesus Recognized the Authority of the Law

"Or have you not read in the Law..." (Mt. 12:5).

"What is written in the Law?" (Lk. 10:26).

Jesus' Emphasized Character (Disposition, Motives)

²¹ For it is from within, out of a person's heart, that evil thoughts come—sexual immorality, theft, murder, ²² adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. ²³ All these evils come from inside and defile a person (Mk. 7:21-23).

¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven (Mt. 5:16).

²⁷ "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery' [Ex. 20:14]. ²⁸ But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart (Mt. 5:27-28).

¹⁷ Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸ A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them (Mt. 7:17-20).

Jesus Challenged Misconceptions of the Law

"Neglecting the commandment of God, you hold to the tradition of men" (Mk. 7:8).

"[They] have neglected the weightier provisions of the Law: justice and mercy and faithfulness" (Mt. 23:23).

"Did not Moses give you the Law, and yet none of you carries out the Law" (Jn. 7:19).

Jesus Summarized the Law as Love

"On these two commandments [the love of God and neighbor] depends the whole Law and the Prophets" (Mt. 22:40).

"Therefore, however you want people to treat you, so treat them, for this is the Law and the Prophets" (Mt. 7:12).

JESUS AND THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

1. You shall have no other god before Me.

"No one can serve two masters" (Mt. 6:24).

2. You shall not make for yourself an idol.

"Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only" (Lk. 4:8).

3. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.

"Let your statement be 'Yes, yes' or 'No, no'" (Mt. 5:37).

4. Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

"The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath. The Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath" (Mk. 2:27-28).

5. Honor your father and your mother.

"For God said, 'Honor your father and mother'" (Mt. 15:4).

"He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me" (Mt. 10:37)

6. You shall not murder.

"Whoever is angry with his brother shall be guilty" (Mt. 5:22).

7. You shall not commit adultery.

"Everyone who looks on a woman to lust for her has committed adultery with her already in his heart" (Mt. 5:28).

8. You shall not steal.

"You shall not steal" (Mt. 19:18).

9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

"You shall not bear false witness" (Mt. 19:18).

10. You shall not covet...

"Out of the heart of men proceeds evil" (Mk. 7:21-23).

"Be on your guard against every form of greed" (Lk. 12:15).

GENTILES AND THE MOSAIC LAW IN ACTS

"When they [Jewish Christians] heard this [the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Cornelius], they had no further objections and praised God, saying, 'So then, even to Gentiles God has granted repentance that leads to life' (Acts 11:18).

"Certain people came down from Judea to Antioch and were teaching the believers: 'Unless you are circumcised, according to the custom taught by Moses, you cannot be saved'... Then some of the believers who belonged to the party of the Pharisees stood up and said, 'The Gentiles must be circumcised and required to keep the law of Moses'" (Acts 15:1, 5).

Peter: "God, who knows the heart, showed that he accepted them by giving the Holy Spirit to them, just as he did to us. He did not discriminate between us and them, for he purified their hearts by faith. Now then, why do you try to test God by putting on the necks of Gentiles a yoke that neither we nor our ancestors have been able to bear? No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are" (Acts 15:8-11).

"It is my [James'] judgment, therefore, that we should not make it difficult for the Gentiles who are turning to God. Instead, we should write to them, telling them to abstain from food polluted by idols, from sexual immorality, from the meat of strangled animals and from blood. For the law of Moses has been preached in every city from the earliest times and is read in the synagogues on every Sabbath" (Acts 15:19-21).

MESSIANIC JEWS

"Messianic Judaism, (a branch of which is "Jews for Jesus") is a religious group that has tried to straddle the line between Judaism and Christianity. According to this group, Jesus, or *Yeshua* in Aramaic, was the Messiah, and he died on behalf of the world's sins. They also believe that the Jews are the chosen people, and that the explicit laws of the Torah, such as observing Shabbat, holidays, and circumcision must be obeyed today" (www.myjewishlearning.com).

PAUL AND THE MOSAIC LAW

Paul Believed that the Law is Good.

“You have in the law the embodiment of knowledge and truth” (Rom. 2:20).

"If therefore the uncircumcised man keeps the requirements of the Law, will not his uncircumcision be regarded as circumcision?" (Rom. 2:26).

"Do we then nullify the Law through faith? May it never be! On the contrary, we establish the Law" (Rom. 3:31).

“The law is holy, and the commandment is holy, righteous and good” (Rom. 7:12).

“And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good” (Rom. 7:16).

“For in my inner being I delight in God’s law; but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!” (Rom. 7:22-25).

"He condemned sin in His flesh, in order that the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit" (Rom. 8:4).

"For this, 'You shall not commit adultery, you shall not murder, you shall not steal, you shall not covet,' and if there is any other commandment, it is summed up in this saying, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself' (Rom. 13:9).

"Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but what matters is the keeping of the commandments of God" (1 Cor. 7:19).

“Is the law, therefore, opposed to the promises of God? Absolutely not! For if a law had been given that could impart life, then righteousness would certainly have come by the law. But Scripture has locked up everything under the control of sin, so that what was promised, being given through faith in Jesus Christ, might be given to those who believe” (Gal. 3:21-22).

"For the whole Law is fulfilled in one word, in the statement, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself'" (Gal. 5:14).

“We know that the law is good if one uses it properly. We also know that the law is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, for the sexually immoral, for those practicing homosexuality, for slave traders and liars and perjurers—and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine that conforms to the gospel concerning the glory of the blessed God, which he entrusted to me (1 Tim. 1:8-11).

Paul Believed that the Law was Abolished.

"Therefore, the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, that we may be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor" (Gal. 3:24-25).

"For sin shall not be master over you, for you are not under law, but under grace" (Rom. 6:14).

"But now we have been released from the Law, having died to that by which we were bound, so that we may serve in newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the letter" (Rom. 7:6).

"For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes" (Rom. 10:4).

"Our adequacy is from God, who also made us adequate as servants of a new covenant, not of the letter, but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life" (2 Cor. 3:5-6).

FIVE VIEWS ON THE MOSAIC LAW IN THE NEW COVENANT

Stanley Gundry, ed., *Five Views on Law and Gospel* (Zondervan, 1996).

Theonomic Reformed View (Greg Bahnsen)

- Abrahamic Covenant and Mosaic Covenant are both “covenants of grace.”
- The law is the whole Mosaic law given in the Pentateuch.
- The law is for the elect (Israel = Church).
- All moral laws apply to people of God only in every age since creation.
- So, all elect persons should observe Sabbath, Saturday before Christ, Sunday after Christ.
- All civil laws apply today including death for adultery.
- Ceremonial laws have been fulfilled in Christ.

Reformed View (Willem VanGemeran)

- Mosaic Covenant was added to the Abrahamic Covenant.
- Both covenant still apply to today.
- Even though the covenants are similar in substance, they are different in purpose.
- The law is God’s oral and written instructions since creation.
- The law is for all mankind (Israel = Church).
- All moral laws apply to believers and unbelievers of every age since creation.
- So, everyone should observe the Sabbath, Saturday before Christ, Sunday after Christ.
- Some civil laws apply to today, e.g., tithing and charging interest.
- Ceremonial laws have been fulfilled in Christ.

Weightier Issues View (Walter Kaiser)

- Mosaic Covenant was given specifically to Israel.
- Moral principles of Mosaic Covenant are relevant for everyone under Abrahamic Covenant.
- The law is the whole Mosaic law given in the Pentateuch.
- The law is for all believers (Israel and Church).
- All moral laws that stem from God’s character apply to today.
- This includes the 10 commandments and Leviticus 18-19 (sex laws).
- Judicial principles of civil laws apply to today.
- Ceremonial laws have been fulfilled in Christ.

Modified Lutheran View (Douglas Moo)

- Mosaic Covenant was conditional while Abrahamic Covenant was unconditional.
- Mosaic Covenant provided temporary framework that prescribed terms of obedience.
- The law is the whole Mosaic law given in the Pentateuch.
- The law is for believers (Israel and Church).
- The Mosaic law is fully abolished but its content provides good Christian guidelines.

- Christ hold final say via the Spirit's ministry in believers today.
- Since Mosaic law was given to Israel, only principles apply to today.
- Ceremonial laws have been fulfilled in Christ.

Dispensational View (Wayne Strikland)

- Mosaic Covenant regulated Israel's life.
- Through obedience, Israel experienced the blessings of the Abrahamic Covenant.
- Mosaic Covenant is no longer operative as it is fulfilled in Christ.
- The law is the whole Mosaic law given in the Pentateuch.
- The law is only for Israel (Israel is not Church).
- God's moral law before Moses is now called the "law of Christ" (Gal. 6:2).
- This law governs believers through the Spirit's new covenant indwelling.
- The Mosaic law cannot be divided into parts and is done away with in its entirety.
- Civil laws governed only Israel; none apply to today.
- The only exception are the principles of love and compassion.
- Ceremonial laws have been fulfilled in Christ.