



## Introduction

## Prologue

Great is the 'confusion' surrounding biblical Law. Even before denominations arose, there had been divisions based on the correct interpretation of Law, be it due to personal preferences based on a greater willingness for obedience, or the striving for more liberty. Many scholars have done well in reflecting on the Law, but are often constraint by denominational limitations, where there is usually consensus regarding the Old Covenant Law, but vast differences if to actually follow the Moral Law at all, in 6 Commandments (Roman Catholicism), in 9 Commandments (Protestantism), or with a greater willingness in actually 10 Commandments.

Learn now more about the differentiation of Laws in the Bible – the Laws that are perfectly valid for every Christian today ([10 Moral Laws & 85+ Laws of CHRISTOS and the Apostles](#)) and those Laws that once had been given to the nation of Israel ([600+ Old Covenant / Ceremonial Laws](#)) or had been added by overzealous teachers ([1500+ Oral / Fence / Pharisee Laws](#)).

But be aware that there is no such thing as a perfect study on biblical Law. There are many nuances which will only become clearer to the student of the Bible by constantly reading the Word and by comparing someone's understanding to the respective verses, while ideally leaving any denominational and educational bias at the door.

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## Eternal Law

Moral Law (10 Commandments) · Laws of CHRISTOS

## Origin

The **Moral Law** did not originate with Moses or in his time. THEOS doesn't reveal how He communicated the eternal principles of His Law to humanity before Mount Sinai, but we can conclude that the unwritten Law, which was the same in substance and authority as the written Moral Law, was written on the conscience (hearts) of humanity (see e.g. Rom 2:14-16). The evidence is clear and substantial that the giving of the law on Sinai was not the world's initial exposure to its precepts.

Adam and Eve coveted (Cm. #10) and stole (#8); Cain killed (#6) and lied (#9); the men of Sodom were wicked and sinful; Pharao blasphemed THEOS (#1, 2, 3); the book of Genesis already described adultery (#7; Gen 12:17, Gen 20:9-18, Gen 26:10) and murder (#6) as a sin; the Sabbath is "to remember" (#4); Abraham, Jacob and Joseph already obeyed **Commandments, Statutes and Laws** (Gen 26:5); and the Israelites failed the Sabbath test (#4) already before the Law of THEOS was codified and specified at Mt. Sinai.

Another clear example is Moses, who judged before Sinai 'the ordinances of THEOS and His law' and his father-in-law encouraged him to delegate this task (see Exo 18:15-16 below).

[~5500 BC] And Cain said to KYRIOS, "My punishment is greater than I can bear.	Gen 4:13
[3297 BC] "As for the one shedding the blood of humankind, by humankind his blood shall be shed ...	Gen 9:6
[~-1950 BC] And THEOS said to Jacob, "Arise, go up to Bethel and dwell there, and make an altar to THEOS! [...] Then Jacob said to his household and to all who were with him, "Get rid of the foreign g-ds ...	Gen 35:1-4
[~-1885 BC] - Joseph to Potiphar's wife] ... you are his wife. Now how could I do this great wickedness [adultery] and sin against THEOS?"	Gen 39:9
[~-1447 BC] And Pharaoh hurried to call Moses and Aaron, and he said, "I have sinned against KYRIOS, your THEOS [other g-ds & blasphemy] ...	Exo 10:16
... "How long do you refuse to keep my commandments and my law? [plural = multiple commands preceded the laws given at Mt. Sinai; see Exo 20]	Exo 16:28
And Moses says to his father-in-law, Because the people come to me to seek judgment from THEOS. For whenever there is a dispute among them, and they come to me, I give judgment upon each, and I teach them the ordinances of THEOS and His law.	Exo 18:15-16
[1446 BC] Moral Law codified and specified]	Exo 20
... "Moses, with reference to your hardness of heart, permitted you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning [clearly before Moses] it was not like this.	Mat 19:3-10
... where there is no law, neither is there transgression. [the existence of transgression proves a law]	Rom 4:15
Dear friends, I am not writing a new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you have had from the beginning [~- creation; Joh 1:1].	1Joh 2:7
... did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a proclaimer of righteousness [requires reference of the law]	2Pet 2:5

Matthew 5:21 makes it also clear that the Moral Law had not only been given to any 'ancients' or to any 'people of old' -as commonly translated while lacking definition-, but more precisely to the very first (original) humans - the word APXH (arche, Greek G746) always expressing an absolute.

Anger	Mat 5:21
Mat 5:21 You heard that it was said to the ancients, "You shall not kill"	Mat 5:21
ancients, "You shall not kill"	G3588
murder; and who	G3407
ever should murder, shall be liable	G3036
to the judgment.	G2920
Mat 5:22 But I say to you, "All who are angry with their brother shall be liable to judgment; and who	G1473
ever should say to his brother, "Worthless!" shall be liable	G1473
to the judgment; and who	G3739
ever should say to his brother, "Sanhedrin!" shall be liable	G4469
to the judgment.	G4469
Mat 5:23 And who	G3739
ever should say to his brother, "Moron!" shall be liable	G3474
to the judgment.	G1510.8.3
for	G1519
G3588	G3588
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Source: e-Sword software

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## Eternal Law

Moral Law (10 Commandments) · Laws of CHRISTOS

## Old Covenant Law

Ceremonial, Civil and Sacrificial Law

## Distinctions

Law For Us  
vs.  
Law Against Us

## The Perfect, Reviving and Life-Giving Law Of Liberty That Is For Us

*The Law of KYRIOS is perfect, reviving life [it is for us, not against us].**... the messenger spoke to him at Mount Sinai. And with our fathers who did receive living oracles to give to us ...**Circumcision is nothing and uncircumcision is nothing [= Ceremonial Law = abolished], but the keeping of the commandments of THEOS.**But the one who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues to do it, not being a forgetful hearer but a doer who acts, this one will be blessed ...**Thus speak and thus act as those who are going to be judged by the law of liberty.**Psa**19:7**Act**7:38**1Cor**7:19**Jam**1:25**Jam**2:12**And then when Moses finished writing the words of this law on the scroll until they were completed [...] “Take the scroll [not tablets] of this [Ceremonial] law and put it at the side of the ark of the covenant [...] it will be there as a witness (against you).**He forgave us all our trespasses ... canceled the debt ascribed to us in the decrees [ordinances] that stood against us. He took it away, nailing it to the cross!**For if the word spoken through angels [not written by one angel, but spoken through various angels] was binding and every transgression and act of disobedience received a just penalty, how will we escape if we neglect so great a salvation ...**Deu**31:24-26**Col**2:13-15**Heb**2:24*

## Distinctions

Sprinkling

*While the eternal Moral Law – being directly from THEOS and not being tied to the Old Covenant ONLY – was not sprinkled, the Scroll with the 600+ Old Covenant Laws had indeed been sprinkled with blood. This is an important and very often overlooked differentiation with vast implications in the light of CHRISTOS' blood having overcome and abolished that which was temporary.**And Moses went in and related to the people all the words of THEOS and the ordinances; and all the people answered with one voice, saying, All the words which KYRIOS has spoken, we will do and be obedient. 4 And Moses wrote all the words of KYRIOS; and Moses rose up early in the morning, and built an altar under the mountain, and set up twelve stones for the twelve tribes of Israel. [...] 7 And he took the Book of the covenant and read it in the ears of the people, and they said, All things whatsoever KYRIOS has spoken we will do and hearken therein. 8 And Moses took the blood and sprinkled it upon the people, and said, Behold the blood of the covenant, which KYRIOS has made with you concerning all these words.**For when every commandment had been spoken by Moses to all the people according to the law, he took the blood of calves with water and scarlet wool and hyssop and sprinkled both the scroll itself and all the people [no mention of the stone tablets], saying, “This is the blood of the covenant that THEOS has commanded for you.” And likewise he sprinkled both the tabernacle and all the utensils of service with the blood. Indeed, nearly everything is purified with blood according to the law [still no mention of the Moral Law], and apart from the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.**Exo**24:3-8**Heb**9:19-22*

## Distinctions

Romans 7-8

*The term Law in Romans 7 and 8 does not refer primarily to any written code, but mainly to authority or power. The Law of the Spirit is the authority and power of the Spirit; the Law of Sin (and death) is the authority and power of sin.**For I delight in the Law of THEOS, in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind and ...**I of myself serve the Law of THEOS with my mind, ...**There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in CHRISTOS IESOUS. For the Law of the Spirit of life in CHRISTOS IESOUS ...**... making me captive to the law of sin which dwells in my members. [...] Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to THEOS through IESOUS ...**... but with my flesh I serve the law of sin."**... has set me free from the law of sin and death.**Rom**7:22-25**Rom**7:25**Rom**8:1-2*

## Distinctions

2Corinthians 3

*... you are a letter of [recommendation of] CHRISTOS ...**... inscribed not with ink [= Book = Ceremonial Laws] ...**... not on stone tablets [= Tablets = 10 Commandments] ...**But if the ministry of death in letters carved on stone [referring to the previous death penalty for Commandments 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7] came with glory ... which was transitory [Old Covenant] ...**For if there was glory in the ministry of condemnation ...**For if what was transitory [Old Covenant, not the Commandments that existed before the Covenant] came with glory ...**... but with the SPIRIT of the living THEOS ...**... but on tablets of human hearts [the 10 Commandments are now also “written” on our hearts] ...**... how will the ministry of the SPIRIT [New Covenant; still with Commandments, but now without condemnation] not be even more with glory? ...**... by much more will the ministry of righteousness overflow with glory ...**... by much more which is to abide, is in with glory.**2Cor**3:1-13*

## Extended Meaning

*The term ‘Law’ can also refer to parts of the Old Testament. It means at least the Pentateuch (Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy), but it could eventually mean all the Old Testament books except the Prophets. This is because the term ‘Law’ is contrasted in the following verses with the term ‘Prophets’ (not the office, but referring to all Major and Minor Prophets) and can even include the book of Psalms (see Joh 15:25 below). The term ‘Prophets’ is further contrasted with ‘Apostles’ (Good Message & Acts).**OT ||| Law & Prophets (Two-fold Division)**But it has to be noted – and this is very important – that ‘Law’ has sometimes a double meaning. Verses such as Mat 5:17 (and Luk 16:16) make it clear that e.g. also the 10 commandments are being meant, because the following verses of Mat 5:21-48 speak specifically about the 10 Commandments.**You should not think that I have come to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I have not come to destroy, but to perfect. For truly I say to you: Even when the heaven and the world should pass away, not even one iota nor one tittle may pass from the Law, until all should have come to pass. Whoever then should loosen one of these commands [=double meaning] in the least ...**All then, whatever you might desire that men should do to you, thus you must also do to them. For this is the Law and the Prophets.**And a second is likened to it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself! On these two commands, are appended the whole Law and the Prophets.**The Law and the Prophets [are] until John [the Baptist], since then the Kingdom of THEOS is being proclaimed, and everyone is being pressed into it. But it is easier for heaven and earth to pass away than for one tittle of the Law to fail. Everyone who divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery ...**Philip findeth Nathanael, and saith to him, ‘Him of whom Moses wrote in the Law, and the Prophets, we have found, IESOUS the son of Joseph ...**... and after the reading of the Law and of the Prophets, the chief men of the synagogue sent unto them, saying, ‘Men, brethren, if there be a word in you of exhortation unto the people – say on.’**‘And I confess this to thee, that, according to the way that they call a sect, so serve I the THEOS of the fathers, believing all things that in the Law and the Prophets have been written ...**And now apart from law has the righteousness of THEOS been manifested, testified to by the Law and the Prophets ...**And when they brought forth the money that had been brought into the house of KYRIOS, Chelcias the priest found a Book of the Law of KYRIOS given by the hand of Moses. [...] And Saphan the scribe brought word to the king, saying, Chelcias the priest has given me a book. And Saphan read it before the king. And it came to pass, when the king heard the Words of the Law, that he rent his garments.**... and having begun from Moses, and from all the Prophets [Two-fold Division], he was expounding to them in all the Writings the things about Himself. [...] And they said one to another, ‘Was not our heart burning within us, as he was speaking to us in the way, and as he was opening up to us the Writings?’ [...] ‘These [are] the words that I spoke unto you, being yet with you, that it behoveth to be fulfilled all the things that are written in the Law of Moses, and the Prophets, and the Psalms [Three-fold Division], about me.’**Mat**5:17-19**Mat**7:12**Mat**22:39-40**Luk**16:16-18**Act**13:15**Act**24:14**Act**24:14-18**Rom**3:21**2Chr**34:14-19**Luk**24:27-44**OT ||| Law of Moses & Prophets & Psalms (Three-fold Division)**So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of THEOS, built on the foundation of the Apostles [denoting the Good Message & Acts, -NOT- the office of an apostle!] and Prophets [denoting the remainder of the Old Testament, -NOT- speaking of the office of a prophet], CHRISTOS IESOUS Himself being the Cornerstone [metaphor, so the other words need to be interpreted in the same way!], in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple [once again a metaphor] in KYRIOS.**Eph**2:19-21**OT & NT ||| Prophets & Apostles (Good Message & Acts)**But this happened so that the word that is written in their law [Psalms] would be fulfilled, ‘They hated me without a reason’,**25 ΑΛΛΑ ΙΝΑ ΠΛΗΡΩΜΩΝ Ο ΛΟΓΟΤΟΠΟΣ Ο ΕΝ ΤΩ ΝΟΜΩ ΑΥΤΩΝ ΤΟΝ ΓΕΡΑΜΜΕΝΟΝ Ο ΤΙ ΕΜΙΣΧΑΝ ΜΕ ΑΓΡΕΑΝ.**Let not those who are wrongfully my enemies rejoice over me. Nor let those who hate me without cause wink the eye.**19 ΜΗ ΕΠΙΧΑΡΕΙ ΗΝ ΜΟΙ ΟΙ ΕΧΩ ΠΑΙΝΟΝΤΕΣ ΜΟΙ ΑΔΙΚΩΣ, ΟΙ ΜΙΟΥΝΤΕΣ ΜΕ ΑΓΡΕΑΝ ΚΑΙ ΔΙΑΝΕΥΟΝΤΕΣ ΟΦΔΑΛΜΟΙ.**Joh**15:24**Psa**35:19-24**Quoted Passage*

see next page



Former Death Penalty	Sin	Weighting																																																																					
<p>Let us now look at the sins which had been punished during the Old Covenant era through the death penalty, and specifically if those sins are still biblically considered sins today.</p>																																																																							
<p>Even though IESOUS CHRISTOS has thankfully abolished the death penalty, this overview is nevertheless important for the following reasons:</p>																																																																							
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. It enables us to better appreciate the ultimate sacrifice of IESOUS CHRISTOS and the liberty we have in Him. On the other hand, and looking back at those drastic consequences, we gain a holy fear to live with obedience in this liberty given to us.</li> <li>2. It shows us that, even though the 600+ Old Covenant Laws are abolished, many of its principles continue to be very relevant for us, because most of the following sins are either confirmed or implied in the New Covenant. On the other hand we have of course to acknowledge that those sins are the ones with the greater weight, and that they are not representative for the 600+ Old Covenant Laws as a whole, most of which dealt with issues truly not relevant anymore in today's setting with no Temple to begin with. See also the addendum with a complete list of the Old Covenant Law.</li> <li>3. It shows us also that sin is not sin, nor is every sin weighted in the same way. To teach otherwise is to directly contradict the Word of THEOS, which shows various examples of differentiation between sins in the New Covenant, the clearest examples being Luk 12:47-48, Joh 19:11, 1Joh 5:16-17 and Heb 9:7. This principle becomes especially clear by the death penalty not being associated with any-, but only to very specific sins. The following sins all formerly deserved the death penalty, and those sins have therefore certainly a greater weight than most other sins.</li> </ol>																																																																							
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th><th>Former Death Penalty</th><th>Is It Still a Serious Biblical Sin?</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Abortion, accidental death of a woman's unborn child</td><td>YES</td><td>Not specified as such in the New Covenant, but probably still a sin. <a href="#">Exo 21:22ff</a></td></tr> <tr> <td>Adultery</td><td>YES</td><td>YES <a href="#">Lev 20:10</a> <a href="#">Deu 22:22ff</a></td></tr> <tr> <td>Authorities, disobedience of a priest or a judge</td><td>YES</td><td>Not specified in the New Covenant, but most certainly still a sin (e.g. judges; but no more priests). <a href="#">Deu 17:8-12</a></td></tr> <tr> <td>Bestiality</td><td>YES</td><td>Not specified in the New Covenant, but most certainly still a sin. <a href="#">Exo 22:19</a> <a href="#">Lev 20:15-17</a></td></tr> <tr> <td>Blasphemy</td><td>YES</td><td>YES <a href="#">Lev 24:10ff</a></td></tr> <tr> <td>Child sacrifice</td><td>YES</td><td>YES, covered by murder. <a href="#">Lev 20:2</a></td></tr> <tr> <td>Death, through a farm animal known to be problematic</td><td>YES</td><td>Not specified in the New Covenant, but probably still a sin. <a href="#">Exo 21:28ff</a></td></tr> <tr> <td>Fornication (only if in parent's house)</td><td>YES</td><td>YES <a href="#">Deu 22:21ff</a></td></tr> <tr> <td>gods, entice others to follow other gods (theoi)</td><td>YES</td><td>Not specified in the New Covenant, but most certainly still a sin. <a href="#">Deu 13:6ff</a></td></tr> <tr> <td>Homo*e*uality</td><td>YES</td><td>YES <a href="#">Lev 20:13</a></td></tr> <tr> <td>Idolatry</td><td>YES</td><td>YES <a href="#">Deu 17:2-5</a> <a href="#">Num 25:1-3</a></td></tr> <tr> <td>Incest</td><td>YES</td><td>Not specified in the New Covenant, but most certainly still a sin. <a href="#">Lev 20:11-14</a></td></tr> <tr> <td>Kidnapping</td><td>YES</td><td>Not specified in the New Covenant, but most certainly still a sin. <a href="#">Exo 21:16</a> <a href="#">Deu 24:7</a></td></tr> <tr> <td>Murder</td><td>YES</td><td>YES <a href="#">Exo 21:12-17</a> <a href="#">Lev 24:17-22</a> <a href="#">Num 35:16ff</a></td></tr> <tr> <td>Parents, disobedience to</td><td>YES</td><td>YES <a href="#">Exo 21:15ff</a> <a href="#">Deu 21:18ff</a></td></tr> <tr> <td>Prophets, false</td><td>YES</td><td>False prophecy is still a sin. <a href="#">Deu 13:5</a> <a href="#">Deu 18:20</a></td></tr> <tr> <td>Prostitution (daughter of a priest)</td><td>YES</td><td>YES <a href="#">Lev 21:9</a></td></tr> <tr> <td>Rape</td><td>YES</td><td>Not specified in the New Covenant, but most certainly still a sin. <a href="#">Deu 22:25</a></td></tr> <tr> <td>Slavery, forced</td><td>YES</td><td>Not specified in the New Covenant, but most certainly still a sin. <a href="#">Exo 21:16</a></td></tr> <tr> <td>Sorcery, Spiritism, Witchcraft</td><td>YES</td><td>YES <a href="#">Exo 22:18</a> <a href="#">Lev 20:27</a></td></tr> <tr> <td>Weekly Sabbath, breaking of</td><td>YES</td><td>&gt; What do you conclude? ► see also the study 'Sabbaths     Weekly vs. Ceremonial · Differentiation &amp; Application' <a href="#">Exo 31:14</a> <a href="#">Exo 35:2</a> <a href="#">Num 15:32ff</a></td></tr> <tr> <td>Witness, false</td><td>YES</td><td>YES - do not lie. <a href="#">Deu 19:16ff</a></td></tr> </tbody> </table>				Former Death Penalty	Is It Still a Serious Biblical Sin?	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## Eternal &amp; New Covenant

(10 Commandments · Moral Law · Law of THEOS · Law of CHRISTOS)

## Old Covenant

(Law of Moses · Ceremonial, Civil and Sacrificial Laws)

## Jerusalem Assembly

The Letter to Antioch (-50 AD)

## Selected Laws

Comparison Old / New Covenant

It had been decided that Gentile believers are not required to be circumcised, but that they should stay away 1) from food sacrificed to idols, 2) from sexual immorality and 3) from consuming blood or eating meat of strangled animals (remaining blood).

For it seemed best to the HOLY SPIRIT and to us to place on you no greater burden except these necessary things: that you abstain from food sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from what has been strangled, and from sexual immorality.

Act 15:28-29

... people began to prostitute themselves with the daughters of Moab. And they invited the people to the sacrifices of their theos, and the people ate and worshipped their theos. [...] THEOS said to Moses, "Take all the leaders of the people and kill them ..."

Num 25:1-4

## Circumcision

CHRISTOS and Timothy had still been circumcised, but we are not to be circumcised anymore.

**Circumcision** is nothing and **uncircumcision** is nothing, but the keeping of the commandments of THEOS. ... if you let yourselves be **circumcised**, CHRISTOS will be of no value to you at all.

1Cor 7:19

Gen 17:11

Beware of the dogs, beware of the evil workers, beware of the **mutation**. For we are the **circumcision**, the ones who worship by the SPIRIT of THEOS and boast in CHRISTOS IESOUS and do not put confidence in the flesh ...

Gal 5:2

Gen 17:14

In Him you were also **circumcised** with a **circumcision** not performed by human hands. Your whole self ruled by the flesh was put off when you were **circumcised** by CHRISTOS ...

Phi 3:2-3

Lev 17:14

Col 2:11

Gen 17:14

Every male among you shall be **circumcised**. You are to undergo **circumcision**, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and you.

Any **uncircumcised** male, who has not been **circumcised** in the flesh, will be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant."

Exo 12:40

Food (clean and unclean · cooking and storing food)

Today we are allowed to eat any animal and any plant, except blood and food dedicated to idols.

"Don't you see that nothing that enters a person from the outside can defile them? For it doesn't go into their heart but into their stomach, and then out of the body." (IESOUS declared all foods clean.)

Mar 7:18-19

Gen 9:2-4

One person's faith allows them to eat anything, but another, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables. The one who eats everything must not treat with contempt the one who does not, and the one who does not eat everything must not judge the one who does, for THEOS has accepted them.

Rom 14:2-4

Lev 11:2-8

All food is clean, but it is wrong for a person to eat anything that causes someone else to stumble. It is better not to eat meat or drink wine or to do anything else that will cause your brother or sister to fall. ... abstain from food polluted by **idols**, from the meat of strangled animals [those that cannot be entirely bled out] and from **blood**.

Rom 14:20-21

Exo 22:31

Act 15:20

Gen 9:4

All the animals of the earth, all the birds of the sky, all the small animals that scurry along the ground, and all the fish in the sea will look on you with fear and terror. I have placed them in your power. I have given them to you for food, just as I have given you grain and vegetables. But you must never eat any meat that still has the lifeblood in it.

Say to the Israelites: 'Of all the animals that live on land, these are the ones you may eat: You may eat any animal that has a divided hoof and that chews the cud. [...] And the pig, though it has a divided hoof, does not chew the cud; it is **unclean** for you. You must not eat their meat or touch their carcasses; they are unclean for you.'

You are to be my holy people. So do not eat the meat of an animal torn by wild beasts; throw it to the dogs. Only you shall not eat raw flesh with blood in it.'

► see also the separate study 'Topics - Food'.

## Forgiveness vs. Punishment (THEOS - Human)

Followers of the Old Covenant asked for forgiveness of their sins through animal sacrifices and prayers of repentance.

Followers of the New Covenant claim forgiveness without sacrifices, but only through prayers of repentance. The shedding of IESOUS' blood was the perfect and final sacrifice for all our past and future sins.

Through Him everyone who believes is **set free from every sin**, a justification you were not able to obtain under the **law of Moses**.

Act 13:38

Isa 44:22

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will **forgive us** our sins and purify us ...

1Joh 1:9

Num 12:9-10

Everyone who practices sin also practices **lawlessness** [...] Everyone who is fathered by THEOS does not practice sin, because His seed resides in him ...

1Joh 3:9

Psa 25:7

"I have swept away your offenses like a cloud, your sins like the morning mist. Return to me, for I have **redeemed you**."

The **anger of KYRIOS burned against them** [...] When the cloud lifted from above the tent, Miriam's skin was leprous — it became as white as snow. Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions.

## Forgiveness vs. Punishment (Human - Human)

THEOS' mercy towards us should lead us to have mercy towards others and to forgive each other.

But I say to, that anyone **being enraged** by his brother, will be subject to the council.

Mat 5:22

Exo 21:23-25

But I say to you: **Love your enemies** and pray for the ones persecuting you, so that you should become sons of your FATHER, the One in the Heavens.

Mat 5:44-45

Eze 45:20

Do not take revenge [...] "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him ... to drink."

Rom 12:19-20

Lev 27:1-30

But if there is serious injury, you are to take life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burn for burn, wound for wound, ... And so you shall do on the seventh day in the month for anyone doing wrong inadvertently or due to ignorance, and so you must make atonement for the temple.

## Giving vs. Tithing

The concept of tithing was part of the **Civil Laws** to the Israelites, for supporting the Levites, foreigners, orphans and widows. Today we are to give, whatever THEOS puts on our heart. 10% can be a rough orientation, but THEOS is glad if we give more and does not judge us if we give less. We should value our riches in CHRISTOS so highly that we would simply love to give.

Each of you should **give** what you have decided in your heart to **give**, not reluctantly or **under compulsion**, for THEOS loves a cheerful giver.

2Cor 9:7

Lev 27:1-30

They sold property and possessions to **give** to anyone who had need.

Act 2:45

Eze 45:20

'It is more blessed to **give** than to receive.'

Act 20:35

Exo 21:23-25

► For more details on the former concepts of tithing, sacrifices and offering, see the separate study 'Topics - Giving'.

## Murder

We shall not kill any human being.

If you do not commit adultery but do commit **murder**, you have become a **lawbreaker**.

Mat 2:11

Gen 9:6

And do not be afraid of those **killing** the body, but the soul they are not being able to kill. But rather fear the One being able to destroy both soul and body in Gehenna.

Mat 10:28

Exo 21:23

"And I will require the blood of anyone who takes another person's life. But if there is serious injury, you are to **take life for life**, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, ... "Whoever takes a human life shall surely be put to death."

► see also the separate study 'Topics - Sabbath'.

## Weekly Sabbath vs. Extraordinary Sabbaths

The Sabbath Day was already part of THEOS' creation and therefore could not be part of the temporary Ceremonial Laws, but had been formalized by THEOS through the 4th Commandment. IESOUS' followers obeyed the Weekly Sabbath at least 18 times after His death (Acts 1 - 14), including several times after the regulatory Jerusalem Council (Acts 15 onward).

On this day (Saturday!), we should make worship, fellowship, rest and a clear abstinence from the 6-day work routine the priority.

And THEOS blessed the **seventh day**, and He sanctified it, because on it He rested from all His work of creating that there was to do.

Gen 2:3

Exo 31:15

... and on the **Sabbath** day He [IESOUS] went into the synagogue, as was His custom.

Luk 4:16

Lev 25:4

And when the Jews were gone out of the synagogue, the Gentiles besought that these words might be preached to them the next **Sabbath**. [...] And the next **Sabbath** almost the whole city was gathered together to hear the word of THEOS. But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with jealousy ...

Act 13:42-45

Psa 23:4-8

As was his custom, Paul went into the synagogue, and on three **Sabbath** days he discussed with them ... [after the Jerusalem Council in Acts 15]

Act 17:2

Exo 23:14-17

... Consequently a **Sabbath** rest remains for the people of THEOS ...

Heb 4:11

Lev 23:24-25

For six days work is to be done, but the **seventh day** is a day of sabbath rest, holy to KYRIOS. Whoever does any work on the Sabbath day is to be put to death.

But in the seventh year the land is to have a year of **sabbath** rest, a sabbath to the KYRIOS. Do not sow your fields or prune your vineyards.

Ceremonial / Extraordinary Sabbaths (Feasts, 7th Year, 50th Jubilee Year)

... it is the Day of Atonement [...] As for any person who does any work on this very same day, I will exterminate that person from the midst of his people. [...] from evening to evening you must observe your **Sabbath of Sabbaths**. [...] These are KYRIOS' festivals, which you must proclaim, holy assemblies to present an offering made by fire to Yahweh — burnt offering and grain offering [...] each on its proper day — **besides** Yahweh's Sabbaths ...

Lev 23:4-38

## Sacrifices &amp; Offerings

Today we don't give 'sacrifices' anymore. IESOUS CHRISTOS abolished animal-, burnt-, fellowship-, grain-, guilt-, sin- and **wave-offerings**, by making atonement once for all for our sins. 'Freewill offerings' (act of worship or fulfillment of a vow), which were usually brought as burnt or peace offerings, have been replaced by the material or monetary 'giving'.

And He [CHRIST] will make a strong covenant with the many [...] He will let cease **sacrifice** and **offering** ... They sold property and possessions to **give** to anyone who had need.

Dan 9:27

Exo 25:2-7

... by this kind of hard work we must help the weak, remembering the words KYRIOS IESOUS Himself said: 'It is more blessed to **give** than to receive.'

Act 2:45

Lev 22:21-31

... must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to **share** with those in need.

Act 20:35

Psa 22:21-31

And you yourselves, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up **spiritual sacrifices** [dedication & obedience, faith & holiness, time & money] acceptable to THEOS through IESOUS CHRISTOS.

Eph 4:28

Exo 22:21-31

... He is the **propitiation** for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

1Joh 2:2

Psa 22:21-31

Tell the Israelites to bring me an **offering**. You are to receive the **offering** for me from everyone whose heart prompts them to give. These are the **offerings** you are to receive from them: gold, silver and ...

If any member of the community sins unintentionally and does what is forbidden in any of the KYRIOS' commands [...] they must bring as their **offering** for the sin they committed a female goat without defect. [...] In this way the priest will make atonement for them, and they will be forgiven.

► see also the separate study 'Topics - Sabbath'.

Thomas Lorenz, Greater Vancouver, 2019  
(Updated 01/2026)

## Oral/Fence Laws

## Ep

