



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 under-standing to the respective verses, while ideally leaving any denominational and educational bias at the door.

Index

Page 1	INTRO	Prologue Index
Page 2	BASICS	Eternal Law vs. Old Covenant Laws Origin & Writing of the Laws Classifications Effects & Recipients When Did the New Covenant Enter Into Effect?
Page 3	DISTINCTIONS	Law For Us vs. Law Against Us Not Sprinkled vs. Sprinkled Law of the Spirit vs. Law of Sin (and Death) Ministry of the SPIRIT vs. Ministry of Death Extended Meaning of ‘Law’ (& Prophets)
Page 4		Former Death Penalty
Page 5	OUR APPLICATION	Not ‘Under’ , not ‘Outside’ , but ‘Subject’ to the Law The Law Written on our Hearts The 10 Commandments The Great Commandment · The Law of CHRISTOS CHRISTOS Intensified the Moral Law Instructions · Keep the Commandments!
Page 6	SPECIFIC LAWS	Jerusalem Assembly · The Letter to Antioch (~50 AD) Selected Laws · Comparison Old / New Covenant (Circumcision , Food, Forgiveness vs. Punishment , Giving vs. Tithing , Murder, Weekly Sabbath vs. Sabbaths of Sabbaths , Sacrifices & Offerings) ~ 1500+ Oral / Fence Laws Epilogue
	ADDENDUM	· Complete List of the 10 Commandments · Comprehensive List of 85+ Laws of CHRISTOS and of the Apostles · Complete List of 600+ Ceremonial, Civil and Sacrificial Laws · Overview · All Laws Grouped by Topic · Selected List of 1500+ ‘Fence / Pharisee’ Laws · Background · Mentions in the Bible · Mentions in Non-canonical Books

see next page



	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].	<i>Psa</i> <u>19:7</u>	And then when Moses finished writing the words of this law on the scroll until they were completes [...] “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) .	<i>Deu</i> <u>31:24-26</u>
	... the messenger spoke to him at Mount Sinai. And with our fathers who did receive living oracles to give to us ...	<i>Act</i> <u>7:38</u>	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!	<i>Col</i> <u>2:13-15</u>
	Circumcision is nothing and uncircumcision is nothing [= Ceremonial Law = abolished], but the keeping of the commandments of THEOS.	<i>1Cor</i> <u>7:19</u>	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 ...	<i>Heb</i> <u>2:2-4</u>
	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 ...	<i>Jam</i> <u>1:25</u>		
	Thus speak and thus act as those who are going to be judged by the law of liberty .	<i>Jam</i> <u>2:12</u>		
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 over-looked 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 .		<i>Exo</i> <u>24:3-8</u>	
	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.		<i>Heb</i> <u>9:19-22</u>	
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 ...	-	... 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 ...	<i>Rom</i> <u>7:22-25</u>
	I of myself serve the Law of THEOS with my mind, ...	-	... but with my flesh I serve the law of sin ."	<i>Rom</i> <u>7:25</u>
	There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in CHRISTOS IESOUS. For the Law of the Spirit of life in CHRISTOS IESOUS ...	-	... has set me free from the law of sin and death .	<i>Rom</i> <u>8:1-2</u>
Distinctions · 2Corinthians 3	... you are a letter of [recommendation of] CHRISTOS ...		<i>2Cor</i> <u>3:1-13</u>	
	... inscribed not with ink [= Book = Ceremonial Laws] ...	-	... but with the SPIRIT of the living THEOS ...	
	... not on stone tablets [= Tablets = 10 Commandments] ...	-	... but on tablets of human hearts [the 10 Commandments are now also "written" on our hearts] ...	
	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] ...	-	... how will the ministry of the SPIRIT [New Covenant; still with Commandments, but now without condemnation] not be even more with glory? ...	
	For if there was glory in the ministry of condemnation ...	-	... by much more will the ministry of righteousness overflow with glory ...	
	For if what was transitory [Old Covenant, not the Commandments that existed before the Covenant] came with glory ...	-	... by much more which is to abide , is in with glory.	
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)	“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 ...	<i>Mat</i> <u>5:17-19</u>	
	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.	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 .	<i>Mat</i> <u>7:12</u>	
		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 ."	<i>Mat</i> <u>22:39-40</u>	
		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 ...	<i>Luk</i> <u>16:16-18</u>	
		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 ...	<i>Joh</i> <u>1:45</u>	
		... 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.’	<i>Act</i> <u>13:15</u>	
		‘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 ...	<i>Act</i> <u>24:14</u>	
		And now apart from law has the righteousness of THEOS been manifested, testified to by the Law and the Prophets ...	<i>Rom</i> <u>3:21</u>	
	OT Law of Moses & Prophets & Psalms (Three-fold Division)	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.	<i>2Chr</i> <u>34:14-19</u>	
		... 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.’	<i>Luk</i> <u>24:27-44</u>	
	OT & NT Prophets & Apostles (Good Message & Acts)	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.	<i>Eph</i> <u>2:19-21</u>	
	Even the Psalms are included in the term 'Law'. This meaning is somewhat hidden, as it is only revealed when knowing that John 15:25 quotes Psalm 35:19.			
	Quotation	But this happened so that the word that is written in their law [Psalms] would be fulfilled, “They hated me without a reason ,” 25ΑΛΛ ΙΝΑ ΠΑΗΡΩΘΗ Ο ΛΟΓΟΣ Ο ΕΝ ΤΩ ΝΟΜΩ ΑΥΤΩΝ ΓΕΓΡΑΜΜΕΝΟΣ ΟΤΙ ΕΜΙΧΘΑΝ ΜΕ ΔΩΡΕΑΝ .	<i>Joh</i> <u>15:25</u>	
	Quoted Passage	Let not those who are wrongfully my enemies rejoice over me. Nor let those who hate me without cause wink the eye. 19ΜΗ ΕΠΙΧΑΡΕΙΗCΑΝ ΜΟΙ ΟΙ ΕΧΘΡΑΙΝΟΝΤΕC ΜΟΙ ΑΔΙΚΩC, ΟΙ ΜΙCΟΥΝΤΕC ΜΕ ΔΩΡΕΑΝ ΚΑΙ ΔΙΑΝΕΥΟΝΤΕC ΟΦΘΑΛΜΟΙC.	<i>Psa</i> <u>35:19; (69:4)</u>	



Former
Death
Penalty

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.

Even though IESOUS CHRISTOS has thankfully abolished the death penalty, this overview is nevertheless important for the following reasons:

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.

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.

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 contra-dict 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.

	Former Death Penalty	Is It Still a Serious Biblical Sin?	
Abortion, accidental death of a woman's unborn child	YES	Not specified as such in the New Covenant, but probably still a sin.	Exo 21:22ff
Adultery	YES	YES	Lev 20:10 Deu 22:22ff
Authorities, disobedience of a priest or a judge	YES	Not specified in the New Covenant, but most certainly still a sin (e.g. judges; but no more priests).	Deu 17:8-12
Bestiality	YES	Not specified in the New Covenant, but most certainly still a sin.	Exo 22:19 Lev 20:15-17
Blasphemy	YES	YES	Lev 24:10ff
Child sacrifice	YES	YES, covered by murder.	Lev 20:2
Death, through a farm animal known to be problematic	YES	Not specified in the New Covenant, but probably still a sin.	Exo 21:28ff
Fornication (only if in parent's house)	YES	YES	Deu 22:21ff
gods, entice others to follow other gods (theoi)	YES	Not specified in the New Covenant, but most certainly still a sin.	Deu 13:6ff
Homo*e*uality	YES	YES	Lev 20:13
Idolatry	YES	YES	Deu 17:2-5 Num 25:1-18
Incest	YES	Not specified in the New Covenant, but most certainly still a sin.	Lev 20:11-14
Kidnapping	YES	Not specified in the New Covenant, but most certainly still a sin.	Exo 21:16 Deu 24:7
Murder	YES	YES	Exo 21:12-17 Lev 24:17-22 Num 35:16ff
Parents, disobedience to	YES	YES	Exo 21:15ff Deu 21:18ff
Prophets, false	YES	False prophecy is still a sin.	Deu 13:5 Deu 18:20
Prostitution (daughter of a priest)	YES	YES	Lev 21:9
Rape	YES	Not specified in the New Covenant, but most certainly still a sin.	Deu 22:25
Slavery, forced	YES	Not specified in the New Covenant, but most certainly still a sin.	Exo 21:16
Sorcery, Spiritism, Witchcraft	YES	YES	Exo 22:18 Lev 20:27
Weekly Sabbath, breaking of	YES	> What do you conclude? ▶ see also the study 'Sabbaths Weekly vs. Ceremonial · Differentiation & Application'	Exo 31:14 Exo 35:2 Num 15:32ff
Witness, false	YES	YES - do not lie.	Deu 19:16ff



	Eternal Law Moral Law (10 Commandments) · Laws of CHRIST	Old Covenant Law Ceremonial, Civil and Sacrificial Law
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Our Application	We, who have the SPIRIT dwelling in us, are free from the dominion and condemnation of the Moral Law , but not from its obligation and the consequences of our sinful acts. We do not obey it anymore as a way to obtain righteousness / justification and salvation, but to become conscious of our sin, to advance our sanctification and to please THEOS. The Moral Law can be described as a mirror, or also as railroad tracks. We are driven by the train symbolizing the Good Message and the HOLY SPIRIT, but sometimes require the Law of THEOS to remain in the track for sanctification.	While both Jews and Gentiles are no longer bound by Ceremonial, Civil and Sacrificial Laws , some of the principles behind those particular laws are timeless and should guide our conduct.	
	Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body [...] but present yourselves to THEOS as those who are alive from the dead [...] you are not under Law [of Sin & Death], but under grace . What then? Shall we sin because we are not under Law but under grace? ... Moses writes about the righteousness that is from the law : “The person who does this will live by it.” But the righteousness from faith speaks like this ... if you ... believe in your heart that THEOS raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.	And they have been informed about you [Paul] that you are teaching all the Jews who are among the Gentiles the abandonment of Moses, telling them not to circumcise their children or to live according to our customs [= Ceremonial and Civil Laws]. So, my brothers and sisters, you also died to the law [of Sin and Death] through the body of CHRISTOS ... we have been released from the law so that we serve in the new way of the SPIRIT, and not in the old way of the written code.	Act 21:21 Rom 7:4-6
	Clearly no one who relies on the Law is justified before THEOS, because “the righteous will live by faith.” [...] CHRIST redeemed us from the curse of the Law by becoming a curse for us because it is written, “Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree” [...] So the Law was our guardian until CHRIST came that we might be justified by faith.	... THEOS sent His SON, born of a woman, born under the [Old Covenant] law , to redeem those under the law , that we might receive adoption to the partition [...] You wish to be enslaved by them all over again? Do you are observing special days and months and seasons and years [Ceremonial Law] ? [...] Tell me, you who want to be under the law , are you not aware of what the law says? ...	Gal 4:4-31
	But we know that the [Moral] Law is good, if anyone makes use of it lawfully , knowing this, that the Law is not given for a righteous person but for the lawless and rebellious, for the impious and sinners [...] for murderers, sexually immoral people, homosexuals ...	For He himself is our peace, who made both one and broke down the dividing wall of the partition [...] invalidating the [Jewish] law of commandments in ordinances , in order that He ... might reconcile both in one body to THEOS through the cross, ...	Eph 2:14-16

Not Under Not Outside But Subject	We are still fully 'subject' to the Law of CHRISTOS, but not 'under' the Law, what means not to be under the weight of the Law, not to be under the condemnation of the Law, not to be cursed by the Law and not to suffer the death penalty for certain transgressions of the Law. We are now with CHRISTOS, who forgives us our sins and condemns us only if genuine repentance for on-going and future sins is absent and/or we fall away from Him.		
	Not under the Old Covenant Law, but ...		... Subject to the Law of CHRISTOS
	[Paul] To those under the [weight / condemnation / curse / death of the] Law [Jews; Old Covenant believers] I became as under the Law – although I myself am not under the Law – in order that I may gain those under the Law [so that he might gain Jewish believers to CHRISTOS; reason why he had Timothy still circumcised as per exception].	To those outside the Law [Gentiles; unbelievers] I became as outside the Law – although I am not outside the Law of THEOS, but subject to the Law of CHRISTOS – in order that I may gain those outside the Law .	1Cor 9:20-21
But [only] if you are led by the SPIRIT , you are not under the law.			Gal 5:18

The Law Written On Our Hearts	The New Covenant goes even deeper. In the Old Covenant, people only followed the letter, but were not punished for the spiritual intent of -wanting- to murder or to commit adultery. But in the New Covenant, not only the visible sin is seen by THEOS, but already the spiritual intent (becoming angry or having adulterous lust). In summary, we do not fear direct death anymore, but THEOS now looks deeper into our hearts and IESOUS CHRISTOS will judge us accordingly at the judgment Seat.		
	... “and I will make a New Covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah [...] “I will put my Law in their mind , and upon their heart ; I will write it ...		Jer 31:31-33
	For whenever the Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature the things of the law, these, although they do not have the law, are a law to themselves, who show the work of the law written on their hearts, their conscience bearing witness and their thoughts one after another accusing or even defending them on the day when THEOS judges the secret things of people, according to my Good Message, through CHRISTOS IESOUS.		Rom 2:14-16
	... inscribed not with ink but with the SPIRIT of the living THEOS, not on stone tablets but on tablets of human heart . [...] until today, whenever Moses is read aloud, a veil lies upon their heart , but whenever one turns to KYRIOS, the veil is removed. For this is the covenant that I will decree with the house of Israel after those days, says KYRIOS: I am putting my laws [not Ceremonial Laws] in their minds and I will write them on their hearts , and I will be their THEOS and they will be my people.		2Cor 3:1-18 Heb 8:10

Ten Commandments	The following overview of the 10 commandments shows us the occurrences in the Old Testament / Covenant, and compares those with the commands / reiterations in the New Covenant and our future. It is comprehensive, but not necessarily complete.			
	Exodus 20:2-17 (Full text)	Old Testament & Old Covenant	New Covenant, Our Future	Total
	1 I am KYRIOS your THEOS, who has brought you out from the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage. You shall not have any other (god)s before Me!	>33x Gen 35:1-4; Exo 20:3, 22:20; 23:13; 34:14; Deu 4:19-20, 4:35, 5:7, 6:4, 6:14, 8:19, 11:16, 11:28, 13:6-8, 17:3, 28:14, 30:17; Jos 23:16; 1Kin 8:60, 9:6, 11:10, 2Kin 17:35-38; 2Chr 7:19; Isa 45:5, 45:21; Jer 7:9, 7:18, 13:10, 19:4, 22:9, 25:6, 35:15, 44:8	>3x Mat 4:10; 6:24; Luk 4:8; 1Cor 8:6; 1Tim 2:5	>38x
	2 You shall not make a graven image for yourself, or any likeness in the heavens above, or in the earth beneath, or in the waters under the earth; you shall not bow to them, and you shall not serve them; for I am KYRIOS your THEOS, a jealous THEOS, visiting the iniquity of fathers on sons, on the third and on the fourth generation, to those that hate Me; and doing kindness to thousands, to those loving Me, and to those keeping My commandments.	>3x Exo 20:4-6; Deu 5:8-10; Isa 42:8	>6x Act 15:20; 1Cor 6:9-10; Gal 5:19-20; Eph 5:5; Col 3:5; 1Joh 5:21	>9x
	3 You shall not take the name of KYRIOS your THEOS in vain; for KYRIOS will not leave unpunished the one who takes His name in vain!	>2x Exo 20:7; Deu 5:11	>4x Mat 5:33; 1Tim 6:1; Jam 2:7, 5:12	>6x
	4 Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy; six days you shall labor and do all your work; and the seventh day is a Sabbath to KYRIOS your THEOS; you shall not do any work, you, and your son, and your daughter, your male slave and your slave-girl, and your livestock, and your stranger who is in your gates. For in six days KYRIOS made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all which is in them, and He rested on the seventh day, on account of this KYRIOS blessed the Sabbath day and sanctified it.	>20x (110x Mentioned in OT) Gen 2:3; Exo 16:28-30, 20:8-11, 23:12, 31:13-17, 34:21, 35:2-3; Lev 19:3-30, 23:3; Num 15:32-36; Deu 5:12-15; Neh 9:14, 10:31-33, 13:15-22; Isa 56:2-6, 58:13; Jer 17:21-27; Eze 20:12-24, 44:24, 46:1-12	>4x (6ix Mentioned in NT; proportionally ~2x as often) Act 1:12; Heb 4:9; Future: Isa 66:21-23; Mat 24:20 General: 1Joh 2:6	>24x (171x Mentioned)
	5 Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long on the land which KYRIOS your THEOS is giving to you!	>7x Gen 9:24-25; Exo 20:12; Deu 5:16; Pro 1:8, 13:1, 30:17; Mal 1:6	>7x Mat 15:4-9; 19:19; Mar 10:19; Luk 18:20; Rom 1:29-30; Eph 6:1-3; 2Tim 3:2).	>14x
	6 You shall not murder!	>7x Gen 4:10-13; 9:6; Exo 20:13, 21:12; Lev 24:17; Num 35:31; Deu 5:17	>6x Mat 5:21-22; Joh 8:44; Rom 13:9; 1Pet 4:15; 1Joh 3:12; Rev 21:8	>13x
	7 You shall not commit adultery!	>2x Gen 39:9; Exo 20:14, 22:7; Deu 5:18; Pro 6:23-24, 32	>10x Mat 5:27-28; 19:18; Mar 10:11ff, 19; Luk 16:18; 18:20; Rom 7:2-3; 13:9; 1Cor 6:9-10; Heb 13:4	>12x
	8 You shall not steal!	>5x Exo 20:15; Lev 6:2, 19:11; Deu 5:19; Jer 7:9-11	>7x Mat 19:18; Mar 10:19; Luk 18:20; Rom 13:9; Eph 4:28; 1Pet 4:15; Rev 9:21	>12x
	9 You shall not testify a witness of falsehood against your neighbor!	>1x Gen 20:2; Exo 20:16; Deu 5:20	>4x Act 5:1-22; Col 3:9; 1Tim 1:9-11; Rev 21:8	>7x
	10 You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male slave, or his slavegirl, or his ox, or his ass, or anything which belongs to your neighbor!	>4x Gen 34:29; Exo 20:17; Deu 5:21; 7:25	>8x Luk 12:15; Col 3:5; Rom 1:29; 7:7; 13:9; Eph 5:3-5; Col 3:5; 1Tim 6:6-10	>12x

The Great Commandment	We are to obey the Great Commandment and thus fulfill (= obey; no finality; see Rom 13:10 below) the 10 Commandments . The (2) Great Commandment(s) do not abolish the 10 Commandments , but “summarize” (Rom 13:9) them.		
	Dear friends, I am not writing a new commandment [to love THEOS and others] to you, but an old commandment which you have had from the beginning . The old commandment is the message which you have heard .		1Joh 2:7
	Dear friends, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before THEOS, and whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do what is pleasing in his sight . And this is His commandment: [1, Love THEOS] that we believe in the name of his Son IESOUS CHRISTOS and [2] love one another , just as He commanded us. And the one who keeps His commandments resides in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He resides in us: by the SPIRIT whom He has given to us.		1Joh 3:21-24
The Law Of CHRISTOS	And now I ask you, lady (not as if I were writing a new commandment to you, but one that we have had from the beginning) , that we should love one another . And this is love: that we walk according to His commandments. This is the commandment, just as you have heard from the beginning , so that you should walk in it.		2Joh 1:5-6

1 - First, Love THEOS (Our Obligations to THEOS)			
“Teacher, which Command (is) great(est) in the Law ?” And He was revealing to him: “ You shall love KYRIOS your THEOS, with all your heart and with all your soul, and with all your understanding.’ This is the great(est) and first Command.	Mat 22:36-38 Mar 12:29-30 Luk 10:25-27	Hear, O Israel, KYRIOS our THEOS is one KYRIOS. And you shall love KYRIOS your THEOS with all your mind , and with all your soul, and all your strength. And these words, all that I command you this day, shall be in your heart and in your soul.	Deu 6:4-6
If you fulfill the first Great Commandment and love THEOS more than yourself, then you will consequently . . .	I II III IV	(1) . . . not have other (god)s! (Object of Worship)	Exo 20:2-9
		(2) . . . not worship Him through images or idols! (Manner of Worship)	
		(3) . . . not take His name in vain! (Attitude of Worship)	Deu 5:6-15
		(4) . . . remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy! (Time of Worship)	
2 - Second, Love Your Neighbor (Our Obligations to Men)			
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.”	Mat 22:39 Mar 12:31	‘Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against anyone among your people, but love your neighbor as yourself! ’ I am KYRIOS.	Lev 19:18
“If however, you desire to enter into life, keep the Commands! ” He asked Him: “Which?” And IESOUS spoke: “This - You shall not murder! [6] You shall not commit adultery! [7] You shall not steal! [8] You shall not bear false witness! [9] Esteem father and mother! [5] And you shall love your neighbor as yourself! !”			Mat 19:17-19
“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another . By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another .”			Joh 13:34-35
Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another , for the one who loves someone else has fulfilled the Law . For the Commandments , [7] “You shall not commit adultery, [6] you shall not commit murder, [8] you shall not steal, [10] you shall not covet,” and if there is any other Commandment , are summed up in this statement: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself! .” Love does not commit evil against a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the Law .			Rom 13:8-10
Children, obey your parents in KYRIOS, for this is right. “Honor your father and mother” [5] (which is [not was] the first Commandment with a promise), “in order that it may be well with you, and you may live a long time on the earth.”			Eph 6:1-3
If you fulfill the second Great Commandment and love your neighbor as yourself, then you will consequently . . .	V VI VII VIII IX X	(5) . . . Honor your father and your mother!	Exo 20:12-17
		(6) . . . not commit murder against your neighbor!	
		(7) . . . not commit adultery against him or her!	Deu 5:16-21
		(8) . . . not steal from him or her!	
		(9) . . . not bear false witness against him or her!	
		(10) . . . not covet anything that belongs to him or her!	Mat 5:22-40

CHRISTOS Intensified The Moral Law	The 6 ‘ You have heard – but I to say to you ’ statements in Matthew.		
	Many Christian pastors teach today that IESOUS put all the laws (without differentiation) away and made Christianity easy. This is contrary to Matthew 5, where it becomes clear that IESOUS, despite of having abolished Old Covenant Law and death penalties for all sets of laws, intensified the relevance of the Moral Law (10 commandments) written on stone.		
	[1] You heard that it was declared to the first men: You shall not murder. [...] But I say to you , that anyone being enraged by his brother, will be subject to judgment ...		Mat 5:21-22
	[2] You heard that it was declared: You shall not commit adultery. But I say to you , that anyone looking at a married woman so as to desire her, already committed adultery with her in his heart.		Mat 5:27
Instructions	[3] It was also declared: Whoever should abandon his wife, must give her a certificate of divorce. But I say to you , that anyone who should abandon his wife [...] (even) makes her commit adultery ...		Mat 5:31-32
	[4] Furthermore, you heard that it was declared to the first men: You shall not swear [...] But I say to you , do not [even] swear at all ...		Mat 5:33
	[5] You have heard that it was declared: Eye for eye [...] But I say to you: Do not [even] withstand evil ...		Mat 5:38-39
	[6] “ You heard that it was declared: You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy. But I say to you: Love your enemies ...		Mat 5:43-44
Keep the Commandments!	Many will say to me in that day: “KYRIOS KYRIOS, did we not prophesy in your name? And in your name we have cast out demons, and in your name we did many deeds of power!” [...] I never knew you. Depart from me, those committing lawlessness. ’		Mat 7:21-23
	And He spoke to him: “Why do you ask me concerning the good? One is Good. “If however, you desire to enter into life, keep the Commands! ”		Mat 19:17
	Therefore no one will be declared righteous lawfully by the works of the law [sacrifices, ...]; rather, through the Law we become conscious of our sin. [...] Do we, then, nullify the Law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, we uphold the Law .		Rom 3:20-31
	Is the law sinful? Certainly not! Nevertheless, I would not have known what sin was had it not been for the law . For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, “You shall not covet.” [...] So then, the law is holy, and the Commandment is holy, righteous and good.		Rom 7:12
	But if you show partiality , you commit sin, and thus are convicted by the [Moral] Law [of CHRISTOS to love your neighbor] as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole [Moral] Law but stumbles in one point only has become guilty of all of it. [...] Now if you do not commit adultery but you do murder , you have become a transgressor of the [Moral] Law .		Jam 2:9-11
	My little children, these things I write to you, that you may not sin: and if any one may sin, an advocate we have with the FATHER, IESOUS CHRISTOS, a righteous One, and He – he is a propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the whole world, and in this we know that we have known Him, if His commands we may keep; he who is saying, ‘I have known Him,’ and His command is not keeping, a liar he is, and in him the truth is not; and whoever may keep His Word, abide in him the love of the Father both now and forever ; in this we know that in Him we are. He who is saying in Him he does remain, ought according as He walked also himself so to walk.		1Joh 2:1-6
	For this is the love of THEOS: that we keep His Commandments . And His Commandments are not burdensome, because everyone who is fathered by THEOS conquers the world.		1Joh 5:3-4
	Here is the patient endurance of the saints, those who keep the Commandments of THEOS and the faith in IESOUS .		Rev 14:12



Eternal & 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)	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 worshiped their theos. [...] THEOS said to Moses, “Take all the leaders of the people and kill them ...	Num 25:1-4
	Circumcision			
Selected Laws Comparison Old / New Covenant	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 Gal 5:2	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.	Gen 17:11
	Beware of the dogs, beware of the evil workers, beware of the mutilation. 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 ...	Php 3:2-3	Any uncircumcised male, who has not been circumcised in the flesh, will be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant."	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 ...	Col 2:11		
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	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.	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	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.	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.	Rom 14:20-21	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	Exo 22:31
	... abstain from food polluted by idols, from the meat of strangled animals [those that cannot be entirely bled out] and from blood.	Act 15:20	Only you shall not eat raw flesh with blood in it.	Gen 9:4
► 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	“I have swept away your offenses like a cloud, your sins like the morning mist. Return to me, for I have redeemed you.”	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	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.	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	Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions.	Psa 25:7
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	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, ...	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	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.	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		
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	KYRIOS said to Moses, “Speak to the Israelites and say to them: [...] A tithe of everything from the land [...] belongs to KYRIOS; it is holy to KYRIOS. [...] Every tithe of the herd and flock every tenth animal that passes under the shepherd's rod will be holy to KYRIOS.	Lev 27:1-30
	They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.	Act 2:45		
	'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'	Act 20:35		
► 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.	Jam 2:11	“And I will require the blood of anyone who takes another person's life.	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	But if there is serious injury, you are to take life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, ...	Exo 21:23
			“Whoever takes a human life shall surely be put to death:	Lev 24:17
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	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.	Exo 31:15
	... and on the Sabbath day He [IESOUS] went into the synagogue, as was His custom.	Luk 4:16	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.	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	Ceremonial / 'Extraordinary' Sabbaths (Feasts, 7th Year, 50th Jubilee Year)	
	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	... 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
	... Consequently a Sabbath rest remains for the people of THEOS ...	Heb 4:1-11		
► see also the separate study 'Topics – Sabbath'.				
Sacrifices & 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 ..	Dan 9:27	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 ...	Exo 25:2-7
	They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need.	Act 2:45	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.	Lev 4:27-31
	... 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 20:35		
	... must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need.	Eph 4:28		
	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.	1Pet 2:4-5		
	... He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.	1Joh 2:2		
~1500 Oral / Fence Laws	IESOUS also rebuked Pharisees and teachers of religious law, who added over the centuries hundreds of religious traditions to THEOS' law and even considered them equally important. Traditions are not bad in themselves, but should never be elevated to a sacred standing and should never suppress good deeds as e.g. a healing on a Weekly Sabbath. (► more details in the addendum)			
	And answering, He said to them: "And for what reason do you overstep the command of THEOS for the sake of your oral tradition? [...] This people honor me with the mouth, yet have their heart far away from me. And in vain they worship me, teaching as doctrines commands of men.'			Mat 15:3-9
	And all their works they do to be seen by men. For they broaden their phylacteries [little boxes placed on foreheads; based on misinterpretation of Exo 13:9,16] and enlarge the fringes. [correctly based on Num 15:38, but made longer to impress people].			Mat 23:5
	... they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions which they have received and hold fast to – for example, the washing of cups and pitchers and bronze kettles and dining couches. And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat their bread with unclean hands?”			Mar 7:4-5
	“Yes,” said IESOUS, “what sorrow also awaits you experts in religious law! For you crush people with unbearable religious demands, and you never lift a finger to ease the burden.			Luk 11:46
Epilogue	Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of KYRIOS your THEOS ...			Deu 4:2
	All of the things that I am commanding you, you must diligently observe; you shall not add to it, and you shall not take away from it."			Deu 12:32
	Therefore I loved your commandments more than gold, even fine gold.			Psa 119:127
	Every word of THEOS is flawless; He is a shield for him who takes refuge in Him. Do not add to His words lest He rebuke you and you be found a liar.			Pro 30:5-6
	And you know that the Scriptures cannot be altered ...			Joh 10:35
	... the Gentiles, who do not have the Law [those people who have never seen a bible / people living in isolated civilizations], do by nature the things of the Law, [...] who show the work of the Law written on their hearts, their conscience bearing witness and their thoughts one after another accusing or even defending them on the day when THEOS judges the secret things of people, according to my Good Message, through CHRISTOS IESOUS.			Rom 2:14-16
	Now that all has been heard, here is the final conclusion: Fear THEOS and obey His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.			Ecc 12:13
	Thomas Lorenz, Greater Vancouver, 2019 (Updated 09/2026)			



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