

Reason Why

When Jesus was in Jerusalem for a Jewish festival the Jews were upset with Him because He healed a cripple on the Sabbath. The action was inappropriate as far as the Jews were concerned... because of the Law of Moses. It did not matter that the cripple had suffered like that for 38 years. What was more important to those Jews who were zealous for the law and their traditions was that the law was observed. This blatant lack of empathy for the suffering and those trapped in situations beyond their control is one of the greatest faults of all who are confident in their righteousness before God and seek only to gratify their own needs and praises before God. As it was for them, so it is for us now.

Just as the Jews were upset with Jesus for healing a cripple on the Sabbath because it broke the law and their traditions instead of rejoicing that there was such a miracle in the midst of their feast, so likewise, the religious church has been far more concerned about things like women in ministry than our inability to heal the sick or multiply the food. And like Jesus, elect, many things that you will do when the church is having a celebration will cause them to persecute you for breaking their laws and traditions.

As those Jews increased their persecution of Jesus by John 5.16 because He said, "My Father is always at His work to this very day, and I, too, am working,"¹ it came to the place where Jesus had to end the conversation, saying, "But do not think I will accuse you before the Father. Your accuser is Moses, on whom your hopes are set. If you believed Moses, you would believe Me, for he wrote about Me. But since you do not believe what he wrote, how are you going to believe what I say?"²

Consider the ineptitude of the Jews at John 5 and our present ineptitude. They had a festival, of which Jesus joined in and performed a miracle that should have added to the joy of the festival... but instead they broke it down to a doctrinal dispute about the proper keeping of the Sabbath. That is what happens when you have people who say they believe but do not believe what is written. For them, their belief and faith are not anchored to the written – a faith that allows them to pick and choose what suits them and reject what they do not like. Those Jews of John 5 chose to adhere to the Sabbath but refused to adhere to what is written about Jesus by Moses. Likewise, we have been guilty and remain guilty of the same discriminating cherry-picking faith in our practices and doctrines. We believe in Jesus but not in everything He said. We believe in Moses but not in what he wrote.

The proof of this lays in our attitude to our practice of the words of Jesus about His flesh and blood. The church has placed such emphasis on the eating of the flesh and drinking of the blood of Christ that it has been ritualised beyond recognition. Where it started as a simple loaf of bread broken to be shared amongst diners and a cup of wine likewise, it has now become a solemn queue of appropriately attired people with an appropriate facial expression and posture lining up before a similarly appropriately attired person of appropriate facial expression handing out specially minted wafers appropriately sealed and wine from a special cup after some laws of Moses that have been retained are inappropriately practised or before the inappropriate partial observance of the Mosaic Law of tithing.

The failure to exclude all practice of the Law of Moses from those who have eaten the flesh and drunk the blood is the proof that though we believe the Jesus Moses wrote about, we do not believe what Moses wrote. For if we truly did, then we would have upheld the law he wrote, even as we put our faith in the One he prophesied about.

For if indeed those who profess to serve and believe in the One Moses wrote of and prophesied of and who also uphold what Moses wrote, would have known, acknowledged and understood that what Moses wrote down in Leviticus 17.10-14 as God dictated it to him would mean that we, the church, are cut off from God by the law according to the law and have no access to God through the law but only by faith in Christ through grace. The proof of that would have been the total absence of the practice of the traditions of the Mosaic Law, including tithing and the things that James recommended.

However, our stubborn adherence to the obsolete, whilst being a part of the Law, is like new wine poured into old wineskins and like a patch of new cloth sewn over the old, and things are spoilt and useless. This love of the Mosaic tradition and practice, whilst refusing to believe what Moses wrote by those who profess to be in Christ, is the reason why Jesus can still say to all of us, any of us, "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by His own authority."³ For when you show by your actions that you really do not believe what is written, then that which is written is denied you no matter what

¹ John 5.17

² John 5.45-47

³ Acts 1.7

your confession is. For this reason Jesus often said to Satan and to the Jews, **"It is written..."** A person who has not in mind the things of God but of men, being a Satan, may believe God but will go against what is written... for what is written is the will and therefore the mind of God.

Our love of the partial observance of the Mosaic Law, contrary to the teachings of Christ, puts us in the worst of both worlds. It denies us the benefits of the New Covenant, for we have violated it by mixing the old with the new, and it prevents us from upholding the old as to honour it and therefore enforce it for those who are still under it. James the Younger's recommendations, the teachings from his men,⁴ and the teachings and practices of the Nicolaitans have effectively neutralised the power of the New Covenant for those who seek it, and have made a mockery of the old for those who uphold it... allowing religious expressions that are a curious mix of both, which is a monstrosity to both.

The restoration of the command and the willingness of those whom the Holy Spirit has elected to adhere to it in all holiness so that Jesus is finally listened to without any distraction from Moses and Elijah have put James the Younger in his proper place. But far more importantly than that, the holiness that is now applied to the words of Jesus and the honouring of what Moses wrote in such places as Leviticus 5.1, Leviticus 17 and Leviticus 26 have also allowed the Law of Moses to be upheld for the sake of those who submit themselves fully to it that they may be blessed, and for those who have cursed themselves by insisting on only partially observing it to receive their due reward as well.

However, what does this have to do with knowing the set times? Much, for **anyone who does not believe what Moses has written has not believed God when He first set time in place.** For it is Moses who wrote: **In the beginning God created the Heavens and the Earth. ... And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and He separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day," and the darkness He called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning—the first day.**⁵

It was Moses who wrote for us God's account of creation and the six days He took to do it... and if you do not believe what Moses wrote in Leviticus 17.14 about the eating of blood and what he actually said in Deuteronomy 27.26 – **"Cursed is the man who does not uphold the words of this law by carrying them out"** – then neither will you be allowed to believe in the times set in Genesis 1. **Without the ability to believe in the times set in Genesis 1 as being true, you would never come to know the rest of the times God has set by His own authority.** And so the knowledge of God's timing remains a mystery to so many who call themselves Christians, for they have not believed what Moses wrote. If you do not believe the entirety of what Moses wrote as true, then even if someone did tell you the actual set times, you would not have the ability to believe... so that you too will be like one whom Christ spoke of, **"...they may be ever seeing but never perceiving, and ever hearing but never understanding; otherwise they might turn and be forgiven!"**⁶

Jesus has told us, elect, **"I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in Me will do what I have been doing."**⁷ And one thing Jesus did... He always knew the right time by God. He knew God's set times for Him and so likewise, beyond the miracles and beyond the signs and wonders, those who have faith in Jesus can also come to know the set times of God for them.

When Satan (one who has in mind not the things of God but of men) tempted Jesus, each time Jesus quoted what Moses wrote and said in Deuteronomy 8.3, 6.13 and 6.16 rather than something His Father said in Leviticus. The use of the words of Moses by Jesus against Satan was the proof that Jesus Himself believed all that Moses wrote and Jesus was practising what He believed. **That absolute upholding of the truth in what Moses wrote meant that Jesus also absolutely upheld what is written in Genesis 1 when God set time in place according to His schedule and understanding and not ours.**

That is what availed to Jesus the right to know the set times of God... by faith and by law. Likewise now, as we put all satans and all things satanic behind us and uphold the truth of what is written in Leviticus 5.1 – **"If a person sins because he does not speak up when he hears a public charge to testify regarding something he has seen or learned about, he will be held responsible"** – as the means by which Jesus achieved the transfer of our sins to Himself without Himself sinning; and that which is written in Leviticus 17.14 – **"You must not eat the blood of any creature, because the life of every creature is its blood; anyone who eats it must be cut off"** – as the means by which we who have drunk the blood and eaten the flesh of Jesus live His life without being under the power of the Law of Moses; and that which is written in Leviticus 26.14-16 – **"But if you will not listen to Me and carry out all these commands, and if**

⁴ Galatians 2.12

⁵ Genesis 1.1-5

⁶ Mark 4.12

⁷ John 14.12

you reject My decrees and abhor My laws and fail to carry out all My commands and so violate My covenant, then I will do this to you: I will bring upon you sudden terror, wasting diseases and fever that will destroy your sight and drain away your life" – as the means and reason why those who call themselves 'Christians' but do not listen to Jesus and/or practise the continuous forgiveness of sins by which they will fall ill and are cursed... so too will we come out of the wilderness, and not just be filled with the Holy Spirit but be full of His power as Jesus was when He emerged from the desert.

For those who, like Jesus, can hold onto the truth of what Moses wrote as Jesus held onto the truth of what Moses said, then the time has come and the set times will not be a mystery to them. And these words of Jesus will be lived by the elect: "Away from Me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only.'"⁸

The time has come... worship God in spirit and in truth, for He has sought you out.

⁸ Matthew 4.10