



Basic Bible Course

by Ira Y. Rice, Jr.

Christians are NOT Governed by the OLD Testament (Part 2)



Lesson Five

INTRODUCTION: In our first study of Christians not being governed by the Old Testament, we learned many things:

(1) That Jesus taught a “NEW garment” piece is NOT PUT UPON AN “OLD”; neither is “NEW wine” put into “OLD bottles” (Luke 5:36-39).

(2) That Christians have been made “DEAD TO” the law as well as “DELIVERED FROM” it (Rom. 7:1-7).

NOTE: Verse 7 says *WHICH* law—the law that said, “THOU SHALT NOT COVET.”

(3) Whereas the **FIRST LAW** was written with the “FINGER” of God **ON STONE**, Christians are written, **NOT WITH INK OR ON STONE**, but with the “SPIRIT” of God “in fleshly tables of the **HEART**” (2 Cor. 3).

(4) The law that was “**WRITTEN AND ENGRAVEN IN STONES**” was “**GLORIOUS.**”

(5) What was “**GLORIOUS**” Paul declares was “**DONE AWAY,**” “**ABOLISHED.**”

(6) What “**REMAINS**” is NOT what was “**GLORIOUS,**” but what is “**RATHER GLORIOUS**” or “**MUCH MORE...GLORIOUS,**” i.e., the **NEW** testament, of which Christians are said to be “ministers.”

(7) From Galatians 4 through 6 we learned that Christ “**REDEEMED**” them that were under the law.

(8) The **LAW FROM MOUNT SINAI**, we identified as “**THE BONDWOMAN**”; and Galatians 4:30 said, “**CAST OUT THE BONDWOMAN.**”

(9) Christians are children not of the “**bondwoman**” (old testament but of the “**FREE**” (NEW TESTAMENT).

(10) **EPHESIANS 2** showed us that the “**MIDDLE WALL,**” which was “**THE LAW OF COMMANDMENTS CONTAINED IN ORDINANCES**” (v. 15) has been “**BROKEN DOWN,**” “**ABOLISHED,**” “**SLAIN.**”

(11) This same **HANDWRITING OF ORDINANCES, THE LAW**, Col. 2 said, was “**BLOTTED OUT,**” “**TAKEN OUT OF THE WAY,**” and “**NAILED TO THE CROSS.**”

In **TODAY’S** study, we shall **COMPLETE OUR INVESTIGATION** of the New Testament teaching that **CHRISTIANS ARE NOT GOVERNED BY THE OLD TESTAMENT...**

I. HEBREWS 6 Through 10:9—

- A. The writer speaks of those who, through faith, “INHERIT THE PROMISES” (Heb. 6:12).
1. The “PROMISES” were made to Abraham (v. 13).
 2. God’s “PROMISE” unto Abraham’s “HEIRS” was confirmed by an oath (v. 17).
 3. In fulfilling this “PROMISE” we have an HIGH PRIEST, even JESUS, whose priesthood is “*after the order of Melchisedec,*” who is our fore-runner into heaven, i.e., “that within the veil” (v. 20).
 4. Melchisedec and his priesthood are described (7:1-10).
- B. *Perfection* is NOT BY THE LEVITICAL PRIESTHOOD (v. 11).
1. Under this priesthood “THE LAW” was received.
 2. However this priesthood was INSUFFICIENT, because there was “FURTHER need” for “ANOTHER PRIEST” *after the order of Melchisedec* and *not after the order of Aaron* (i.e., not after the Levitical priesthood).
- C. Because the *priesthood* was changed, “THE LAW” of necessity ALSO WAS CHANGED (v. 12).
1. The reason for this was that the OLD TESTAMENT LAW was administered by priests *out of the tribe of Levi*.
 2. This was *ordained by God* through Moses.
 3. Our Lord, Jesus Christ, sprang out of JUDA, *not out of Levi* (v. 14).
 4. Of the tribe of JUDA, Moses spoke NOTHING concerning priesthood.
 5. So, since God made Jesus our “*high priest*”—and *Jesus could not be a priest under the ten-commandment law* given by God through Moses—this CHANGE IN THE PRIESTHOOD necessitated *also* A CHANGE OF THE LAW.
- D. The “COMMANDMENT GOING BEFORE” (i.e., THE LAW) was DISANNULLED (v. 18).
1. Three reasons are ascribed (v. 19):
 - a. The law was weak.
 - b. The law was unprofitable.
 - c. The law made nothing perfect.
- E. Although “THE LAW made NOTHING PERFECT,” verse 19 says the “BRINGING IN OF A BETTER HOPE” DID (MAKE PERFECT).
NOTE: A “BETTER HOPE” than WHAT?—than the hope extended by the TEN-COMMANDMENT LAW.
- F. We “DRAW NIGH UNTO GOD” by the “BETTER HOPE,” not by the law (v. 19).
NOTE: Let us fasten our attention on the word “BETTER.” No contention is made that the law which came from God via Moses was *not good*—rather that what God gave through Christ is *BETTER*. Why anyone should cling avidly to something *only good*, when he *could* exchange it for something that is *BETTER* is hard to understand. Yet many exhaust themselves trying to prove that Christians are governed by the *Old testament*. From the foregoing we see actually, that CHRISTIANS DRAW NIGH UNTO GOD by a “BETTER” hope than the hope offered by the old-testament, ten-commandment law.
- G. Jesus, being made a priest FOREVER with an OATH, is our surety of a “BETTER” covenant (v. 22).
1. The *Levitical priesthood* was “*changeable*” by reason of *death* (v. 23).
 2. *Jesus’* priesthood is “*unchangeable*” (v. 24).
 3. Jesus was made a priest by the “word of the oath” (v. 28—compare v. 21).
 - a. The “word of the oath” was SINCE the law (v. 28).

NOTE: The word “SINCE” in “SINCE THE LAW” implies that the TEN-COMMANDMENT LAW HAD ENDED BEFORE THE “WORD OF THE OATH” WAS GIVEN.

- H. JESUS CHRIST is OUR high priest (8:1).
1. As such, he is a minister of the “TRUE” TABERNACLE (v. 2).
 2. The Lord (not man) pitched this tabernacle.
 3. The Levitical priests served unto the “*example*” and “*shadow*” of heavenly things (v. 5).
 4. CHRIST’S ministry is “MORE EXCELLENT” than theirs (v. 6).
 5. Two reasons are given:
 - a. He is mediator of a “BETTER COVENANT” (v. 6).
 - b. This covenant is established upon “BETTER PROMISES” (v. 6).
- I. IF the FIRST covenant (i.e., the TEN-COMMANDMENT LAW) had been FAULTLESS, then NO PLACE SHOULD HAVE BEEN SOUGHT FOR THE SECOND (v. 7).
1. God found fault with those under the FIRST covenant.
 2. God promised to make a NEW covenant (v. 8).
 3. The NEW covenant was NOT TO BE ACCORDING TO THE FIRST COVENANT (v. 9).
 4. By saying “a NEW covenant,” God made the FIRST covenant “OLD” (v. 13).

NOTE: The writer of Hebrews, thus, has led the Hebrew mind along carefully, patiently, and painstakingly, until by this point he can announce that the “OLD” was ready to “VANISH AWAY” (v. 13). Next he describes many things pertaining to the “old” or “first” covenant, which he wishes understood as vanished away...

- J. The first covenant had (9:1-5)—
1. Ordinances of divine service
 2. a worldly sanctuary
 3. tabernacle
 4. candlestick
 5. shewbread
 6. second veil
 7. golden censer
 8. ark of the covenant
 9. manna
 10. Aaron’s rod
 11. tables of the covenant
 12. cherubims
 13. mercy seat
 14. blood

NOTE THIS PARTICULARLY! Remember that the TEN COMMANDMENTS WERE ON THOSE TABLES OF COVENANT!

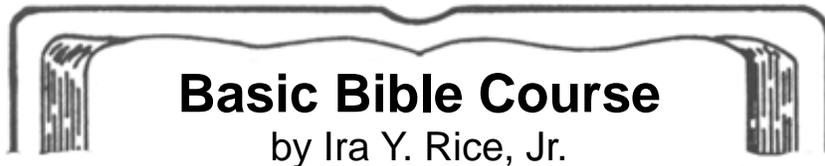
- K. The way into the “holiest of all” was not yet made manifest while the first tabernacle was yet standing (v. 8).
1. The tabernacle was a “figure” for the time then present (v. 9).
 2. Gifts and sacrifices were offered in this tabernacle.
 3. These could not make the conscience “perfect” (v. 9).
 4. They could only in
 - a. meats
 - b. drinks

- c. divers washings
- d. carnal ordinances
- 5. These continued UNTIL THE TIME OF REFORMATION.
- L. Christ, however, became an high priest by a “GREATER” and “MORE PERFECT” tabernacle (v. 11).
 - 1. He entered into the holy place BY HIS OWN BLOOD (v. 12).
 - 2. CHRIST’S BLOOD is FAR SUPERIOR to the blood of bulls and goats, as under the first covenant (vv. 13-14).
- M. Christ is the mediator of the NEW testament (v. 15).
 - 1. His death redeemed the transgressions committed under the FIRST testament (v. 15).
 - 2. This NEW TESTAMENT was NOT IN FORCE until AFTER CHRIST’S DEATH (vv. 16-17).
- N. The law which came by Moses was dedicated with blood (vv. 18-22).
 - 1. “Every precept” was first spoken.
 - 2. Then it was dedicated with blood.
 - 3. GOD (NOT MOSES ONLY, as some content) enjoined every word of this testament in ALL ITS PARTS—MORAL, CIVIL, RELIGIOUS, CEREMONIAL—ALL.
 - 4. THE LAW contained only PATTERNS of heavenly things.
 - a. These PATTERNS were purified by *animal’s* blood.
 - b. The HEAVENLY THINGS THEMSELVES had to be purified with “BETTER sacrifices” (v. 23).
 - 5. HOLY PLACES MADE BY HANDS were only FIGURES of the true (v. 24).
- O. Christ is entered INTO HEAVEN ITSELF now to appear before God for us (v. 24).
 - 1. Christ has offered Himself ONCE FOR ALL.
 - a. NOT as a high priest under the law—once a year.
- P. The law (by Moses) had a “SHADOW” of good things to come.
 - 1. Sacrifices under it could not make its worshipers perfect (10:1).
 - 2. Blood of bulls and goats (as under the law) could not take away sins (v. 4).
 - 3. God had no pleasure in sacrifice and offering, which were offered by the law (vv. 5-8).
- Q. God therefore TOOK AWAY the “FIRST” (law, testament, or covenant) that He might ESTABLISH the “SECOND” (v. 9).

RECAPITULATION: From our study of TODAY’S lesson, in addition to what we have already learned in Lesson 4, please observe the following salient points:

- (1) The “heirs” of God’s promise to Abraham (i.e., Christians) have a high priest, Jesus Christ.
- (2) Jesus sprang out of the tribe of Juda.
- (3) Because the law was administered by priests out of the tribe of Levi, not Juda, in order for Jesus to be a priest, a change also of the law became necessary.
- (4) Therefore the “commandment going before” (i.e., the law) was “disannulled.”
- (5) This was all right inasmuch as the law “made nothing perfect.”
- (6) The “bringing in of a BETTER HOPE” did (make perfect).
- (7) Christians draw high unto God by the “BETTER HOPE,” rather than by the law.
- (8) This “BETTER HOPE” was brought in by Jesus Christ, who, being made a priest forever with an oath, is our surety of a “BETTER COVENANT.”
- (9) This “word of the oath” was SINCE the law.
- (10) Whereas the Levitical priests served only the “example” and “shadow” of heavenly things, Christ’s ministry is “MORE EXCELLENT” than theirs, since he is the mediator of a “BETTER COVENANT,” established on “BETTER PROMISES.”

- (11) **If the FIRST covenant had been faultless, no place should have been sought for the SECOND.**
- (12) **The SECOND was not to be according to the FIRST.**
- (13) **The first covenant contained many things, including the “TABLES OF THE COVENANT” upon which was written the TEN COMMANDMENTS.**
- (14) **These continued until “the time of reformation.”**
- (15) **But when Christ became a high priest and mediator of the NEW testament, He TOOK AWAY the “first” (law, testament, or covenant) that He might ESTABLISH the “second.”**



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(Part 2)**



Questions on Lesson Five

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

REFERENCE NO. _____

GRADE _____

1. According to Chapter 6 of Hebrews, in fulfilling His “promise” to Abraham, what did God make of Jesus to us? _____
2. Is Jesus’ priesthood after the order of Melchisedec or of Aaron? Which? _____
3. While the old law was yet in force, what tribe supplied the priests for attendance at the altar?

4. Did Jesus Christ spring out of that tribe? _____
5. If Jesus was thus made a priest, being of another tribe, was this a change in the priesthood?

6. If the PRIESTHOOD was changed, was a change also of THE LAW necessary? _____
7. What happened to the “commandment going before” (i.e., the law)? (See Chapter 7:18).

8. List three reasons why the law was “disannulled”:
 - a. _____
 - b. _____
 - c. _____
9. Did the old testament law make anything perfect? _____
10. What DID make perfect? _____
11. By what do Christians “draw nigh to God”? _____
12. Is Jesus, as priest, our surety of the SAME covenant as served by the Levitical priesthood, or of a BETTER covenant? _____
13. Is Jesus’ priesthood “changeable” or “unchangeable”? _____
14. Was the “word of the oath,” by which Jesus was made a priest, BEFORE, DURING, or SINCE the law? _____
15. Why is Jesus’ ministry “MORE EXCELLENT” than that of the Levitical priests?

16. If the FIRST covenant had been faultless, should any place have been sought for the SECOND?

17. Did God promise to make a NEW covenant? _____
18. Was the NEW covenant to be according to the FIRST covenant? _____

- 19. By saying “a NEW covenant,” what did God make of the FIRST? _____
- 20. What was ready to “vanish away”? _____
- 21. Did the “FIRST covenant” have “THE TABLES OF THE COVENANT”? _____
- 22. Did the “TABLES OF THE COVENANT” have the TEN COMMANDMENTS on them, written with the finger of God? _____
- 23. If the “first covenant” had the “tables of the covenant,” and if the “tables of the covenant” had the “ten commandments” written on them with the finger of God, were the “ten commandments,” thus part of the “first covenant:”? _____
- 24. Hebrews 10:9 says, “He TAKETH AWAY THE FIRST, that he may ESTABLISH THE SECOND.” Did the second covenant (the new testament) include the ten commandments?

- 25. Are Christians governed by the NEW or the OLD Testament? _____

DO YOU HAVE A QUESTION? _____

