

Hebrews 7:18

Abolished Law

The book of Hebrews has been systematically demonstrating that the OT law is of NO VALUE to save us. Today we move forward and look at the reality that the Law has been fulfilled and its power over us annulled. It has not been temporarily set aside, to be revived at some later time when a temple of man's devising has been built. It is not on hold, it is not on pause. According to Scripture the law has been abolished. It no longer has the power to harm us, to condemn us for Christ was condemned on our behalf. We have been set free from the bondage of the law forever, and no one who ever comes to God will or has come because the law saved them. For the law has ALWAYS been powerless to save...

Galatians 2:16(NKJV) 16 knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

The good news of the gospel is this: Jesus Christ fulfilled the law on our behalf and God accepted the payment. Therefore we are FREE!

I. UNCONDITIONAL END

- A. The law has changed (v12) and that change has brought in a new priesthood.
- B. But this change is quite radical
 - 1. V12 the word changed is <metathesis> it implies a transformation into something completely new. The word is used here to demonstrate the newness of the priesthood -
 - 2. <metatithemenes> is the word used regarding the priesthood to tie the thought together, it is a change from one state or thing to another with a strong focus on the ending state... having moved irrevocably into that new...
 - 3. But here in verse 18 the word is completely different - here the word used to describe the law is <athetisis> it

is to completely revoke irrevocably, to refuse to recognize the validity of something. God, the law-giver has stated that after Christ has come and completed His work, the law He fulfilled is NO LONGER VALID, EVER!

4. It is an abrogation, an annulling, and total and complete destruction of the law's work so that it might **never** again be of ANY use whatsoever. He has spiked the gun!

C. It was always the will and purpose of the Father that the law and its jurisdiction should have its appointed end. It was only ever really a place holder until the coming of Christ.

D. Since the whole structure of the law was always dependent on TOTAL OBEDIENCE ...

Galatians 3:10(NKJV) 10 For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, “Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them.”

Deuteronomy 27:26(NKJV) 26 ‘Cursed is the one who does not confirm all the words of this law by observing them.’ “And all the people shall say, ‘Amen!’ ”

1. It is easy therefore for us to understand that God never intended to even allow for an amendment to the law, nor for its re-installment at some future date. He promised its end!

Jeremiah 31:34(NKJV) 34 No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.”

E.Jesus also spoke of His role in the end of the law...

II. JESUS FULFILLED THE LAW

A. Jesus promised that He had come to FULFILL the law. In the context of His words, He is promising that the law will be completed and removed.

Matthew 5:17–20

B. Consider just what He is confessing here - nothing will be removed UNTIL all is fulfilled. But after all is fulfilled then removal is not only possible but accomplished in the transformation of the whole of reality brought about in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Because he was raised because of our justification

Romans 4:24–25(NKJV) 24 but also for us. It shall be imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead, 25 who was delivered up because of our offenses, and was raised because of our justification.

C. He was tempted in every manner as we are, and yet He was without sin.

Hebrews 4:15(NKJV) 15 For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.

D. This means that for all our sin, Jesus has stood in our place and taken the full punishment for our rebellions and hatred for God. He did not partake actively in our sin, but did actively receive our punishment.

He did actively bear the weight of the wrath of God for our sin.

E. Absolute imputation -

1. Our sin was counted as His
2. His righteousness is counted as ours
3. We have been counted as dead, and punished in hell for our rebellion. The record of our sin has been expunged.
4. There remains no wrath for us...

2 Corinthians 5:21(NKJV) 21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

5. There is only the promise of transforming glory

2 Corinthians 3:18(NKJV) 18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

III. GOD DECLARES THE LAW IS ABOLISHED

- A. A new message --> The proclamation of the gospel, which tells us it is over

Acts 17:30–31(NKJV) 30 Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men

everywhere to repent, 31 because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead."

- B. A new measure --> If the law remained in force, it would also remain an indictment against God Himself

Romans 3:21-26

- C. A new revelation of a new institution --> The institution of a new order of worship - ie the church

Ephesians 3:8-12

- D. A New, exclusive source of power --> The giving of the Holy Spirit

John 14:17(NKJV) 17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.

Romans 7:6(NKJV) 6 But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the letter.

Romans 8:9(NKJV) 9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now

if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.

E.A New form of fellowship shown in the destruction of the temple

Revelation 21:22(NKJV) 22 But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple.

IV. NO RETURN

- A. If God annuls His own law, and declares it to be without merit and of no value for the redemption of the soul - how much more does He disregard and hate the false worship and nonsense invented by man and declared to be holy...
- B. Since the law has been abolished, it is absolute and utter folly to attempt to gain from it what it could not do even when it was in effect.
- C. The change of our manner of approach to God is something that only God can do - we MUST have the Spirit of Christ or we will fall back into our natural legalistic ideas.
- D. It is hard for us to receive this - thus the constant efforts of the world (and worldly

false Christians) to make the life of the Christian about works

E. Only absolute subjection to Christ can accomplish our need