Next topic: Mirror and Shadow



1223 MIRROR AND SHADOW

Are there contradictions in the Bible? No, there ARE NOT, although there may seem to be.

For example, Jesus Christ spoke in favor of the law in Luke 16:17, and so did the Apostle Paul in Romans 7:7, 12. In spite of this, it seems that the same apostle speaks against the law in Galatians 3:10, 13. Does he contradict himself?

When God created man, He put the principles of His Holy Law in his heart (Genesis 2:16, 17). ("thou shalt not ...").

Man, who was created with a free will, transgressed the law and was expelled from Eden (Genesis 3:24). Man had to die for his sin; but God, in His mercy, provided a temporary substitute, a lamb, which was a symbol of Christ, the Savior of humanity. The skins from the first victims provided clothing for man (Genesis 3:21).

The sacrifice of Abel was accepted. He offered a lamb, while his brother brought the fruit of the land and was rejected by God (Genesis 4:3, 4). To be forgiven, the sinner had to bring an animal to the sanctuary, place his hands on the animal's head, and sacrifice it. This symbolized that his sins were transferred to the animal, which died in his place (Leviticus 4:27-29). All these rites and ceremonies were a shadow or symbol pointing to Christ. For this reason, it is called the Ceremonial Law (Hebrews 10:1).

1. How many types of laws are there?

Besides civil laws of Israel, the Bible describes two other laws:

- a) The Ten Commandments, which can be compared to a mirror showing us our sinful condition.
- b) The ceremonial law, which included the sacrifices, ceremonies and festivals, which were a shadow or symbol of Christ and His work for mankind.

This law was given to man after his fall and was the means of his redemption until the Son of God came to die in this world, in our place.

2. What differences are there between these two laws?

In the box on the back of the page, we will compare the two laws (see now).

CONCLUSION

3. Why were the Ten Commandments not abolished after Christ's death?

In the New and Old Testaments, the mirror of God's Holy was necessary so man could recognize sin. What changed was the way forgiveness was received. In the Old Testament, a lamb, which took the place of the sinner and pointed forward to Christ, had to be sacrificed, while in the New Testament, when we see our sins in relation to the law, we go directly to Christ through faith. When the Savior came, the ceremonial law that represented Him was no longer necessary.

4. What does Paul say about circumcision? Was it a part of the ceremonial law? 1 Corinthians 7:19.

Logic tells us that there are advantages when we live according to the eternal moral code, for God's promises are for those who keep His law. Deuteronomy 5:29; Psalms 119:165.

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My decision: I accept that the Ten Commandments, the law of God; and the law of Moses, the ceremonial law, are two different laws. The first is eternal and the latter is temporal. Q Yes



THE TEN COMMANDMENTS	THE CEREMONIAL LAW
1. They are called the LAW OF GOD (Romans 7:22).	1. It is called Moses' law (Acts 15:5).
2. It was given in Eden (Romans 2:15).	2. It was given after Eden (Galatians 3:19).
3. It was written by God's finger (Exodus 31:18).	3. It was written by Moses (Deuteronomy 31:24).
4. It was written on stone (a durable object).	4. It is a book.
5. It was placed inside the Ark of the Cove- nant, the most sacred place, which is a symbol of the throne of God (Deuteronomy 10:1-5).	5. It was placed next to the Ark of the Covenant (Deuteronomy 31:25, 26).
6. The law is compared to a mirror; it shows our sinful condition (Romans 7:7).	6. The ceremonial law was for the remis- sion or atonement of sins (Hebrews 9:22).
7. It is a way of life that we should abide by (1 Timothy 1:8-10).	7. It was just a symbol that pointed to Christ (Hebrews 9:9).
8. It is eternal, it was not abolished by Christ (Psalms 111:7, 8; Matthew 5:17).	8. It was abolished by Christ (Colossians 2:14).
9. The prophecy said that Jesus would magnify the law (Isaiah 42:21).	9. Paul declares that Jesus abolished the ceremonial law (Ephesians 2:15).
10. He who observes the law of God is called blessed (James 1:25).	10. He who keeps the things written in the book of the law is called cursed. After Christ's death, there is no need for those rituals (Galatians 3:10-13).
11. We will be judged by to the law (James 2:10-12).	11. We should not be judged for what we eat, drink, feast days (ceremonial Sabbaths, etc.) which were a shadow of what was to come (Galatians 2:16, 17).
12. It is possible to keep the Ten Command- ments with the help of God (1 John 5:3).	12. The law of Moses was impossible to keep (Acts 15:10).