

CHAPTER 4

THE LAW GIVEN TO ISRAEL

GOD'S COMMANDS: THE CONDITIONAL MOSAIC LAW SYSTEM

How long were the Israelites at Mt. Sinai? Numbers 10:11

The time spent at Mt. Sinai was important because the Mosaic Law was given to Israel, the people were numbered and put into tribes, the tabernacle was erected, feasts were instituted, animal sacrifices prescribed, dietary laws given, and baptisms were instituted. There are three parts to the Mosaic Law (1) The Commandments Ex. 20, (2) The Judgments Ex. 21-23 and (3) The Ordinances Ex.24-40. These Mosaic Laws were for the MORAL, SOCIAL, and RELIGIOUS life of Israel. God's intention was that Israel would be holy and "clean" in their moral, social, and religious lives so they could be the light of salvation to the Gentile nations. Isaiah 60:2-3

What was Israel to be? Exodus 19:6

To whom was the Mosaic Law given? Romans 9:4

What did Israel say? Exodus 19:8

Why was the Law given? Romans 3:19-20

a. _____ b. _____

Why was the Law called a CONDITIONAL covenant? Exodus 19:5

NOTE:

Conditional means that IF Israel obeyed they would prosper, but IF they turned from God they would be judged. Read of Israel's sin in Judges 2:13 and how God punished Israel in Judges 2:14. Read of Israel's obedience in Joshua 6:2-5 and see how they prospered in Joshua 6:20-21. This conditional pattern was observed throughout the time of the Mosaic Law.

How long did the Law continue? The Mosaic Law was given at Mt. Sinai and continued until the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. See Page 52, Jesus Christ's relationship to the law and Israel, for how Jesus and his apostles observed the Mosaic Law. The Law covered a period of about 2,000 years.

TABERNACLE

What did God tell Moses to erect? Exodus 25:9

How did Moses know how to build the tabernacle? Hebrews 8:5

Where is the true tabernacle which God made? Hebrews 8:1-2,5

Where did Jesus go after He made atonement for sin on the Cross? Hebrews 9:11-12

What is the Lord Jesus Christ doing in the Heavenly Tabernacle? Hebrews 8:1-2

a. _____ b. _____

How did the craftsmen know how to build the tabernacle furniture? Exodus 31:1-3

Before the tabernacle was erected, who served as the priest and offered the animal sacrifices?
Genesis 8:20

Who were chosen to be the priests in the tabernacle? Exodus 28:1,41

Who are Gershom, Merari, and Kohath? Numbers 3:17

How were the needs of the priesthood met? Numbers 18:21

What was the tithe? Leviticus 27:32

What else was given to the Levites? Leviticus 7:34; Numbers 18:21

Who filled the tabernacle after it was completed? Exodus 40:33-34

How did Israel know when to begin their journeys? Exodus 40:36

As you look up the following verses, you will discover the different dwelling places of God.

GOD'S DWELLING PLACES

Where did God dwell during Israel's wilderness wanderings? Exodus 40:34

Where did God dwell during Solomon's day? 2 Chronicles 7:1

Where did God dwell during Jesus Christ's day? Colossians 2:9

Where does God dwell today? 1 Corinthians 6:19

LIFE APPLICATION

Have you trusted Jesus Christ as your Savior? Then, God, the Holy Spirit, lives in you.

SABBATH

God established the Sabbath, the seventh day, Saturday, as Israel's day of worship. The Sabbath rest was instituted so Israel would commemorate God's rest in creation.

To whom was the Sabbath given? Exodus 31:13,16

What happened to an Israelite who worked on the Sabbath? Exodus 31:15

When did the early church meet to worship? Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:2

Why do we worship the Lord on Sunday, the first day of the week? John 20:1-2

FEASTS

God gave the feasts to Israel so they could show their gratitude to the Lord. The feasts were pictures of what Jesus Christ would do for Israel in the future.

1. The Feast of Passover

The first month of the Jewish calendar is Abib. This month falls in both March and April of our calendar. The 14th day of Abib is the first day of Passover.

Why did Israel celebrate this feast? Exodus 12:27

How long did the Passover Feast last? Leviticus 23:5-6

2. The Feast of Unleavened Bread followed Passover. It was a time for the removal of all yeast and leaven (pictures of sin) from the land. It prefigured the burial of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Why did Israel celebrate this feast? Exodus 12:27

How long did the unleavened bread feast last? Leviticus 23:5-6

3. The Feast of First Fruits.

Why did Israel celebrate the Feast of First Fruits? Exodus 34:22
Crops were planted in November/December and harvested in March/April.

During the Passover Feast, on what day was First Fruits celebrated? Leviticus 23:10-11

4. The Feast of Pentecost was celebrated 50 days after Passover.

What was Israel to celebrate? Exodus 23:16

This was the Feast of the Harvest to celebrate the end of the harvest.

5. The Feast of Trumpets was a feast to praise the Lord for the prophetic future regathering of Israel. Leviticus 23:24

6. The Feast or Day of Atonement, 23:26-32; 16:34. This was a picture of the day in which Israel would acknowledge their Messiah and cry out for Him, cf. Zechariah 12:10.

What were the people of Israel not supposed to do on this day?

What were they supposed to do?

How long did the feast last?

7. The Feast of Booths is called Tabernacles.

How would Israel celebrate the Feast of Tabernacles? Leviticus 23:34,41-43

Tabernacles pictured the time when Israel would be in their own land permanently

8. The Feast of Purim. This feast was not one of the great feasts given by God in the book of Leviticus. It was added to the others in the day of Esther.

Why did Israel celebrate the Feast of Purim? Esther 9:26-28

Have you ever considered how the Lord Jesus Christ fulfilled many of these feasts during His earthly ministry to Israel? The others feasts will be fulfilled for Israel in the future.

On what feast did Jesus die? John 19:14

On what feast did Jesus rise from the dead? 1 Corinthians 15:20. The first day AFTER the Sabbath was the first day of the week.

On what feast did Jesus send Israel the prophesied Holy Spirit to prepare them for the harvest? Acts 2:1

In the future, Jesus Christ will return to gather Israel at the Feast of Trumpets. Matthew 24:31

This will be followed by the Feast of Tabernacles when Israel will be permanently in their land and have their own homes. Amos 9:13-15

ANIMAL SACRIFICES

Animal sacrifices were observed before Mt. Sinai but it was the Mosaic Law that prescribed five specific sacrifices for Israel, two were mandatory and three were voluntary. The sacrifices not only showed gratitude but were a necessary condition to maintain the continued fellowship and mercy of God. The sacrifices also expressed the idea of substitution and propitiation. Substitution is the putting of one thing in the place of another. Propitiation means to regain the favor of God. The animal died in the place of the sinner and the shed blood brought at-one-ment, reconciliation with God. Animal sacrifices were observed continually.

Why were animals sacrificed? Hebrews 9:22

How did animal sacrifices picture the work of the Lord Jesus in the future? John 1:29

Why did priests continually offer sacrifices? Hebrews 10:3-4

a. _____ b. _____

What did the death of Christ accomplish? Hebrews 9:12

Why are animal sacrifices no longer needed? Hebrews 10:10,12

Why was the trespass offering made? Leviticus 6:1-6, 25

a. _____ b. _____ c. _____ d. _____

What offering was given as a voluntary act of worship? Leviticus 3:1

How long was this offering to be made unto the Lord? Leviticus 3:17

What offering showed Israel's gratitude for God's provision? Leviticus 2:1-3

LIFE APPLICATION

The animal died as a substitute for the sinning person.

Read: 2 Corinthians 5:21. Tell how Jesus Christ was our substitute.

What did Jesus take of ours? When we trust Him as our Savior, what does He give to us? This is called the "exchanged life."

Think of the grace of God that we experience today in Christ. As Israel had to continually offer animal sacrifices to keep the favor of God, believers today NEVER will be out of favor with God because of Jesus Christ's "once for all" sacrifice on the cross, Hebrews 10:10. What marvelous grace!

DIETARY CHANGES

Adam and Eve ate fruits and vegetables, Genesis 1:29. Noah could eat fruits, vegetables and meat without the blood, Genesis 9:3-4. Israel was commanded to only eat the "clean" meat, fish, birds, and insects. You can easily understand these different commands by knowing that God gave different commands at different times to different groups of people. Remember, as you read, continually ask yourself to WHOM is it being spoken, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, and WHY?

To whom were these new dietary laws given? Leviticus 11:2

Where does the term "clean" animals first appear? Genesis 7:1-2

What was the purpose of the "clean" animals? Genesis 8:20

What two characteristics had to be present before an Israelite was permitted to eat an animal? Leviticus 11:3-4

a. _____ b. _____

Name two characteristics of the edible fish. Leviticus 11:12

a. _____ b. _____

What type of birds could Israel not eat? Leviticus 11:13-19

Name two characteristics of edible insects. Leviticus 11:20-21

a. _____ b. _____

God wanted the nation of Israel to be "clean." Why? Isaiah 60:1-3

Leviticus 11	tells how Israel was to eat "clean" foods.
Leviticus 12-13:46	tells how Israel was to have "clean" bodies.
Leviticus 14:33-57	tells how Israel was to have "clean" houses.
Leviticus 15	tells how Israel was to have "clean" contacts.
Leviticus 16	tells how Israel was to be a "clean" nation.

What can be eaten today in the Church? 1 Timothy 4:4

Why are we to pray and thank God for our food? 1 Timothy 4:5

Does God put conditions on what we can eat today? 1 Timothy 4:4

BAPTISMS

The Old Testament was written in Hebrew and the New Testament was written in Greek. The word "wash" in the Old Testament Hebrew is equivalent to the New Testament Greek word "baptize."

Where does the word "wash" first appear in the Bible? Exodus 29:4

What was the purpose of baptism? Numbers 19:9

What nation was given water baptism as a perpetual statute? Numbers 19:9-10

How were Gentiles (foreigners) received into the camp? Numbers 31:19,23

How were the priests cleansed? Exodus 30:18-20

If the priests were not baptized, what happened to them? Exodus 30:21

How was the baptism for purification from sin performed?

Numbers 19:5 _____

Numbers 19:17 _____

Numbers 19:18 _____

How long were "baptisms" (washings) to continue? Hebrews 9:10-12

Why were washings (baptisms) only needed until Christ? Hebrews 9:12

After Christ offered a "once for all sacrifice for sin" what did He do? Hebrews 10:12

God used water baptism as a visible symbol of the cleansing of Israel from sin. How is our sin forgiven today in the Church? Romans 5:9; 3:24-25

In the future Davidic Kingdom for Israel, how will God forgive sin and impurity? Zechariah 13:1

What did Paul say about water baptism? 1 Corinthians 1:17

Why was Paul glad he only baptized a few people? 1 Corinthians 1:17

There are 5 different words in the Greek New Testament which come from the same root word: bapto, baptistes, baptizo, baptisma, and baptismos. The concordance shows baptizo, baptisma, and baptismos occur a total of 109 times in 91 verses.

Did you know that there are at least 12 kinds of baptism in the Bible? Only five of the twelve are water baptisms. Let us begin the study of the different baptisms. Read the references. As you read, notice WHO is doing the baptizing, WHO is being baptized, and WHY it is being done.

JOHN'S BAPTISM FOR FORGIVENESS OF SIN - (WATER)

Mark 1:4-6; Matthew 21:23-25; John 3:22-23; 4:1; John 10:37-42; Mark 11:29-33; Luke 3:1-22; Luke 7:24-39; Luke 20:1-8; John 1:15-33; and Acts 1:22

Who is doing the baptizing? _____

Who is baptized? _____

Why? _____

JESUS' BAPTISM TO FULFILL ALL RIGHTEOUSNESS - (WATER)

Matthew 3:13-15

Who is doing the baptizing? _____

Who is baptized? _____

Why? _____

Second Corinthians 5:21 tells that Jesus had no sin but He was baptized to fulfill all the requirements of the Law.

CHRIST BAPTIZING WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT - (NOT WATER)

John 1:33; Acts 2:3-4; Luke 3:16; Matthew 3:11-16; Mark 1:8; Acts 1:3-5; and 11:15-16

Who is doing the baptizing? _____

Who is baptized? _____

Why? _____

PENTECOSTAL BAPTISM - (WATER AND A MIRACLE FOLLOWED)

Acts 2:38; 8:12-18; 8:35-39; 9:18-19; 16:14-15; 19:1-8; 22:12-16; Mark 16:14-19; Matthew 28:19; and 1 Corinthians 1:14-17

Who is doing the baptizing? _____

Who is baptized? _____

Why? _____

DEATH BAPTISM - (NOT WATER)

Mark 10:38-39; Luke 12:49-51

Who is doing the baptizing? _____

Who is baptized? _____

Why? _____

BAPTISM FOR THE DEAD - (NOT WATER)

1 Corinthians 15:29-31

Who is doing the baptizing? _____

Who is baptized? _____

Why? _____

THE TYPE BAPTISM OF NOAH'S ARK - (NOT WATER)

1 Peter 3:18-21

Who is doing the baptizing? _____

Who is baptized? _____

Why? _____

BAPTISM OF FIRE - (NOT WATER)

Luke 3:16; Matthew 3:11

Who is doing the baptizing? _____

Who is baptized? _____

Why? _____

MOSES' BAPTISM - (NOT WATER)

1 Corinthians 10:2

Who is doing the baptizing? _____

Who is baptized? _____

Why? _____

TRADITIONAL JEWISH BAPTISMAL CEREMONIES - (WATER)

Luke 11:38; Mark 7:1-8

Who is doing the baptizing? _____

Who is baptized? _____

Why? _____

TRADITIONAL JEWISH BAPTISMS - (WATER)

Hebrews 6:1-3; 9:10

Who is doing the baptizing? _____

Who is baptized? _____

Why? _____

HOLY SPIRIT BAPTIZING BELIEVERS INTO THE BODY OF CHRIST - (NOT WATER)

1 Corinthians 12:12-14; Romans 6:3-4; Galatians 3:25-29; Ephesians 4:1-4; Colossians 2:9-15; ho

Who is doing the baptizing? _____

Who is baptized? _____

Why? _____

NOTE:

Now that you know that there are 12 baptisms in the Bible, when you see the word "baptism," be sure to ask yourself, "Who is being baptized? Which baptism is it? Why was it done?" The context will determine which baptism is being discussed.