

GOODNEWS LETTER

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ISRAEL'S SANCTIFICATION SHOWED THEY WERE NOT YET

"For the Law having a shadow of good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with those sacrifices which they offered year by year continually make the comers thereunto perfect," Hebrews 10:1.

To have an understanding that Old Covenant is fulfilled, as well as how the New Covenant works, comparisons have to be made.

There must be a knowledge of how the Law worked, in order to spark the heart, spiritually, letting the Spirit have its perfect work. It's the kind of work that shows the heart true appreciation of what we now have in Christ.

A believer has to be aware of how Jesus fulfilled the old system and took it out of the way. If we don't have this full knowledge of the removal of the Old System, we might fall back into it. But, with the new system lit up, and the old revealed, fulfillment may be appreciated.

A LOOK AT SOME RESTRICTIONS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

1. O. T. followers had to worship in a specific place called the Tabernacle.
 - a. **Today, in the New, worship is in spirit and in truth, Jn 4:24.**
2. O. T. followers served through objects of a 'candlestick' and 'showbread.'
 - a. **Today, Jesus lights believers and He feeds worshippers.**
3. O. T. followers served in divided rooms: Holy Place & Most Holy Place.
 - a. **Today, the church may serve anywhere; at any time. Entrance into the Most Holy Place is always available, Eph. 3:21.**

In these Old Covenant boundaries of service, we are told that **"The Holy Ghost this signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle made was yet standing," Hebrews 9:8.**

So, the first tabernacle had to be destroyed. That system represented the fleshly body of man and its destruction is mandatory, or no new can begin.

The body is removed at the cross when we trust the finished work of Christ. Now, that the body is out of the way, man goes to God through His Son, Jesus - the Second Adam, and man's new Head.

Let's look at this again. The reason worshippers could not approach God through the Tabernacle was that it was typical; a mere figure. Thus, we are told that a figure **"could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience," Heb. 9:9.**

Further, O. T. followers worshipped through "meats and drinks, and divers washings, and carnal ordinances," Hebrews 9:10.

Praise God when He brought the "time of the reformation" (He 9:10b). It was time for shadows to be filled up with substance. Figures to be replaced by the real.

"For where a testament is, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. For a testament is of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth," He 9:16, 17.

In other words, children do not receive an inheritance until their parents die. The teaching is clear, one doesn't receive an inheritance until a death occurs; Christ first, then ours - with Him on the cross of Calvary. It is then that God's will becomes active and its contents deliverable.

SOME OLD AND NEW COMPARISONS

(The Old removed and the New established)

The Bible uses a lot of ink to show that there is a comparison between the two systems. "Above when he said, 'Sacrifice and offering for sin thou wouldst not, neither hadst pleasure therein; which are offered by the Law;' then said he, 'Lo, I come to do thy will, O God.' "He taketh away the first, that he may establish the second," Hebrews 10:8&9.

He takes away the first and establishes the second! That difference must be kept throughout the Bible. But today, far too many saved folks go through life without realizing just how exact God's will is.

Some never learn that man failed in doing the Law; so they continue to try to keep it themselves. They know that Jesus fulfilled it, only they don't know what was fulfilled.

Consequently, their focus is upon the experience of the new only. Most saved never think of what the New was established upon. - what the new came out of. That's why we have Christians keeping the Sabbath Day, calling it the day of worship.

Without seeing a fulfillment of the Old, the new remains obscured; especially, to those who make up the 'praise the Lord class.' Some of them even expound that the nation of Israel no longer is considered in God's will; not since Jesus came, and Israel will never be in His will again.

It's a sad case to walk in the sunlight all the time. We need our understanding to be heightened by shadows, which provide an outline of our entire life - the old one, as well as the new one.

That's **what Biblical Shadows** do; they mark off who we were in the old man, while revealing what Christ has done for us in the new and how we are to live since its establishment.

Further, in outlining the body, **Biblical Shadows** act as extenders that serve to elongate our spiritual life. Shadows show how we hit and miss God's glory, in the flesh, everytime. Thus, while freedom is not in these shadows, we see the way out of by comparing sunlight and shadows.

Shadows show just how we miss God's will, naturally always falling short. In fact, without Old Testament shadows - full appreciation of our transformation is not obtainable. An example is spiritual bondage. Would we appreciate what freedom is without Israel's drudgery and bondage to the Egyptians complete control? Without the old, we might remain fleshly happy, like most.

Sure, some New things will be grasped; but, never will we know of "**the good things to come**" (Heb 10:1); at least, not as clearly as we ought to know them when Biblical shadows are not understood.

However, when the shadows of the Old Testament become filled up with substance of the New and the outline of the Old is completely filled in, then we have true meaning of the finished work of Jesus. It is then that the shadows disappear.

Thus, what was necessary for Jesus to fill up was exactly what the Old laid down. When we realize this spiritual point, the finished work of Jesus will jump off the page in all its glory. We'll shout, knowing that the righteousness of the Law was fulfilled in our Savior and we are secure, forever.

Because of the flesh's continual insistence, we have to remind ourselves that the perfect Law was **not** taken out of the way until after Jesus obeyed every precept of the Law.

The Law had to remain until its conditions were met. And our proof that conditions were met lies in what is recorded in Colossians 2:14. Paul says, the Law was "**nailed to His cross**".

Today, no one can come to God through the Law. But, we come to God because of the life of Jesus. He makes us acceptable. We come to God in a perfect (fitted) manner because Jesus fulfilled what the Law demanded. Once met, the Old and its restrictions that the Old revealed are removed, once and for all.

So, let us join in praise to Jesus who fulfilled the Law, doing what every other man could not do. No wonder He is the only Savior!