

THE PURPOSE OF THE MOSAIC LAW

Paul opens our lesson text with this rhetorical question, “Tell me (lego/ p.a.impv.2pl) [command], you who want (thelo/ p.a.ptc.vplm) to be (eimi/ p.a.infin) under the Law, **do you not (ouk) listen (akouo/ p.a.ind.2pl) to the Law (ton nomos)** [to what the Law tells you?]?”

If you listen to the Law, it will tell you its purpose in the Plan of God (Rom.7:12-13).

This lesson will study three aspects of the Purpose of the Mosaic Law.

1. The Mosaic Law was One of Three divisions of the Old Testament Canon of Scriptures.

(Luke 24:44) “Now He said to them, ‘These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms (writings) must be fulfilled.’”

In (Gal.4:30), Paul made reference to the Canon of OT Scriptures (he graphe) by teaching from (Genesis 21).

Paul used the OT Scriptures as a reference to the teachings of the death, burial, and resurrection being the gospel of Jesus Christ (**1 Cor.15:1-4**; Rom.1:16; Eph.2:8-9).

(Luke 24:27) “Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.” (Luke 24:46-49)

2. Remember that Paul’s Bible was the Canon of OT Scriptures. Therefore his approach to the problem of Judaizer legalism was to categorize the subject within OT Scriptures.

In (Gal.4:21-31), Paul turned to the biblical history of the Abrahamic Covenant promises (Genesis 12-25). Paul taught that the promises of the Abrahamic Covenant triumphs the Mosaic Law by 430 years (**Gal.3:16-18**).

The Judaizers taught the Galatians they had to believe the gospel and be circumcised in order to be saved (Acts 15:1).

Paul taught that legalistic works such as circumcision would nullify grace:

(Gal.2:21) “I do not nullify (make void) the grace of God, for if righteousness comes through the Law, then Christ died needlessly.”

They taught the Galatians they had to be indwelt by Holy Spirit and observe the Law in order to be spiritual. (Acts 15:5, 10-11; 21:20-21).

Paul taught that legalistic works of flesh could not produce spirituality:

(Rom.8:4) “So the requirement of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.”

3. If you listen to the Law, it will tell you its purpose in the Plan of God.

We will list 8 purposes of the Mosaic Law in the plan of God

1st Holds everyone accountable to God (Rom.3:19)

2nd Can't justify or make righteous (Rom.3:20-22; Gal.2:16; 4:9-11)

3rd Brings knowledge of sin (Rom.3:20)

4th Law brings awareness of the increase of transgression of sin (Rom.5:20-21)

5th It promotes works and wages not grace and gift (Rom.4:4-5)

6th Law can't invalidate Abrahamic promises ratified by God (Gal.3:16-18; Rom.4:13-16)

7th Shadow Christology of Law taught the sacrifice of Christ for sin. (Heb.10:1-10; 9:28; Matt.5:17; Rom.10:4)

8th Tutor to lead us to Christ (Gal.3:24-25)
