

March 29, 2023

Old Revealed by New

Shalom,

This week's Torah Portion is found in **Leviticus 6:1—8:36, Tzav, or "Command."** YHWH gave Moses His words of instruction for offering sacrifices and detailed the inauguration, or consecration, of the priests who were to minister to God and to the nation of Israel.

This is the law for sacrificing peace offerings offered to ADONAI: If a person offers it for giving thanks, he is to offer it with the thanksgiving sacrifice of unleavened cakes mixed with olive oil, matzah spread with olive oil, and cakes made of fine flour mixed with olive oil and fried. With cakes of leavened bread, he is to present his offering together with the sacrifice of his peace offerings for giving thanks. (Leviticus 7:11-13 CJB)

Therefore, there is no longer any condemnation awaiting those who are in union with the Messiah Yeshua. Why? Because the Torah of the Spirit, which produces this life in union with Messiah Yeshua, has set me free from the "Torah" of sin and death. (Romans 8:1-2 CJB)

Remember, when you read Leviticus, you are specifically seeing **instructions that relate to the Torah of Sin and Death**, and scripture tells us that **the Torah of the Spirit of Life in Messiah Yeshua has set us free from the Torah of Sin and Death**. So, **why spend any of our time reading Leviticus**, or for that matter, all the other portions dealing with animal sacrifices, temple worship, or the rituals involved in them? Jesus gives us the answer in the following verses:

"Don't think that I have come to abolish the Torah or the Prophets. I have come not to abolish but to complete. Yes indeed! I tell you that until heaven and earth pass away, not so much as a yud or a stroke will pass from the Torah—not until everything that must happen has happened." (Matthew 5:17-18 CJB)

Or, as the English Standard Version and many others translate verse 17:

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them." (Matthew 5:17 ESV)

Jesus indicates that the ordinances and rules contained in the older covenant point to the newer and better covenant cut in the body and blood of the Lamb of God, Yeshua HaMashiach.

But now the work Yeshua has been given to do is far superior to theirs, just as the covenant He mediates is better. For this covenant has been given as Torah on the basis of better promises. (Hebrews 8:6 CJB)

You can see that **what Jesus accomplished through the Newer Covenant does not just replace the old system, but fulfills (Fully Fills), even the smallest detail required by the older covenant.** The relationship of the older and the newer is obvious, and according to Jesus, should not be forgotten, nor minimized.

Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others the same, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven. But whoever keeps and teaches them, this one shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. (Matthew 5:19 TLV)

Not only does **the older covenant** point to the truth of the newer covenant, but it also **gives us the foundation for understanding, and opens to us the fullness of revelation of all that was accomplished by Jesus:** not only as the perfect and eternal sacrifice for sin, but also as our Great High Priest ministering and interceding for us to bring us to a place of being conformed to His image. He became the firstfruits of a new covenant family that produces His ministry of love and compassion repeatedly as new individuals believe and take hold of His Word.

Therefore, if anyone is united with the Messiah, he is a new creation—the old has passed; look, what has come is fresh and new! (2 Corinthians 5:17 CJB)

“Amen, amen I tell you, he who puts his trust in Me, the works that I do he will do; and greater than these he will do, because I am going to the Father. And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask Me anything in My Name, I will do it.” (John 14:12-14 TLV)

We, the new creation believers in Messiah, have a place of priestly service in this world, **to stand between the enemy’s devices and those under attack** and blinded by him. **We are here, united with Messiah Yeshua to minister His deliverance in the Name of Jesus.**

In newness of life,
Terry

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