



By Ken Jenkerson  
<http://www.disciplemakingpastor.org/>



## Introduction to Torah

### The Law Is Not Done Away With

There are some things I want to go over to cover the basics. Some things that may be new to you, or that you have never heard of. The first thing I want to do is assure you that the Torah is not done away with. Torah is the Hebrew word that we get the word law from, it simply means instructions or teachings- personally I think translating torah as law is not a good translation at all. We are not supposed to pick and choose from Torah, as to which laws we will keep and not keep; the torah should not be treated as a buffet. There is one law that applies to everyone, that one law is every word that proceeded out of the mouth of Yahuah. If your new testament interpretation is contrary to the old testament, then your interpretation is wrong. The old testament is the foundation upon which to build our relationship with Father Yahuah through His son Yahusha. The new covenant doesn't make null and void the old covenant, but rather it builds on top of it!

**Galatians 3:15-17** What Paul is saying in these verses is that the law which came 430 years after Yahuah's covenant with Abraham- did not make the covenant with Abraham null and void. What the christian church teaches is that the new covenant makes null and void the law. This is contrary to the corollary truth revealed in these verses. A new covenant doesn't void the old covenant.

**Ephesians 2:19,22** The foundation we are to be built upon is Yahusha, the apostles, and the prophets. Moses was a great prophet whom Yahuah used to give Torah to the people. Duet.34:10 Moses was a prophet.

**MattithYahu 5:17-19** Take a look around you- does heaven and earth still exist? Then the law is not done away with. My goal is to be great in the Kingdom of Yahuah, therefore I keep and teach Torah!

**MattithYahu 7:21-23** Here Yahusha says he will declare to the lawless- depart from Him!

**Romans 3:31** We do not nullify Torah by faith, instead once we come to faith in Yahusha as the son of Yahuah and confess our sins and repent we then will begin to learn Torah and keep Torah, and thus teach others to do the same.

**Acts 15:20,21** The elders decide to write a letter to the gentiles being grafted into Israel by believing in Yahusha, that they should abstain from idolatry; and that the people would go to the synagogues on Shabbat and learn Torah. Father Yahuah will not tolerate idolatry whether it is in the form of sacrificing animals to statues or idols, or drinking the

blood of those sacrifices, or eating the animals sacrificed unto those idols. I don't think Father Yahuah will tolerate the idolatry of Christmas or Easter as well, because their origins are deeply rooted in gross idolatry and paganism. No matter how well we gift wrap these traditions or camouflage them, they are idolatrous in origin.

Some people also think there are 2 laws- a moral law and a ceremonial law. And then they choose to keep the moral law (the ten commandments), but say the ceremonial law such as not eating unclean animals or keeping the Moedim, or wearing tassles- that these laws are done away with. Then they take it a step further and say the 4<sup>th</sup> commandment of the ten is also done away with- which is keeping Shabbat. I do not agree with this idea of 2 laws and categorizing them as the moral and ceremonial laws. I think there is one law- every word that proceeded from the mouth of Yahuah.

**I Peter 1:25** the word "Word" here is Rhema which can mean an utterance, command, Instruction, Speech. To me this is clearly Torah. The Torah of Yahuah abides forever!

## **One Law For Israel and the One Grafted Into Israel**

**Exodus 12:49** This is in the context of Passover (Pesach), and it tells us that there is one law for the native and the one grafted into Israel.

**Numbers 15:14-16** Here we see in the Torah that there is one Law for all those grafted into Israel or native born.

**I Peter 2:11-12** Here Paul uses the same lingo we see in Torah. Aliens and strangers or strangers and pilgrims. This is a sojourner or alien or foreign resident. Paul speaks of excellent behavior and good deeds; I think he is referring to Torah obedience.

Being grafted into Israel is like being adopted into the Kingdom of Yahuah! As adopted children we are not come into this journey of faith by telling Yah that we are going to do what we want, the way we want. We need to obey the laws that Father Yahuah has set in place. Imagine an adopted child coming to his new home and telling the people who adopted him, "Ok, now look here, we are going to do things my way from now on, forget your rules and do things my way!" This relationship probably wouldn't last very long. It would be rebellious for the adopted child to do such a thing. Yet this is exactly what the christian church has done in their relationship with the Father.

## **Unclean Animals**

**Leviticus 11** – To sum up this chapter you are not to eat any animal that does not chew the cud, nor have a split hoof. So pigs would be unclean to you and not considered as food, because they don't chew the cud. Beware of gelatin- most gelatin is made from pork; usually the label will specify fish gelatin if it is not from pigs. Gelatin is in a lot of items such as yogurt, pudding, marshmallows to name a few.

Continuing, with things in the water, they must have fins and scales in order to be food. So catfish, shark, shrimp, crab, lobster would be unclean to you and not to be considered as food.

Birds- there is a pretty vast list of birds. The thing I get from the list is that the bird shouldn't be a eat meater, or a scavenger. So vultures, eagles, hawks and such would be unclean to you and not considered as food.

Animals with Paws are unclean to you and should not be considered as food.

Anything that dies of itself is unclean to you and should not be considered as food.

Snakes, lizards, mice, moles, crocodiles are unclean to you and shouldn't be considered as food.

This is not an exhaustive list- read Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14 for the exhaustive list. This is too consecrate yourself and be holy for Yahuah is Holy.

Don't take that which is holy and make it common; and don't take that which is unclean and make it clean or holy! **2 Corinthians 6:17; 7:1** Paul is promoting Torah in this passage. Defilement is the act produced by the body; to take that which is unclean and make it common or holy. Perfecting Holiness is a process of sanctification- a process not imputed or learned overnight; but rather holiness is gained through obedience to Torah which takes time to learn and to keep.

Justification is different from Holiness or Sanctification. Justification is imputed to you by faith through the atoning sacrifice of Yahusha you are made righteous or justified. Sanctification is a process of learning Torah obedience to have right conduct and works evident of being justified!

One thing to keep in mind when you read the new testament is that when someone is talking of food, they are speaking of clean animals. Hebrew thought would never consider an unclean animal as food.

### **Tassles / Tzit Tzit**

**Numbers 15:37-41** We are commanded to wear tassles with a cord of blue on the corners of our garments. They serve as reminders of the commandments of Yahuah! They also single you out into an elite group and help you to identify fellow followers of Yahusha!

### **Feasts / Moedim**

**Leviticus 23-** These are the Appointed Times of Yahuah! He has set in place times when He wants us to assemble together and worship Him. You can choose to keep your

traditions which are probably contrary to His commandments, or you can choose to obey Him and keep His Feasts on His days!

These Moedim are perpetual statutes (commandments forever)! They are also holy convocations or commanded assemblies. They are all days of rest on which no occupational work should be done, and the Sabbath and Yom Kippur (day of atonement) are days of rest on which no work should be done.

It starts off with the weekly Sabbath, then the annual appointed times which are set into three groups; the early spring; mid spring, and in the fall:

**In Early Spring on the first month of the year called Aviv we have:**  
Passover (Pesach) Yahusha was our Passover Lamb.

Unleavened Bread which last for 7 days, Yahusha was without leaven or without sin.

First Fruits which is the day Yahusha rose up from the grave.

**In Mid-Spring 50 days after first fruits during the month of Sivan we have:**  
Shavuot/Pentecost. Tradition teaches that the Torah was given to Moses at Mount Sinia on the first Shavuot. And of course we can read in Acts chapter 2 that the Holy Spirit was poured out to give power and boldness for proclaiming the name of Yahuah and Yahusha on the first Shavuot after Yahusha rose from the grave.

**In the Fall during the seventh month called Ethanim we have:**  
The Feast of Trumpets. I personally think Yahusha was born on this day, but I could be wrong. I also think Yahusha will return to set up His millennial reign as King on earth on this feast, but I could also be wrong on that too. It is the only feast that doesn't describe what it is celebrating.

Yom Kippur/Day of Atonement. Some people think this Appointed time is a day of atonement for all of Israel.

Sukkot/Feast of Tabernacles. This feast is for seven days with a commanded assembly on the first day. Some people think this feast represents the wedding feast of the Lamb and His bride.

The eighth day or the last great day is the last feast of the year and runs consecutively with Sukkot and is a commanded assembly. Some people think this feast represents eternity.

These are the days that are important to Yahuah! These are the days we are commanded to assemble and rest and worship Yahuah! You can seek Him any day of your life, but these are the days He commands us to Keep!

Also there is the sighting of the New Moon! This is not listed in Leviticus 23. But you see it elsewhere in scripture such as the required sacrifices in Numbers 28. Or one of my favorite is **Psalms 81:3,4**- we are to blow the shofar and worship on this day and scripture seems to point to it being an appointed time as well.