

Demonism (part 46: the Jews—the Mosaic Covenant-3)

Ten ways Satan is effectively paving the way for the Antichrist.

#1, Globalism, One-World Order.

#2, Occultism.

#3, Apostasy.

#4, Worldwide Web.

#5, Animosity towards Israel.

#6, Buildup of the kings of the east, Asian power.

#7, Buildup of the king of the north, Russian power.

#8, Buildup of Europe (the European Common Market), the Revived Roman Empire.

#9, Preparation of the Jews to accept the False Prophet.

#10, Destruction of the United States as we presently know it.

#5, Animosity towards Israel (cont.)

In an effort to better understand Israel and the various issues related to her relationship with God and with human history, we are taking time to develop the five covenants given to Israel. We are in the midst of studying the fifth covenant, the Mosaic Covenant.

1. The Mosaic Covenant, as a conditional covenant, is worked out in two specific ways. First, it is worked out in temporary dispensational sense. And second, it is worked out in a permanent condemnatory sense.
2. Temporary dispensational sense: It is clear from specific New Testament passages that the Mosaic Covenant in some sense has passed away (Mark 7:18-19; Acts 10:9-16; Gal. 2:3). The Mosaic Covenant has been done away in its entirety as a code. God is no longer guiding the life of man by this particular code. In its place He has introduced the Law of Christ and the New Covenant (Matt. 26:26-29; Heb. 7:11-28; 8:6; 9:15; 12:24; Gal. 3:10-14; 23-26; Rom. 10:4). The curse of the Law, under which all men are born, requires death, temporal and eternal. Christ has borne that curse of death for all men. And those who have now believed on Him have received salvation from the curse of the Law. Therefore, for believers today, the Mosaic Covenant has passed away both as a code for daily life as well as a curse requiring death.

Galatians 3:10 For as many as are of the works of the Law are under a curse; for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who does not abide by all things written in the book of the law, to perform them." 11 Now that no one is justified by the Law before God is evident; for, "The righteous man shall live by faith." 12 However, the Law is not of faith; on the contrary, "He who practices them shall live by them." 13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us-- for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree "-- 14 in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Romans 10:4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

3. Permanent in a condemnatory sense: Those who have not accepted Christ are all under the curse of the Law. As Romans 10:4 above shows, Christ is the end of the Law for those who believe. Those who do not believe stand under the curse of the Law. The Law (written on the heart of every man, Rom 2:15) reflects the character of God and demands perfect righteousness in thought, word, and deed. To fail to measure up to such a holy standard leaves one under the just condemnation of the Law (Rom 3:21-31; 10:1-3). The curse of the Law rests on all who reject Christ's death as God's perfect solution for that curse (Gal. 3:10-14). That is why the Law is rightly called "the ministry of death and condemnation:

2 Corinthians 3:7 But if the **ministry of death**, in letters engraved on stones, came with glory, so that the sons of Israel could not look intently at the face of Moses because of the glory of his face, fading as it was, 8 how shall the ministry of the Spirit fail to be even more with glory? 9 For if **the ministry of condemnation** has glory, much more does the ministry of righteousness abound in glory.

4. In the condemnatory sense, the Law of God will be the final point of judgment in every man's life, be he Jew or Gentile. Each will be judged according to the light he received, the Gentile through the Law written on his heart, i.e. the conscience, and the Jew according to the written law of Moses.

Romans 2:12 For all who have sinned without the Law will also perish without the Law; and all who have sinned under the Law will be judged by the Law;

Romans 2:14 For when Gentiles who do not have the Law do instinctively the things of the Law, these, not having the Law, are a law to themselves, 15 in that they show the work of the Law written in their hearts, their conscience bearing witness, and their thoughts alternately accusing or else defending them, 16 on the day when, according to my gospel, God will judge the secrets of men through Christ Jesus.

5. The bottom line is that people will not be judged for their sins, Christ died for all sins as per unlimited atonement. They will be judged according to their works which never measure up to the righteousness of God. There are only two choices: man can stand on the perfect work of Jesus Christ and be clothed with His blessed righteousness or stand on his own relative cursed "righteousness" that falls short of God's Law.

A Few Thoughts:

The root problem for the Jews is disobedience in refusing to let the Law lead them to Christ—Galatians 3:24: *Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, that we may be justified by faith.*

In fact the root problem always comes back to disobedience—not only in the unbeliever finding God, but for the believer who is not increasingly growing in his love for God (cf., Matthew 22:36 "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" 37 And He said to him, "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' 38 "This is the great and foremost commandment.

Disobedience, as Nehemiah pointed out in his last Bible class at FBC, is the lack of really hearing or listening (*ὕπακούω*). But why wouldn't people want to really hear what God is saying? Because they really do not like certain truths. The problem is not that man does not seek truth, but that when he finds it, he suppresses it. This suppression of truth is common among not only unbelievers, but believers as well. Many believers just want truths that float their boats. We see this with the prosperity movement of America. It is all about preaching just those truths that people like. Although the hope in some cases is to get them to like some truths enough to go on to other truths, this rarely happens.

Man has an enormous ability to camouflage his disobedience. The Jews did not really listen to the Law which told them about Christ, even though they appeared to really love the Law and even criticized Jesus for "modifying" it. Likely, they believed they loved the Law when all along they were not really listening to its message, they were disobedient to it. The rich young ruler also camouflaged his disobedience (even to himself) regarding the Law by thinking he actually kept it.

As believers we also have a thousand ways to camouflage our disobedience. There are very few believers who have been honest enough to come right out and say they are rebellious and oppose truth. No, we have respectable ways of disobeying God's Word. Here are examples of ways believers camouflage their disobedience to Bible doctrine: "everyone is doing it [some sin], "I will wait until tomorrow to get serious about my need for Bible doctrine [Facebook is more important now]," "I will pray about it [using prayer to get out of something]," "I hang around these people [immoral] because I can be a witness to them," "as long as I go to church and listen to Bible doctrine, I am right with God [outer conformity without inner conformity]," "I am going to follow God and do this so I will get something good out of it [bargain with God]," "as long as I keep these mandates, it is OK to ignore those mandates—after all nobody is perfect," "As long as I bring God something, it is OK [Cain's fruitbasket].

The idea is not that anyone can achieve perfection. What I am trying to point out is that an attitude that does not even want to fulfill all of God's mandates is an attitude that is anti-truth. As a matter of fact, every time you get out of fellowship, it is because of rejection of some truth. If a believer really believes that truth can set him free, then why is he out of fellowship most of the time? I would not call that freedom. I would say that person does not really know the full meaning of truth; he only has a partial, fragmented, and preferential view of Truth.

It is all about attitude. King Saul in the Old Testament had an attitude of partial obedience whereas the Apostle Paul had an attitude of total obedience. One loved only fragments of truth, the other Total Truth. Note the influences and differences.

1 Samuel 15:22 And Samuel said, "Has the LORD as much delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices As in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, And to heed than the fat of rams. 23 "For rebellion is as the sin of divination, And insubordination is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the LORD, He has also rejected you from being king."

Acts 26:19 "Consequently, King Agrippa, I did not prove disobedient to the heavenly vision,

Both men were saved. Both men continued to sin. But one chose partial obedience (love for some truths) whereas the other chose to love Total Truth. One died the sin unto death, the other moved into surpassing grace of loving God with all of his heart, soul, and mind.

On 'Ehyeh's Glory Road,

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