



**Beliefs, Values, Behavior**

Head/**Heart**/Hands

You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified. I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by observing the law, or by believing what you heard? Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort? Have you suffered so much for nothing—if it really was for nothing? Does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you because you observe the law, or because you believe what you heard?

Galatians 3:1-5

Consider Abraham: “He believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.” Understand, then, that those who believe are children of Abraham. The Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: “All nations will be blessed through you.” So those who have faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

Galatians 3:6-9

“Abram believed the Lord, and he credited it to him  
as righteousness.”

Genesis 15:6

"The righteous will live by faith."  
Habakkuk 2:4

Brothers, let me take an example from everyday life. Just as no one can set aside or add to a human covenant that has been duly established, so it is in this case.

Galatians 3:15

Covenant = binding contract between two parties

What, then, was the purpose of the law? It was added because of transgressions until the Seed to whom the promise referred had come.

Galatians 3:19

Before this faith came, we were held prisoners by the law, locked up until faith should be revealed. So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith. Now that faith has come, we are no longer under the supervision of the law.

Galatians 3:23-25

1. The Bible project video: How to read Biblical Prose Discourse: Biblical law  
(7 minutes)
2. How to read the Bible for all its Worth: Fee and Stewart (Chapter 9)
3. Christian Ethics: An Introduction to Biblical Moral Reasoning: Wayne Gruden  
(Chapter 8)
4. The Pentateuch as Narrative: John Sailhamer

# Covenant

In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you."

Luke 22:20

# The Law

1. 600+ commandments
2. Pentateuch (first 5 books)

# Pentateuch

3 “layers” or “viewpoints”

1. Global/cosmic scale

2. National/world history

3. Personal

Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.

John 21:25

“The Pentateuch, looks to the future when God’s faithful promise (blessing) would be fulfilled...through Jesus, the faithful covenant keeper.”

John Sailhamer

1. The Law Covenant was temporary
2. It was intended to be fulfilled by Christ
3. It cannot impart spiritual life or empower people to obey it
4. The entire Old Covenant is no longer binding

“All the OT is still the Word of God for us even though it is not still the command of God to us.”

Gordon Fee

Do see the OT law as God's fully inspired word for you.  
Don't see the OT law as God's direct command to you.

Do see the OT law as the basis for the old covenant and therefore for  
Israel's history.

Don't see the OT law as binding on Christians in the new covenant,  
except where specifically renewed...in the New Covenant.

Do see God's justice, love, and high standards revealed in the OT law.  
Don't forget to see that God's mercy is made equal to the severity of  
the standards.

Do see the OT law as a paradigm—providing examples for the full range of expected behavior.

Don't see the OT law as complete. It is not technically comprehensive.

Do remember that the essence of the law is repeated in the prophets and renewed in the NT.

Don't expect the OT law to be cited frequently by the prophets or the NT.

Do see the OT law as a generous gift to Israel, bringing much blessing when obeyed.

Don't see it as a grouping of arbitrary, annoying regulations limiting people's freedom.

You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

*“All the OT is still the Word of God for us even though it is not still the command of God to us.”*