

## Chapter 13. Fulfill all the Laws

The Holy Book existed in the period of Christ among the Jews is now known as Old Testament. Christ never spoke against the Holy book. But He used to read it and teach it in synagogues. He taught them extracting from the Holy Book. “You have heard eye for eye, tooth for tooth? But I say love your enemies.....”

Don't interpret this message that Christ discards the holy book. From the above message of Christ, it is clear that we have to help others who deserve without considering friend or foe and it is appreciable to forgive rather than doing revenge and also revenge will be done by God.

Proverbs 24:29 & 25:21 says about the necessity for loving enemies. Proverbs 24:29 “say not, I will do so to him as he hath done to me. I will pay to the man according to his work.”

Proverbs 25:21 “If thine enemy be hungry, give him bread to eat; and if he be thirsty, give him water to drink. For thou shalt heap coals of fire upon his head and the Lord shall reward you.” These are messages from Old testament ask to love the enemies and don't do revenge upon the enemies.

Christ certifies the Jew Religion and its methods of worship by saying that salvation is from Jews and God love admirers who worship in spirit and truth. Christ fulfilled circumcision in his life by having circumcised on 8<sup>th</sup> day of the holy birth. He used to attend the Holy Festivals. And also read and teach the Holy Book in synagogues. But he used to censure the hard-hearted Jew Pharisees.

Once he declared” I come to this world to fulfill all the laws, not to destroy them”. Most of the Christians have misunderstanding about this Holy Words of Christ. In older days, the prominent attitude was that, since Christ had completed all the laws, no need for the holy book (Old Testament) for Christians.

Now an argument is seen that we should take the appreciable from the old testament and omit the rest. That is only a partial approval of the Bible. This is not proper. [ It doesn't mean that the burnt offerings and religious rituals done in the Jerusalem Church (Temple of God ) should be followed in the Christian churches. But when the Jerusalem church forever become a truth, then all these offerings will be resumed surely.]

Suppose a person who has completed his studies successfully with first rank. Will he prevent his children from sending them school saying” I have completed my studies successfully”.

The Christians are also bound to fulfill all the laws as Jesus Christ was obedient to all the laws and fulfilled them in his holy incarnation.

Christ said “ I give you a new law”. He didn` t say that the laws in the Old Testament were wrong or they should be abandoned. It means ‘ one law in addition to the existing laws’.

Thus he fulfilled the list of laws by giving a new law or the law of love. In the 3<sup>rd</sup> Book of the Bible, Levites 19:17-18 describes the importance of love in the form of advice.

“Do not hate your brother in your heart. Rebuke your neighbour frankly so that you will not share in his guilt.”

“Do not seek revenge or bear a grudge against one of your people, but love your neighbour as yourself. I am the Lord”

As a conclusion is necessary for a letter to be perfect (say to our friend), the law of love is the conclusive law in the list or series of laws. For this reason, it is clear that no more laws will be given by God. The friend who reads our letter won` t consider only the conclusive part. The laws of God are applicable to the Jews, Muslims and the Christians.

Each and every Christian should have the mentality of a student preparing for the examination. Ie, the attitude of a student moving forward studying both the text book and the explanation given by the teacher. If we compare the Old Testament which Christ used as a text book when the four Gospels including Holy Words of Christ and the revelations together can be compared to as the explanation of the teacher. The son of God, Christ is the Great Master the world had ever seen.

Before his public life, Christ who circumcised on his 8<sup>th</sup> day of Holy Birth received Baptism from John, the Baptist. The holy Book says all laws are never ending or perpetual including circumcision. The advice regarding these laws are very much price worthy for ever.

“I tell you the truth , until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished”. (St. Mathew 5:18)

By this he declared that all the laws should be continued without any change until the sky and the earth existing.

Christ said, Mathew 5:17 “ Think not that I am come to destroy the law or the prophets; I am not come to destroy; but to fulfill”. The words “not to destroy” clearly means the divine laws should be continued as it is. When somebody acts according to the laws, then laws are fulfilled in his/her life. Since Christ was one among the Jews who were obedient to laws and fulfilled them in their lives by executing them, Christ also was obedient to the divine laws and executed them and fulfilled in his life.

Christ declared that the divine laws should be followed forever and by each person who follow him. They should be fulfilled in their lives because he also said “ I come not to destroy laws.”.

No divine law will be removed by God or subjected to any change as time progresses. This peculiarity of divine laws is termed as “everlasting principle” or firmness of spiritual rules. Primafacially, it is clear that Christian community is a community of believers, standing diverted from the ‘everlasting principle’ and firmness of divine laws.

Note:

Exodus 21: 22-25 “ eye for eye, tooth for tooth, burn for burn, bruise for bruise”

In Bible, the law of revenge is introduced as the guidelines for the judges explaining how to make judgements or decisions. Because in Exodus 21:22, the usage “court allows” is noticeable. We can` t see anywhere in Bible the permission to handle the law of revenge according to people`s wish”.

The meaning of the message of Christ in the beginning of this chapter is to avoid prosecution activities and giving importance to forgiveness.