

Which Testament Is Our Testament? By Trey Sullins

Have you ever been asked which testament we follow? Believe it or not, two thousand years after the Christ there are still some who follow the Old Law of Moses. Even the world's largest Christian denomination still has priests! According to the Annuario Pontificio, an annual directory of the Holy See, as of December 31, 2014 there were over 415,000 Catholic priests worldwide. However, the priesthood as such is only found in the Old Testament. Which testament are we to keep and how do we know? As with all things in life, the answer is found in the word of God and it reveals to us that the New Testament is the only one we must follow. These are some of the reasons how we can know with certainty that the New Testament is our only testament to follow.

The Old Law can no longer be kept. The first reason is the old law was given to ancient Israel. In order to accurately follow it today you would have to be a part of the old nation that was raised up and lead by God. Deuteronomy 5:1-4 says that God made His covenant with the original Israelite people. After its ultimate destruction in A.D. 70, the ancient nation of God's people ceased to exist. A second reason why it cannot be kept is it would be impossible to follow it anymore. Consider even just one example, the priesthood. To accurately follow the old law, you need an accurate priesthood, namely from the tribe of Levi and a high priest from the descendants of Aaron. However, the necessary records to ensure a proper priesthood have long been lost or destroyed. A third reason is that God left this nation after His people rejected Him. In Hosea 4:6 God says "Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me." Even though God restored His people to the promised land in the days of Ezra and Nehemiah, they continued in their rejection all the way until their destruction of A.D. 70 which was prophesied of by Jesus Christ in Matthew 24.

The Old Law was done away with. First, consider even during the time of the law of Moses it was prophesied to cease in the future. Jeremiah 31:31 mentions a new covenant which would be coming to replace the old covenant broken by Israel. Then the New Testament confirms many times that the Old Testament law was put away (Colossians 2:14; Hebrews 8:7-13, 10:9). The Bible also explains that the blood of Christ was shed for the "new covenant" (Matthew 26:28) and not for the old covenant. Lastly when Christ shed His blood, Hebrews 9:16-17 reveals that the testator of the testament had died, and the new covenant was ready to be put into effect. To follow the Old Testament today would be to follow a dead law that has been put away and replaced.

The Old Law is a sin to try and obey today. Paul makes the case in Galatians 5:1-3 that if you attempt to follow part of the old law then you are a debtor to keep the whole of the old law. As we have already studied it is impossible to accurately keep the letter of the old law anymore. In verse 4 Paul then explains that those who try to keep the old law for justification with God are fallen from grace! The old law also has no way to fully remove sin. Hebrews 10:4 says this very thing, therefore the sacrifice of Christ was necessary to save those under the first covenant also (Hebrews 9:15). The choice then becomes should we serve a law which leads to life everlasting or a law which leads to death everlasting? The answer is obvious!

When you pick up your Bible you see hundreds of pages revealing to us God's will for mankind. To the studious God-fearing person this Bible contains only one binding set of laws. The old law

can't be kept, has been done away, and is sinful to follow today; Therefore, the New Testament from Matthew to Revelation is the law of Christ that is the only law in effect. In order to be proper in the eyes of God we must serve this and only this law!