

Gnosticism = an early heresy that believed in secret knowledge, matter is evil, and that Jesus was not human

Marcionism

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- historical antithesis

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- the OT and the NT
- Israel and the Church
- the God of the OT and the Father of Jesus

"Marcion's theological errors (and there were many) came from one main root: he refused to believe that the God of the OT was the same as the Father of the Lord Jesus Christ. "Marcion simply could not believe in a God full of wrath and justice. So he threw away the Old Testament and took for his Bible a truncated version of Luke's Gospel and selectively edited versions of Paul's Epistles. "When all the cutting and pasting was finished, Marcion had the Christianity he wanted: a God of goodness and nothing else; a message of inspiring moral uplift; a Bible that does away with the uncomfortable bits about God's wrath and hell.

"Marcionism was antinomian, idealistic about human potential, and skittish about dogma and rules."

Kevin DeYoung

"He was utterly destitute of historical sense, and put Christianity into a radical conflict with all previous revelations of God; as if God had neglected the world for thousands of years until he suddenly appeared in Christ.

"He ... nullifies all history, turns the Gospel into an abrupt, unnatural, phantom-like appearance."

Philip Schaff

"Today and every day ... break the rules, stand apart, ignore your head, and follow your heart."

Paula Abdul

"It is our creation now. We make the rules. We establish the parameters of reality. We create the world, and because we do, we no longer feel beholden to outside forces.

"We no longer have to justify our behavior, for we are now the architects of the universe. We are responsible for nothing outside ourselves, for we are the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever."

Jeremy Rifkin

Jesus tells us ...

1. who we are (1-16)

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- 1. who we are (1-16)
- 2. how we live (17-48)

Statement #1

Jesus came to **fulfill** the OT.

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Introduction (5:1-16)

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Conclusion (7:13-29)

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Law and Prophets (5:17 + 7:12)

Conclusion (7:13-29)

Statement #2

Jesus promised that every <u>detail</u> of the Law would be <u>accomplished</u>.

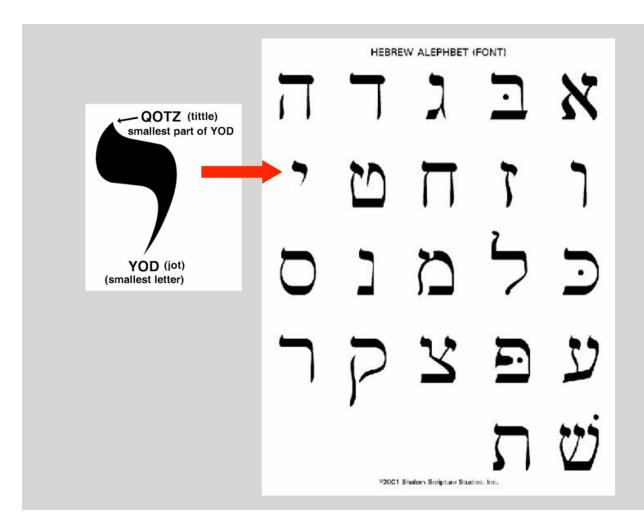
Statement #2

Jesus promised that every <u>detail</u> of the Law would be <u>accomplished</u>.

"For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished." (18)







hendiadys = two words, one idea

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"Smallest part of the smallest letter"

D.A. Carson

"If anyone loves me, he will keep my word."

John 14:23

"You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life."

John 5:39-40

"How can you believe, when you receive glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the only God?"

John 5:44

Implication #1 - We must not **relax** the Law.

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"Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven." (19) "You have heard that it was said.... But I say to you ..." (21, 27, 31, 33, 38, 43)

"Jesus buried people under the true spirit of the Jewish Law.... We need to recognize that sometimes Jesus was addressing the Jews of his day, confronting their pride in thinking they could actually keep the Law."

Andrew Farley

Implication #2

We must have a more **abundant** righteousness.

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We must have a more **abundant** righteousness.

"For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." (20)

optical

optical

"Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven." Matthew 6:1

- optical
- external

- optical
- external

"You hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy of you, when he said: 'This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me;'"

Matthew 15:7-8

- optical
- external

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you clean the outside of the cup and the plate, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence." Matthew 23:25

- optical
- external
- ancestral

- optical
- external
- ancestral

"... in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men."

Matthew 15:9

- optical
- external
- ancestral
- asymmetrical

- optical
- external
- ancestral
- asymmetrical

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness.

- optical
- external
- ancestral
- asymmetrical

"These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others. You blind guides, straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel!"

Matthew 23:23-24

"Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God for them is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. "For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness.

"For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes."

Romans 10:1-4

A Christian's relationship with the Law is **multifaceted**.

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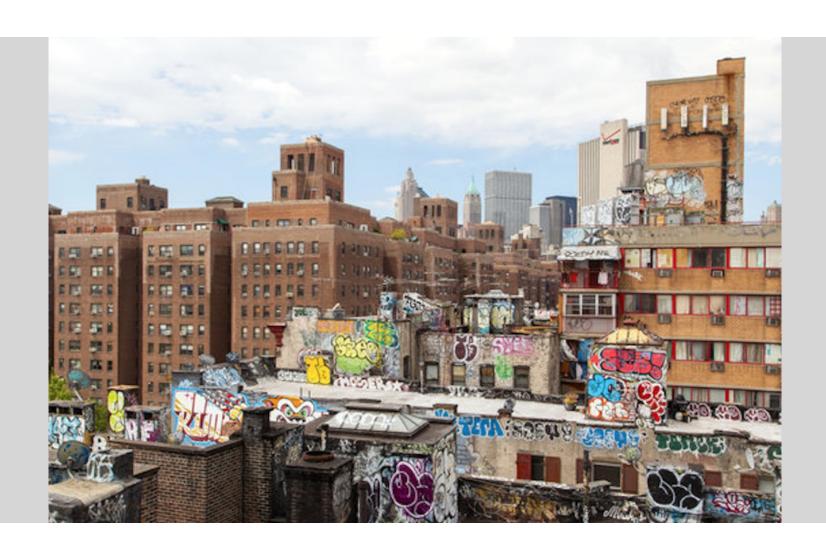
- We were <u>tutored</u> by the Law Galatians 3:24-26
- We learn about <u>sin</u> from the Law Romans 7:7

 We know the Law is <u>good</u>, "if one uses it lawfully" - 1 Timothy 1:8

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- We no longer live under the law's <u>rule</u> -Romans 6:14

We don't serve God driven by a <u>written</u>
 code - Romans 7:6

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- We live by faith and thereby "<u>uphold</u> the Law" - Romans 3:31







"Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?' 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. This is the great and first commandment.' "And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."

Matthew 22:36-40