

“The old system under the law of Moses was only a shadow, a dim preview of the good things to come, not the good things themselves. The sacrifices under that system were repeated again and again, year after year, but they were never able to provide perfect cleansing for those who came to worship.” Hebrews 10:1 NLT

lectio // Hebrews 10:1-3

Thank you author of Hebrews, who does not reveal themselves. However, I have a question. Since the “old system” was only a shadow, was it just the sacrifice or the totality of what we know as the “law.” There are ten commandments, but hundreds of rules and regs about maintaining purity before a Holy God. Were ALL of those fulfilled under Christ work on the cross? I believe Jesus introduced the New Covenant as a the complete picture of what God intended all along, the old passed and it has been made new. There are so many details of the “old” that are referenced and made to sound like they MUST be obeyed even today. The New Testament believers struggled with a few (circumcision, eating certain foods), but there are a lot more subtle ones that come up. Like modern day pastors behaving like old covenant priests or adherence to the sabbath as a law, not as a model. Or even some areas of tithing. I think, “if Christ fulfilled the law, he did so completely,” so we should now live as a son, a child, a friend and obedience should flow out of relationship, not rules given as a instructional for an object lesson in the future.

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Dad,
Not being raised Jewish, not be raised in culture of rules even in the church, I find it hard to completely understand, let alone follow the strict boundaries of the law or of man-made, well intended rules of behavior in the church. When you re-birthed me and I began to follow you, I listened intently to your voice and the Bible on behavioral do's and don'ts. But there a many church-raised folks who picked up rules that are neither in the “law” nor in the Bible and they seemed to have believed that they are from you and that they are unilaterally true for all christian behavior. This frustrates me and I believe it frustrates anyone coming to you and a new believer. Any advice?