

WHAT WAS NAILED TO THE CROSS?

By Keith Greer

Some religions today want to still hold to the Old Law. Some brethren still believe part of the Old Law was eternal. Mind you, not all of the Law, just part of it. The Seventh-Day Adventist Church holds that the great principles of God's law are embodied in the Ten Commandments. Adventists still keep the Sabbath Day as a holy day.

Over the past few years even some among us have difficulty in answering the question of this article. Once faithful, sound brethren would now have us to believe that only "part" of the Old Law was nailed to the cross. Which part? **The ceremonial part.** Come again?

Can this be that hard to understand? The passage that is misunderstood is in Paul's letter to the church at Colossae.

"... having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. "(Colossians 2: 14) According to Paul the "**requirements against us**" were nailed to the cross of Christ. We are to understand that this was the "ceremony" part of the Law. Right or wrong?

Let us be honest for a moment. If this conclusion is right, surely there is a passage that shows the Old Law was actually two laws, not one. Where is this passage? Book, chapter, and verse please!

On the other hand, if a passage can be produced that shows the Law given to Moses was one, then the "two law" theory is wrong. Does such a passage exist? Yes!

"For it is written that Abraham had two sons: the one by a bondwoman, the other by a freewoman. But he who was of the bondwoman was born according to the flesh, and he of the freewoman through promise, which things are symbolic. For these are the two covenants: the one from Mount Sinai which gives birth to bondage, which is Hagar;" (Galatians 4: 22-24)

In verse 24, Paul uses an allegory: Hagar and Ishmael, and Sarah and Isaac. The bondwoman and the freewoman. Isaac was the child promised by God to Abraham. Hagar's son was born by a plan designed by Sarah, not God. Paul uses this history to reinforce what he taught in chapter three of the same letter. The Law could not help man now, it has served it's purpose.

"Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. "(Galatians 3:24,25) The law brought us to Christ. When this was accomplished, the "tutor" was no longer needed!

"Two covenants: the ONE from Mount Sinai ... " How many laws were given to Moses? How many covenants were there? See my point? Honesty would compel us to see only one law on Sinai, not two!

"...then He said, "Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God" He takes away the first that He may establish the second" (Hebrews 10:9) What part was taken away? All of it!

Why would God leave part of the law and not tell us? All I know is that according to Paul, who wrote by the inspiration of God, that Law was nailed to the cross. From the study of the text and other passages, I conclude this meant all the Old Law.

Whenever men try to "jump over the cross" to prove a point, maybe they need to rethink their conclusion. Sadly, many seek to do this because they need to find justification for their human theology. One needs to "rightly divide the word of truth." ***