

RELIC OF THE LAW

BY KEITH GREER

“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} Moses’ Law was a foreshadowing of what was to become the substance under the Law of Christ. Let us examine some Old Testament relics and their counterparts under the New Law.

Sabbath. *“And remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm; therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day.”* {Deuteronomy 5:15} The Sabbath was a day of rest, a day the Jews were to dedicate to the Lord. It’s counterpart under the Law of Christ is the **“first day of the week.”** *Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul, ready to depart the next day, spoke to them and continued his message until midnight.”* {Acts 20:7} On the first day of the week, Christians assemble to worship the Lord, give of our means, remember His death with the Lord’s Supper, sing songs to praise Him, offer prayers to Him and teach His word.

Tithing. *“Behold, I have given the children of Levi all the tithes in Israel as an inheritance in return for the work which they perform, the work of the tabernacle of meeting. Hereafter the children of Israel shall not come near the tabernacle of meeting, lest they bear sin and die. But the Levites shall perform the work of the tabernacle of meeting, and they shall bear their iniquity; it shall be a statute forever, throughout your generations, that among the children of Israel they shall have no inheritance. For the tithes of the children of Israel, which they offer up as a heave offering to the LORD, I have given to the Levites as an inheritance; therefore I have said to them, ‘Among the children of Israel they shall have no inheritance.’”* {Numbers 18:21-24} Under the Old Law, the Jews were required to give 10% of all their possessions. Some believe that God still requires that 10% of us. The counterpart under the Law of Christ, is **“giving as we have been prospered.”** *“Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given orders to the churches of Galatia, so you must do also: On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come.”* {1 Corinthians 16:1,2} God’s people today must purpose and

plan their giving according to how much God has blessed them. Might be more than 10%!!

Instrumental Music- *“And he stationed the Levites in the house of the LORD with cymbals, with stringed instruments, and with harps, according to the commandment of David, of Gad the king's seer, and of Nathan the prophet; for thus was the commandment of the LORD by his prophets.” {2 Chronicles 29:25}* Yes, under the Old Law He commanded them to use instruments in the temple. Some still go back to this passage for authority to use instrumental music during worship today. The counterpart in the Lord's church is **singing**. *“What is the conclusion then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding.” {1 Corinthians 14:15}* All the New Testament passages specify singing—not instruments!

Salvation—Thief on the cross. *“Then he said to Jesus, “Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom. And Jesus said to him, “Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise.” {Luke 23:42,43}* Many use this thief on the cross as a means of getting around baptism. Remember, the thief lived under the Old Law, and Jesus was able to forgive sins on earth, *Matthew 6:9*. Under Christ, those who seek salvation must obey the gospel, *{Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Hebrews 5:9}*.

Those who wish to return to some of the Old Law's relics must be willing to accept all of them. Remember, the purpose of Moses' Law was to lead man to Christ, *Galatians 3:24,25*. ***