

## Sermon Study Guide

### 10-29-17- Jesus Fulfills the Old Testament

#### 1. Jesus brings true meaning and significance to the Old Testament.

Matthew 5:17 (ESV), “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.”

The key word in this verse is the word fulfill.

**πληρώω**: to give the true or complete meaning to something— ‘to give the true meaning to, to provide the real significance of.

What Jesus is saying is this,

**He gives and brings true and complete meaning to the Old Testament Scriptures.**

This means that the Old Testament isn’t some odd appendage that we don’t know what to do with, what it does do, is it confirms that Jesus is the Messiah and that God had this plan of salvation in place long before you and I were ever born.

It reveals that God was unwilling to leave Israel, or the world, without a means of salvation.

It reveals that God is faithful even when we are not.

Jesus is the realization and the fulfillment of God’s promised plan of salvation found all throughout the Old Testament.

Jesus has and will fulfill all the Old Testament prophecies about the promised Messiah and the salvation He brings.

Christ also fulfills the righteous requirements and the legal demands of the law (*Jesus is the 2nd Adam Rom 5:12-21*).

This is another important aspect of Christ fulfilling the Old Testament Scriptures, specifically God’s divine Law.

For entrance into God’s eternal kingdom, His Law must be kept perfectly.

We, because of sin, are unable to do this, this is why Jesus had to come.

His perfect life is credited to the believer at salvation and we are placed in a right relationship with the Father (Galatians 3:27).

**Colossians 2:13b-14, (ESV), "...God made us alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross"**

**Jesus fulfilled the Father's righteous requirements for entrance into His eternal kingdom and has extended His perfect righteousness to us in salvation.**

**Jesus has also fulfilled all the Old Testament promises concerning the Father's predetermined plan of salvation, and at His 2nd coming, all will be accomplished.**

**Jesus brings true meaning and Significance to the OT Scriptures.**

**Study Question:**

**1. How have these thoughts changed or clarified the Old Testament Scriptures for you?**

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**2. The Old Testament remains until Christ comes again.**

**Matthew 5:18 (ESV), "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."**

**Now that Christ has come, why is the Old Testament important for the New Testament believer in Christ Jesus?**

**Romans 4:15 (ESV) For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.**

**The Law reveals that we are sinners separated from God.**

**The Law is a mirror that reveals our need for a Savior like Jesus!**

**Romans 7:7 (NLT) "Well then, am I suggesting that the law of God is sinful? Of course not! In fact, it was the law that showed me my sin. I would never have known that coveting is wrong if the law had not said, "You must not covet."**

**The Law is a means of measuring sin, and revealing sin to us.**

**For believers, the Law is still extremely valuable, it helps us examine our hearts, it births humility through confession and repentance.**

**2 Timothy 3:14-17 (ESV) But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation**

through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the person of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.

For the believer, the holy Law of God moves from our accusatory record of wrongs, and in Christ Jesus, becomes our gentle teacher in the freedom of Christ.

That's why Jesus said...

**Matthew 5:19 (ESV)** “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.”

If we relax the Word of God and teach that the OT is not important for the believer today, we are actually hindering our own spiritual growth as well as our knowledge of the great God who saved us.

God reveals some aspects of His glory more clearly in the Old Testament and others in the New Testament. *Both are Valuable!!!*

Both Testaments are vitally important, for it is the whole of salvation history. If we lop off a section of that history, we will never learn what God intended for us to learn.

The Bible is one of the greatest of treasures you will ever receive this side of heaven, I pray that we would treat it that way.

#### **Study Question:**

1. Discuss the blessing of the Ten Commandments for the New Testament believer. Keep in mind that believers are free in Christ. For the believer, the Ten Commandments change from our accusatory record of wrongs to ten ways in which we are privileged to worship God in the victory we have in Christ Jesus.

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### **3. It is only Christ's righteous that brings and preserves salvation.**

**Matthew 5:20 (ESV)**, “For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

The question that should be resonating in everyone of Christ's original audience is, How than can I be saved and what does this have to do with the Old Testament?

As we stated earlier, the Law reveals our need for a Savior and the infection of sin that has separated us from God.

Because of sin, we act differently and are born separated from the God who created us.

The Old Testament, for most of the Pharisees and Sadducees, had become a means of salvation, instead of pointing forward to, and reminding us, of our need for the promised Messiah who would come and set the captives free.

Christ's fulfillment as the promised Messiah reveals the power, accuracy and authority of God's Holy Word.

It reminds us that we serve a holy and awesome God who is Savior yes and amen, ... but He is also judge.

God's holiness demands perfect justice, and perfect justice will be carried out when Jesus comes again.

But for now, the great Judge of the universe has stayed His hand that we might be saved through His predetermined plan of salvation.

This time of grace is so that the saving Gospel of Christ can be preached and proclaimed by you and me for the salvation of souls, the making of disciples.

**It is only Christ's righteousness that brings salvation**, and He extended His perfect life, His total payment of our sins on the cross, and His resurrection victory to any and all who will receive Him as Lord and Savior.

Isaiah 53:11 (ESV)

Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied; by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities.

We are saved by grace through faith in Christ ALONE!!!!

**Study Question:**

How does this encourage us in Christ and how do we apply it to our daily lives?

**What we take away:**

1. Jesus brings true meaning and significance to the Old Testament Scriptures.
2. The Bible is salvation history and it will remain authoritatively intact until all is accomplished.
3. It is only Christ's righteousness that saves and preserves the believer unto eternal life.