

## Gleanings from the Pentateuch

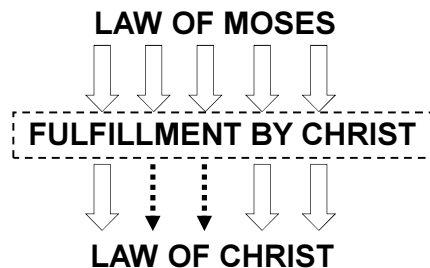
The Priesthood of All Believers  
1 Peter 2:4-5

## Christians and the Law

### Christocentric View

- Jesus is the fulfillment of the Law in His life, teaching and work
- The way in which the various laws are fulfilled in Christ determines the way they are observed now

## Christians and the Law



## Christians and the Law

### ➤ Implications of Christ's Fulfillment of the Tabernacle System

- no more physical tabernacle
- no more ritual offerings
- no more priesthood

## Christians and the Law

"For, on the one hand, there is a setting aside a former commandment because of its weakness and uselessness – for the Law made nothing perfect..."

– Hebrews 7:18

"When He said, 'A new covenant,' He has made the first obsolete. But whatever is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to disappear. – Hebrews 8:13

"Now where there is forgiveness of these things, there is no longer any offering for sin." – Hebrews 10:18

## Priesthood of Believers

### 1 Peter 2:4-5

And coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected by men, but choice and precious in the sight of God, you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices to God through Jesus Christ.

"you are...a royal priesthood" (1 Peter 2:9)

"He has made you to be a kingdom and priests to His God and Father..." (Revelation 1:6; 5:9; 20:6)

## Priesthood of Believers

### Essential Meaning

- Every believer in Jesus has the privilege of drawing near to God and offering up acceptable worship
  - we have confidence to draw near to God (Heb. 4:16; 10:22)
  - we offer up spiritual sacrifices

## Priesthood of Believers

### Implications

1. Our acceptance by God and the ongoing experience of His grace is not dependent on any human mediator

“For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus”  
– 1 Timothy 2:5

## Priesthood of Believers

### Implications

2. There is no ministerial priesthood in the church
  - Church leaders/shepherds are never referred to as “priests” in the New Testament
  - The function of church leaders is to equip and guard the flock not to mediate grace
  - Does not mean we have leaderless churches

## Priesthood of Believers

### Implications

3. Every aspect of life is potentially an acceptable act of worship
  - Under the New Covenant, the focus is not on external forms but on the inward experience of the heart
  - No distinction between “sacred and secular,” but all of life is a spiritual service of worship

## Priesthood of Believers

“I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship”  
– Romans 12:1

“Whether, then, you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”  
– 1 Corinthians 10:31

“And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.”  
– Colossians 3:17