

- Matthew 5:17-20 (ESV Strong's) 17 "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. 18 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. 19 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.
- 20 For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.



- Preparing for Teaching about Law and Righteousness
 - · Essential character defined
 - · Must live so that others see this blessed life, look to God
 - · How is this to be done? We are to live a life of righteousness.



- · Questions about the this teacher...
- · Who is this man, teaching, should we listen?
- · Sabbath, Synagogue, teaching.... man with unclean spirit: Jesus rebukes
- Mark 1:27: And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? **A new teaching with authority!** He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him."



- · Spoke of persecution "for my sake"
- · Not a scribe or pharisee (their usual teachers)
- $\cdot\,$ He didn't just comment on the law, went further than other teachers
- $\cdot\,$ "You have heard that it was said to those of old" vs. "But I say to you"
- · Murder vs. Anger (21)
- · Adultery vs. Lust (27)
- · Swear Falsely vs. Yes (33)
- · Vengeance vs. Do not resist (38)
- · Love/Hate vs. Love/Pray (43)



- · Questions about the Law and Righteousness
- · For Jesus' audience, the Law given through Moses defined that righteousness
- Deuteronomy 6:24-25 (ESV) 24 And the Lord commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God, for our good always, that he might preserve us alive, as we are this day. 25 And it will be righteousness for us, if we are careful to do all this commandment before the Lord our God, as he has commanded us.'



- Historically, they (rightly) revered the Law and Prophets (at this time)
- But Jesus is about to challenge them:
- · Teach them what TRUE righteousness means
- · He's getting ready to teach them some very different things than they've heard about what it means to be righteous



- not because it is inherently different from God's teaching and law
- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$ but because it's different from what they have always heard from Scribes and Pharisees.
- · because it was different than their traditions...
- · which had the weight of law, precedents
- They focused more on Law (Moses), than on the Promises (Abraham)



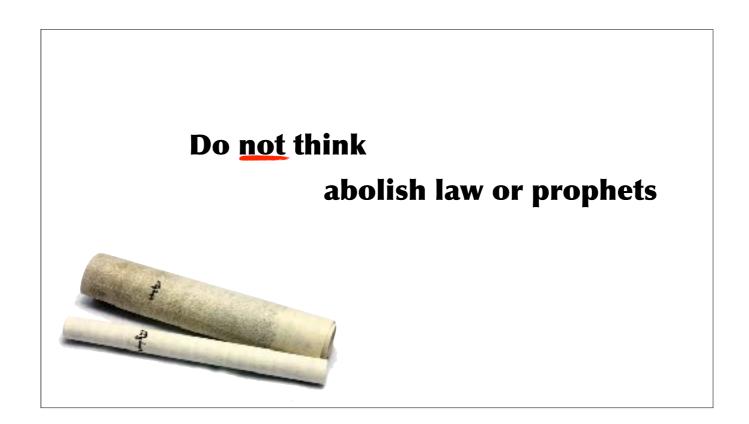
- Change is hard... how help them to make transition?
- · Jesus' teaching was RADICAL
- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$ Our trouble is that we are the one's who've always heard this... sermons, studies, etc.
- · Change... who we are, how we think, how we live, how we worship



- We need to see it as being RADICAL...
- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$ different than what we are accustomed to hearing
- · different than what we are comfortable with
- · different than what we like to hear
- · Jesus is challenging us too!



- Jesus and the Old covenant: Mt. 5.17-18
 - Do not Think...
 - Danger with the things Jesus is about to say, might lead some to make a hasty, premature judgment against what He is teaching



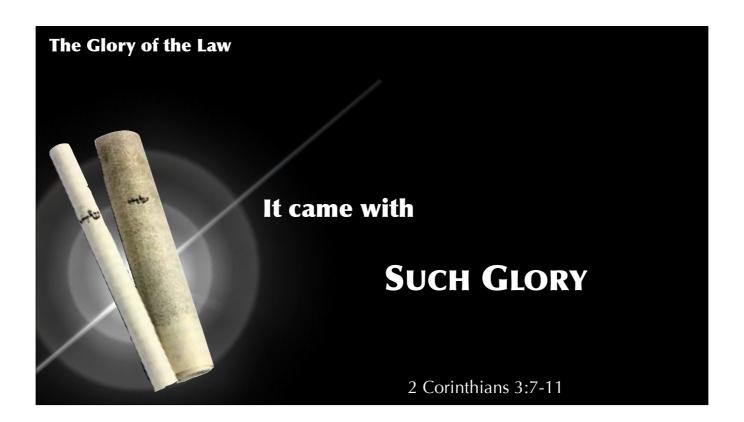
- I have NOT come to abolish the Law or the Prophets
 - abolish = metaph. to overthrow; to deprive of force, annul; abrogate, discard
 - Everything He teaches is in absolute harmony with the entire teaching of the OT scriptures.
 - There is nothing in this teaching which in any way contradicts them High value of law.



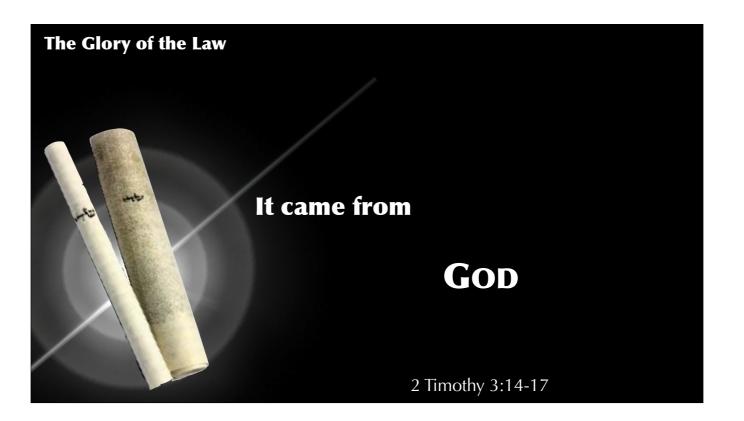
- But to Fulfill
 - fulfill = to render full, i.e. to complete; c. to carry into effect, bring to realization, realize
 - literally carrying out everything that has been said and stated in the law and in the prophets.



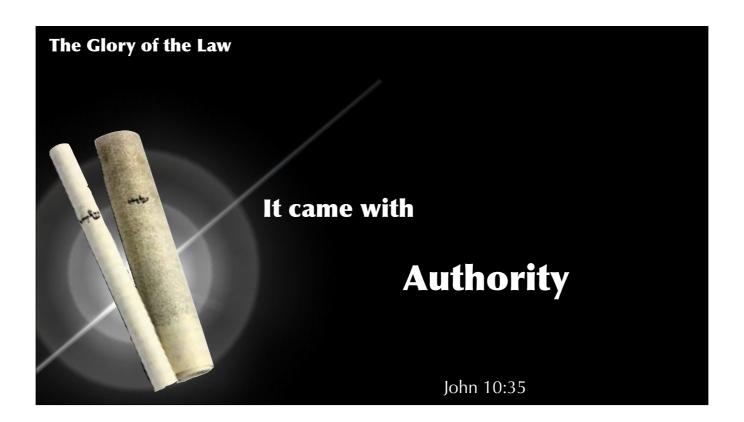
- The Glory of the Law
 - CAME with Such Glory: 2 Corinthians 3:7-11
 - 7: came with such glory; Moses' face could not be looked at
 - 9: glory
 - 11: came with glory
 - CAME from God: Inspired: 2 Timothy 3:14-17
 - Sacred writings: make wise for salvation, Faith in Christ Jesus
 - · All Scripture: breathed out by God
 - profitable.... training in righteousness
 - CAME with authority:
 - Jesus: "Scripture cannot be broken": John 10:35
 - If he called them gods to whom the word of God came-and Scripture cannot be broken-
 - CAME complete: Deuteronomy 4:2
 - Deuteronomy 4:2: You shall not add to the word that I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you.
 - · Don't add to or take from
 - doesn't need our help
 - Pharisees and Scribes both added to, and took from, the Scriptures
 - Matthew 15:5-6: But you say, 'If anyone tells his father or his mother, "What you would have gained from me is given to God," 6 he need not honor his father.' So for the sake of your tradition you have made void the word of God.
 - Matthew 15:9 (ESV) 9 in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men."
 - When Jesus reasoned from "Don't murder" to "Don't be angry", was he adding to Scripture?
 - not at all.



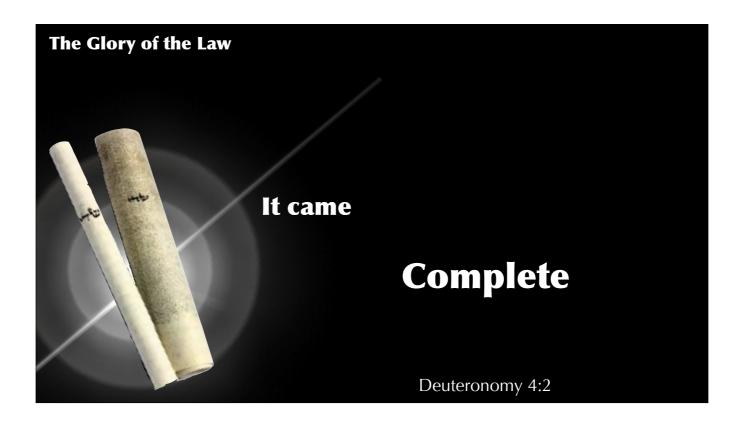
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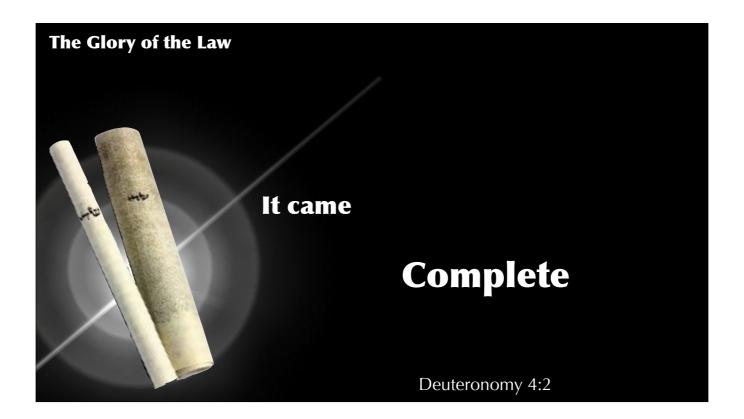
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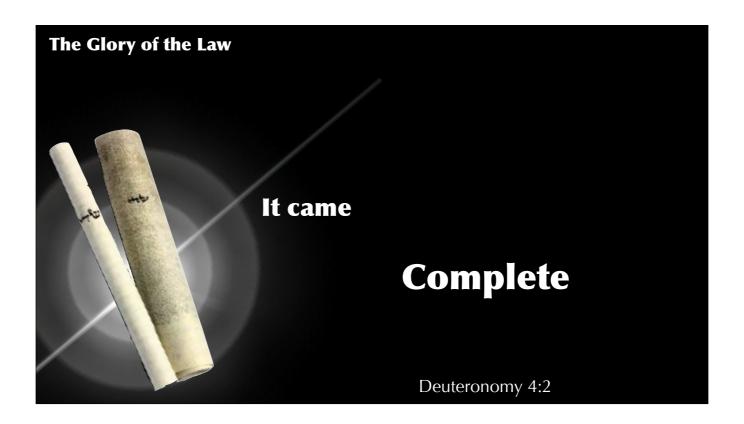
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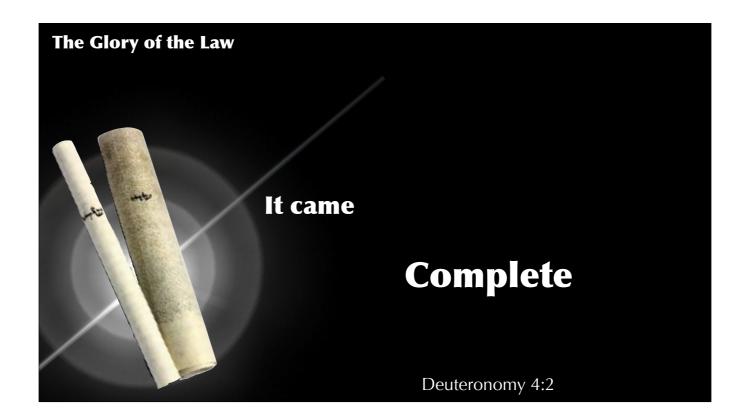
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 - Don't add to or take from
 - · doesn't need our help
- · Contrast US constitution... made to be modified, amended, judged



- Pharisees and Scribes both added to, and took from, the Scriptures
 - Matthew 15:5-6: But you say, 'If anyone tells his father or his mother, "What you would have gained from me is given to God," 6 he need not honor his father.' So for the sake of your tradition you have made void the word of God.
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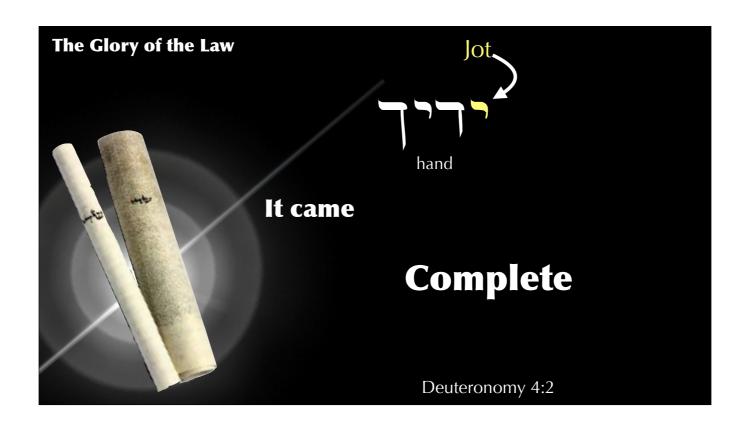
- When Jesus reasoned from "Don't murder" to "Don't be angry", was he adding to Scripture?
 - not at all.
 - Jesus was helping us to understand the deeper things of God... murder is about taking away life.
 - God is life, and values life.



- There are ways in which we devalue life beyond outright murder.
 - angry exalts myself above others, leads to hatred
 - calling someone fool, empty clearly devalues them
- Righteousness is not just about not murdering... it's much, much deeper in how we think about life and others. It starts in the heart.



- jots and tittles (iota and dot) vs. 18
 - 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.



- jot is smallest letter of Hebrew alphabet (like an i or y); some translations use greek iota
 - Yodh, Yod, Jot: Kydy (hand) first letter on right.



tittle: like a "serif"; tiny mark

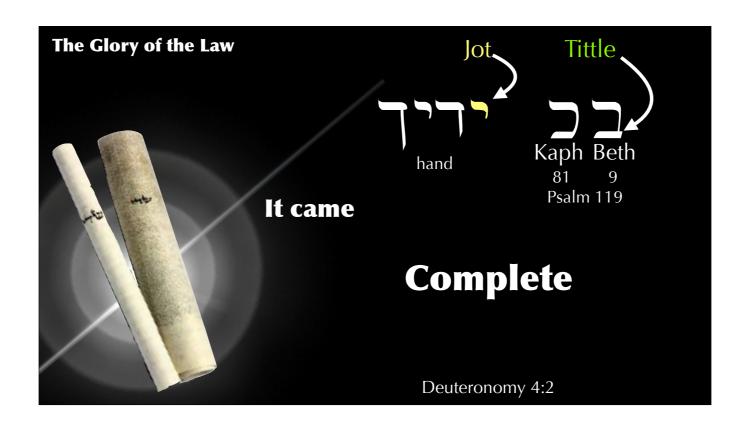
• Psalm 119:9: Beth b Psalm 119:81: Kaph k

• Psalm 119:25: Daleth d Psalm 119: 153: Resh d

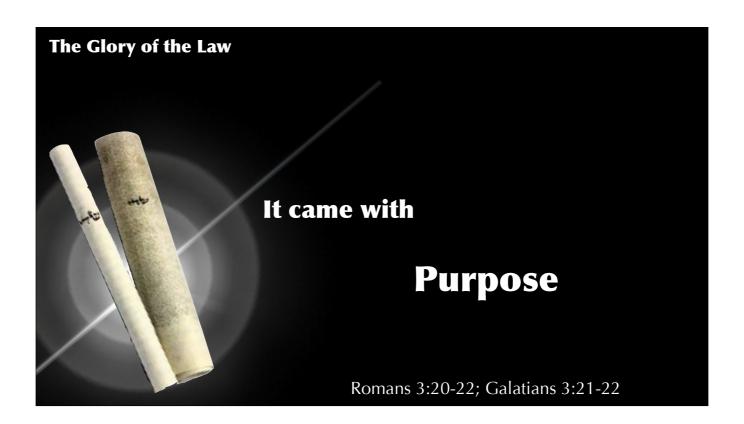
• Psalm 119:41: Vau (or Waw?) w Psalm 119:49: Zayin z



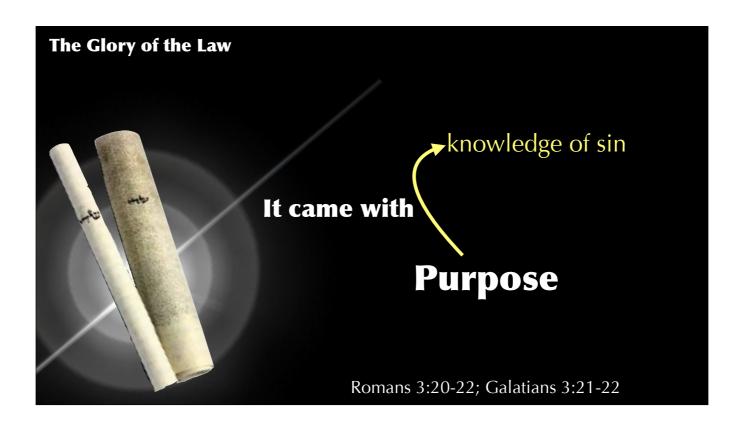
- The point is... ALL the law is important, even what we would call the minutia (small, precise details; the fine points).
- · Some have tried to artificially divide the Law into parts
 - Civil (governing)
 - Moral (ethical behavior)
 - · Ceremonial (sacrifices)
 - Argue that some parts of the law ended with Jesus (Civil and Ceremonial), but not the moral.



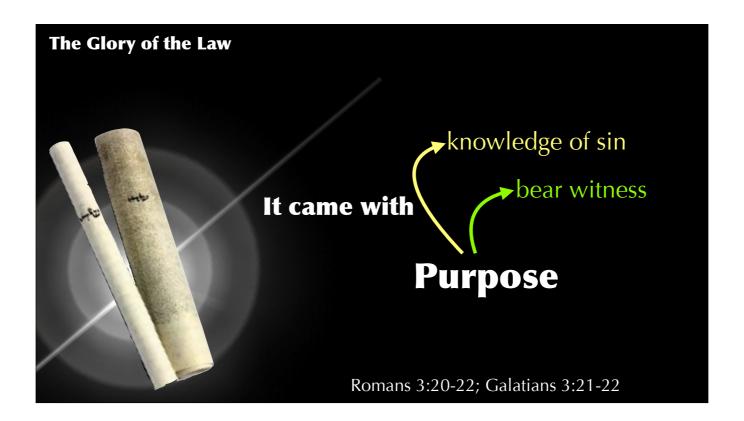
- But this is not Biblical... never in scriptures are these divisions referred to; rather: Law, Prophets, Psalms
 - Luke 24:44: Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled."



• CAME with purpose:

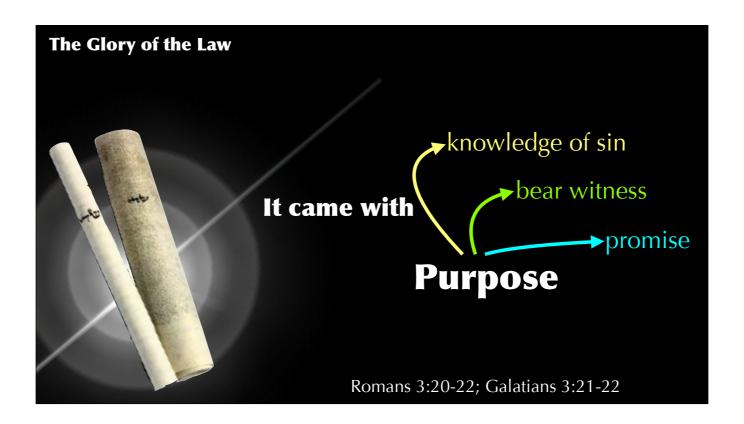


- Knowledge of Sin
 - Romans 3:20: For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

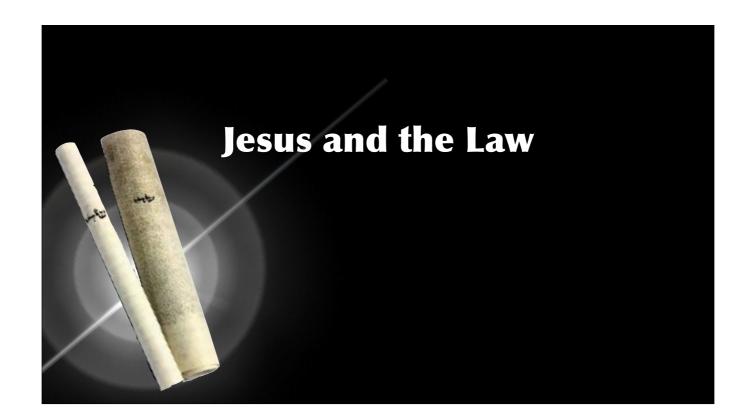


Bear Witness

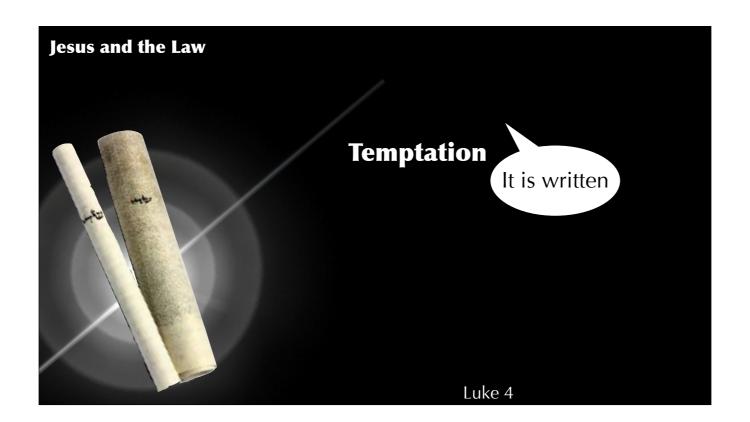
• Romans 3:21-22: But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— 22 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe.



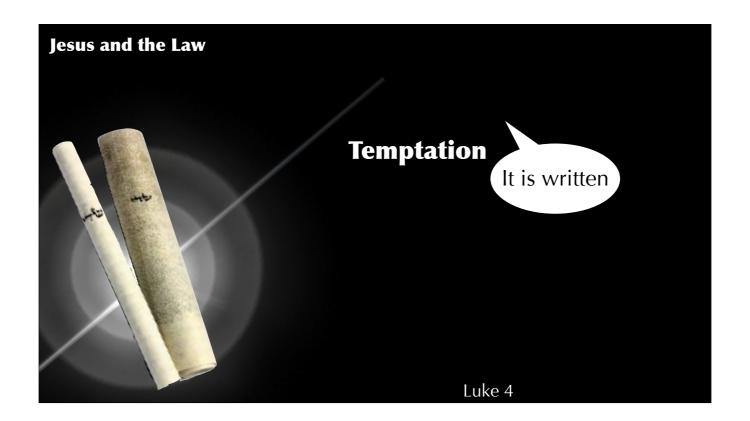
- Promise —> Jesus
 - Galatians 3:21-22: Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. 22 But the Scripture **imprisoned everything under sin**, so that the **promise** by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.



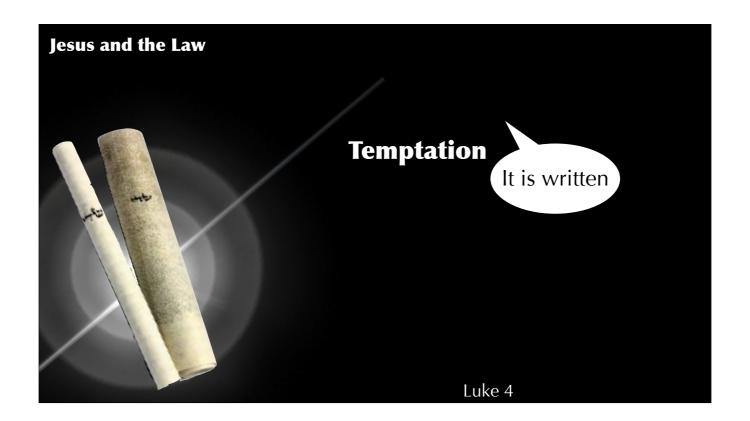
• Jesus constantly demonstrated his respect of the Law: 2 Examples



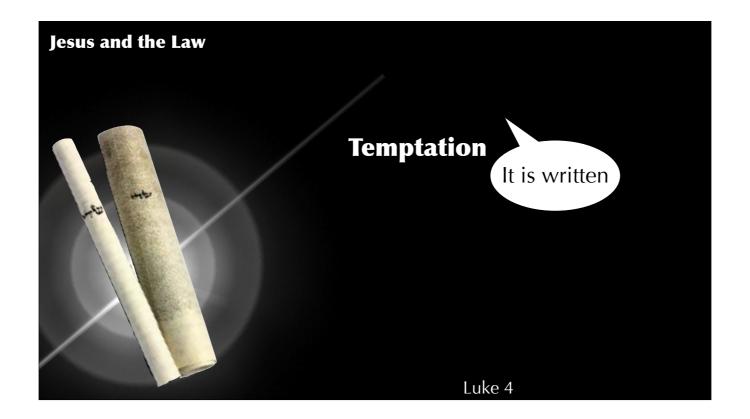
- Temptation: Luke 4
 - Luke 4:3-4 (ESV) 3 The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." 4 And Jesus answered him, "It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone." (Deut. 8:3)



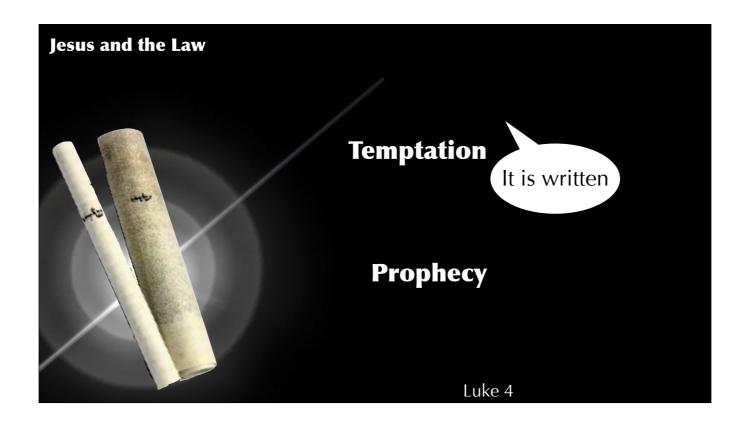
Luke 4:5-8 (ESV) 5 And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, 6 and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. 7 If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." 8 And Jesus answered him, "It is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve." (Deut. 6:13)



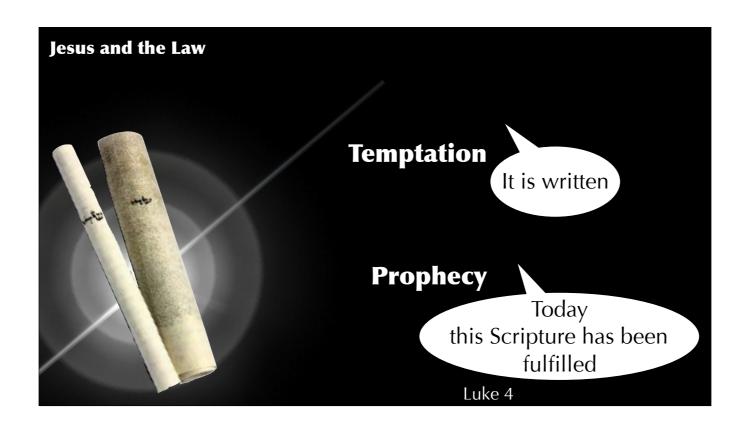
- Luke 4:9-12 (ESV) 9 And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, 10 for it is written, "'He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,' 11 and "'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'" (Psalm 91.11-12)
 - Satan uses Scripture, but twists it! He doesn't honor it at all because he purposefully misuses it.



• 12 And Jesus answered him, "It is said, You shall not put the Lord your God to the test." (Deut. 6:16)



Luke 4:16-21: And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. 17 **And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,** 18 "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." (Isaiah 61:1-2)



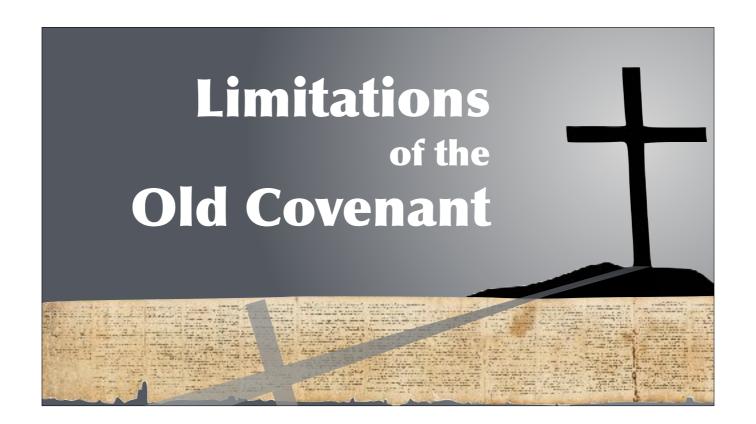
• 20 And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. 21 And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."



- O.T. is glorious, useful,
- Matthew 5:19 (ESV) 19 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.



- Remember audience Jesus is speaking to at this time... Jews under the Law.
- · At this time that covenant was still in effect.
- · Still needed to be obeyed, taught, lived ...Just as Jesus did, and disciples.



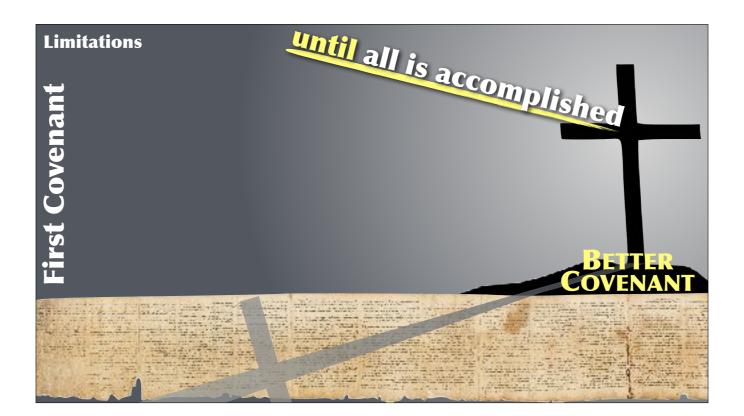
- Limitations of the O. T. Covenant with Israel
 - Matthew 5:17-18



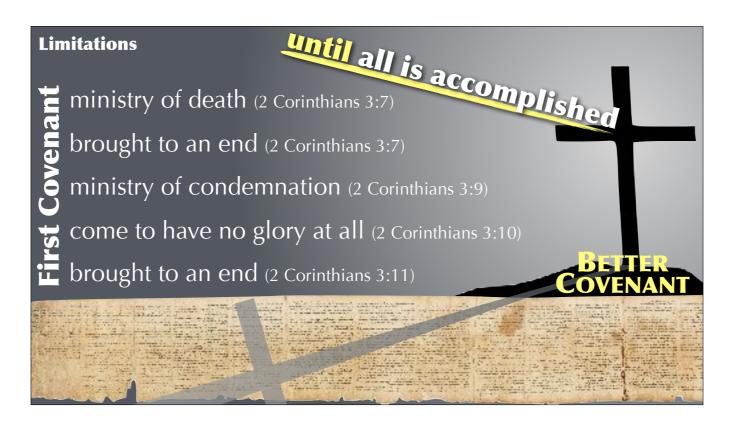
• Matthew 5:17-18: "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to **fulfill** them. 18 For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until **all** is **accomplished**.



- fulfill: to render full, i.e. to complete; c. to carry into effect, bring to realization, realize
 - literally carrying out everything that has been said and stated in the law and in the prophets.
- accomplished: finished, done: fulfilled in every detail



- not ... pass until
 - · Covenant with Israel had a purpose
 - When purpose is fully realized
 - Then it has accomplished purpose, and not needed
 - Not because if failed, but because it succeeded!



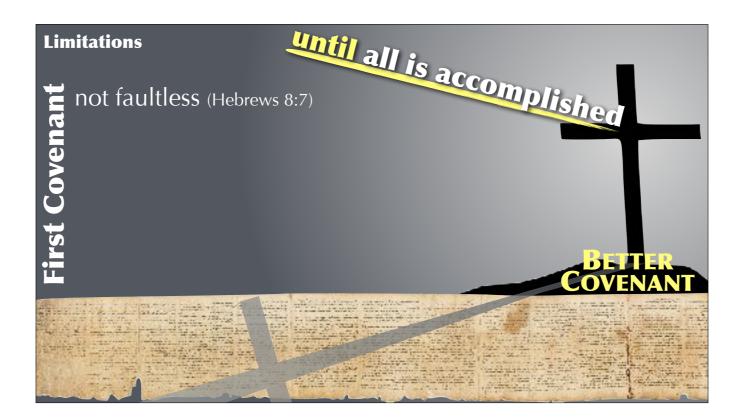
- Paul... 2 Corinthians 3:7-11
 - · Not only does Paul remind us that the covenant with Israel through Moses was glorious...
 - ministry of death & condemnation
 - come to have no glory at all! (10)
 - brought to an end (7, 11)



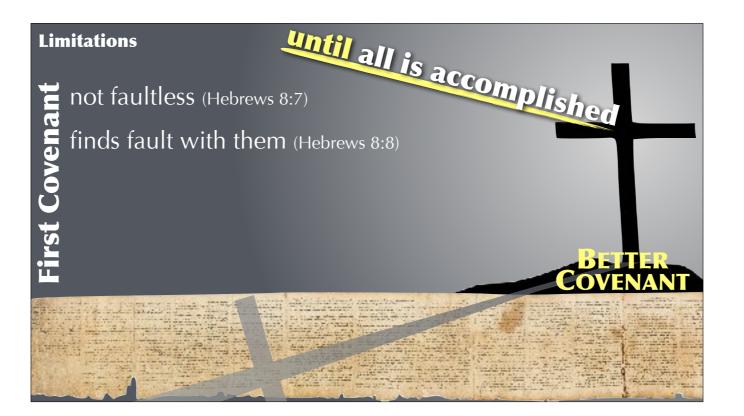
- He teaches us that the new covenant through Jesus ...
 - ministry of the Spirit; ministry of righteousness
 - more glory; far exceed glory (8, 9)
 - surpasses it (10)
 - permanent (11)



- Book of Hebrews ... Better
 - better covenant (7:22; 8:6)
 - Hebrews 8:6: But as it is, Christ has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as the covenant he mediates is better, since it is enacted on better promises.



- First covenant was not faultless (Hebrews 8:7)
 - Hebrews 8:7: For if that first covenant had been faultless, there would have been no occasion to look for a second.



- Fault found with the people!
 - Hebrews 8:8: For **he finds fault with them** when he says: "Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will establish a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah,
 - 9: they didn't continue in the covenant



• Hebrews 8:13: In speaking of a new covenant, he makes the first one obsolete. And what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.



- New covenant
 - my laws into their minds (10)
 - write them on their hearts (10)
 - they shall all know me (11)
 - remember sins no more (12; 10:17-18)



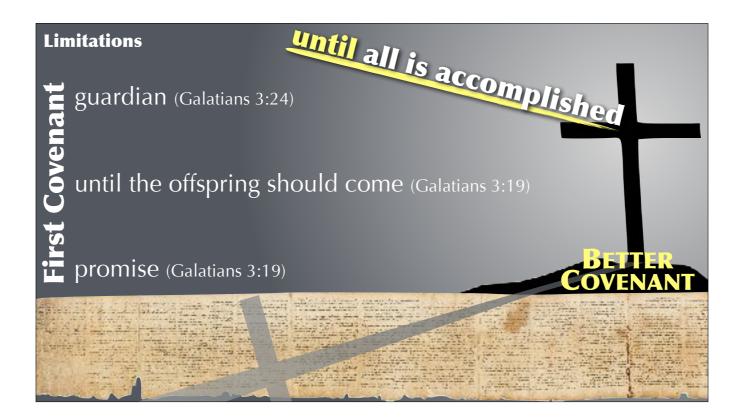
- Hebrew writer speaks very differently of the Old Covenant than Jesus
- Jesus looking forward to its fulfillment
- Hebrew writer sees it as fulfilled (in Christ), .. obsolete.



- Shadow vs. Reality: Hebrews 10:1 (ESV)
 - For since the law has but a **shadow** of the good things to come instead of the **true form of these realities**, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near.



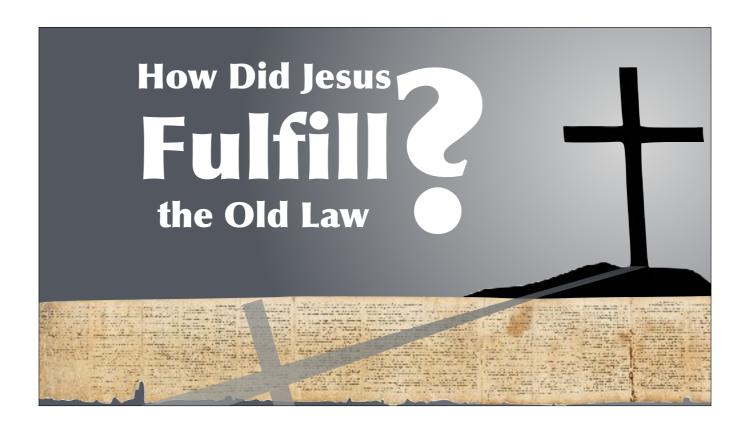
- true form of these realities
 - Tabernacle
 - Prophet (Deuteronomy 18:15)
 - "Jehovah your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen—



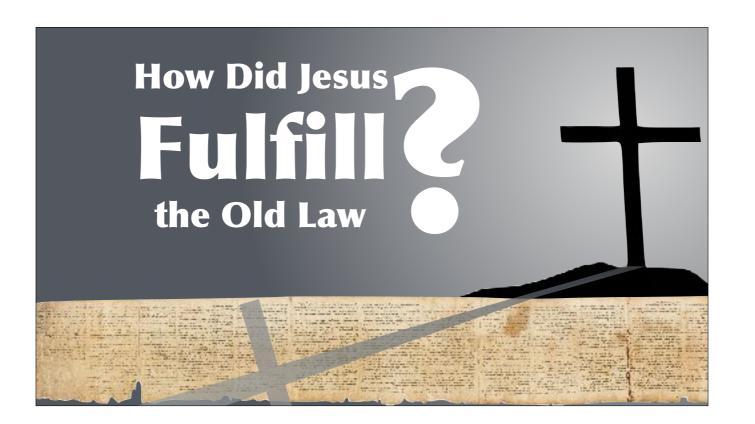
- Until Offspring of Promise: Galatians 3:19
 - Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, **until** the offspring should come to whom the promise had been made, and it was put in place through angels by an intermediary.
 - Galatians 3:23-26 (ESV) 23 Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. 24 So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. 25 But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, 26 for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.



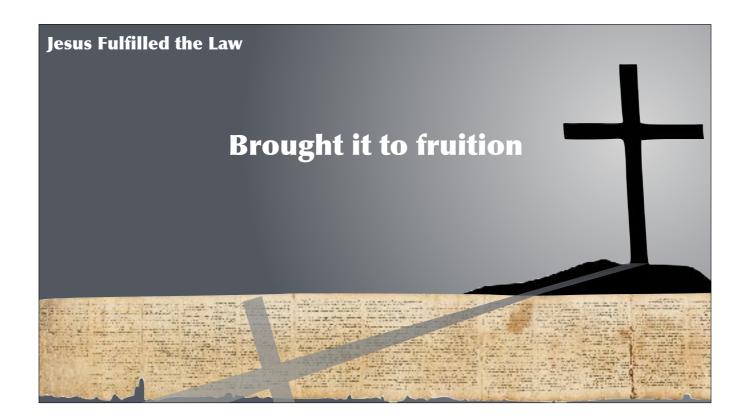
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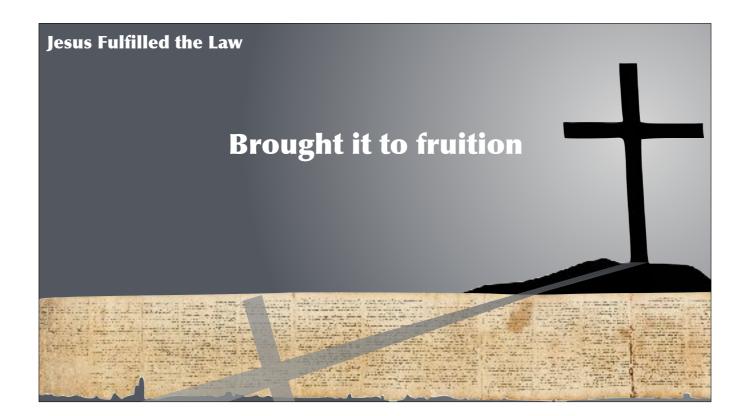
- How did Christ fulfill the Old Law?
- Must be careful never to forget that glory and purpose of the OT.
 - It is from God and thus has inherent value.
 - That it has fulfilled it's purpose doesn't mean it that has no value to the righteous.



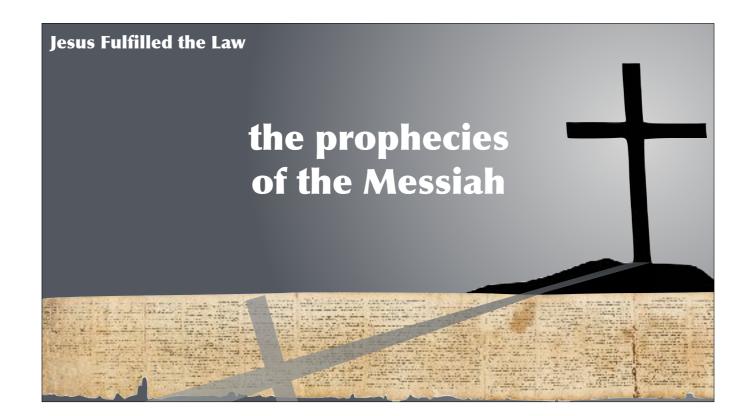
- It is not useless at all.
- While that law does not govern us... it still teaches us!
 - Romans 15:4: For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.



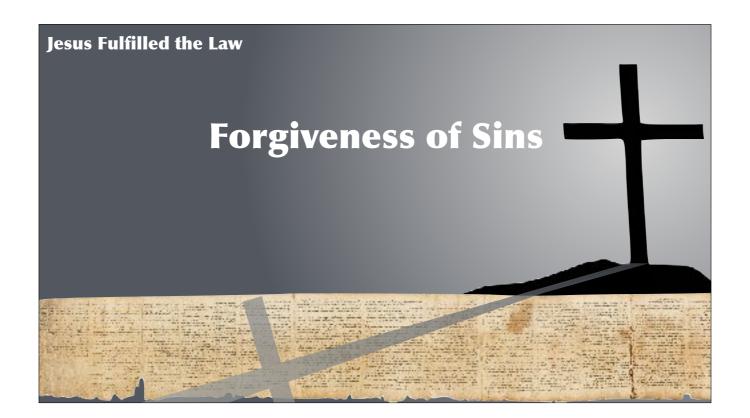
- Jesus did not oppose the Law/Covenant, rather understood that by his life he was bringing it to fruition.
 - born under law -- lived perfectly



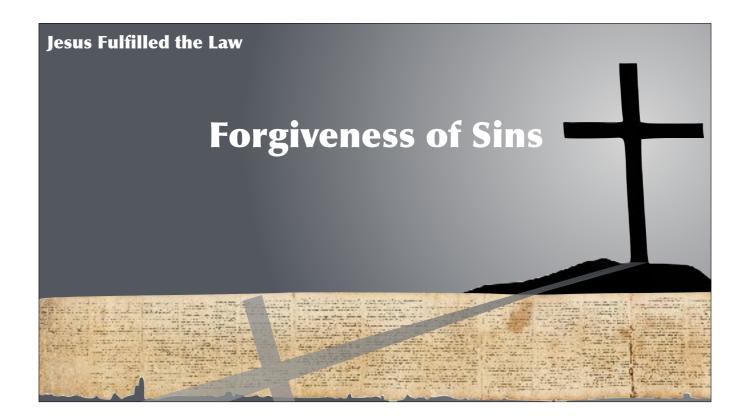
- He was 'born under the law'
 - Galatians 4:4-5 (ESV) 4 But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.
 - he obeyed it down to the minutest detail.
 - He taught others to love the law
 - no-one could bring a charge against Him.



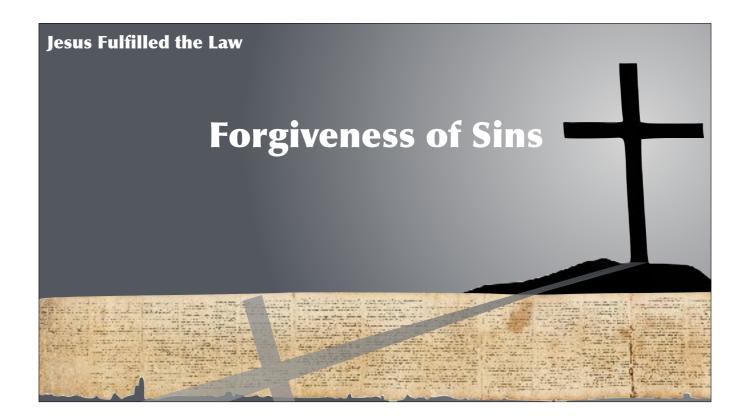
- prophecies of Messiah birth, life, death
 - all the law and all the prophets point to Him
 - will be fulfilled in Him down to the smallest detail.
 - 2 Pet. 2.19: And we have the word of prophecy made more sure; whereunto you do well that you take heed, as unto a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day-star arise in your hearts.



- Forgiveness through Sacrifice
 - Luke 24:44-49 (ESV) 44 Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." 45 Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, 46 and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead



47 and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48 You are witnesses of these things. 49 And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."



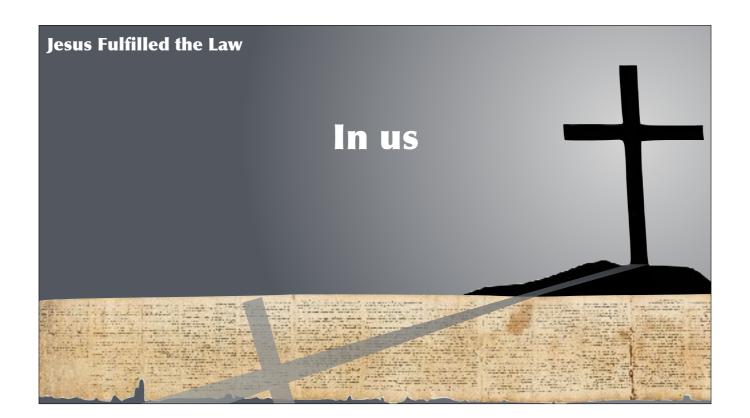
Hebrews 10:14-18: For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified. 15 And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying, 16 "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws on their hearts, and write them on their minds," 17 then he adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more." 18 Where there is **forgiveness** of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.



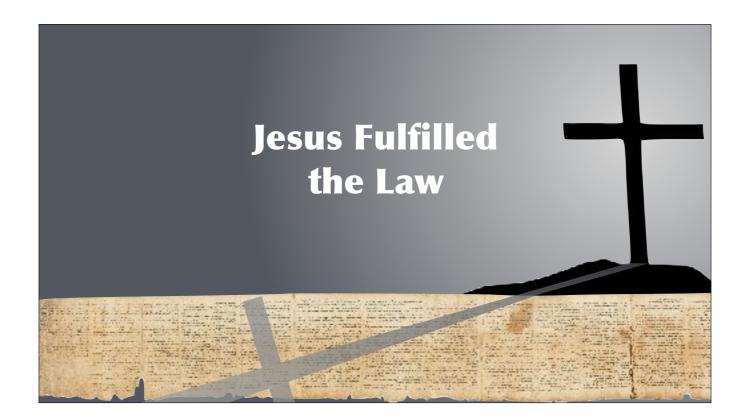
Romans 8:3-4: For God has done what the law, **weakened by the flesh**, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, 4 in order that the **righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us**, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.



- As mentioned in Hebrews: the law was weakened.... by the flesh, the people.
 - Lenski: weakened = impossible
- Righteous requirement of law ... our walk? or Jesus' sacrifice?
 - fulfilled
 - in us



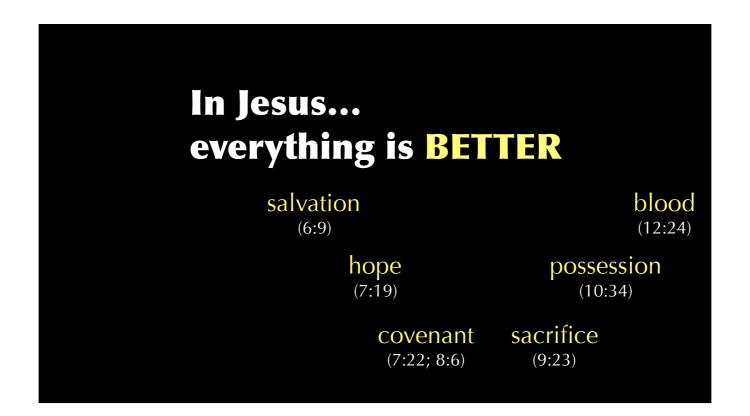
- walk according to the Spirit (not flesh)
 - vs. 5... set mind on things of the Spirit
 - vs. 6 ... life and peace
 - vs. 7 ... submits to God's law (antithesis)
 - vs. 8 ... please God (antithesis)



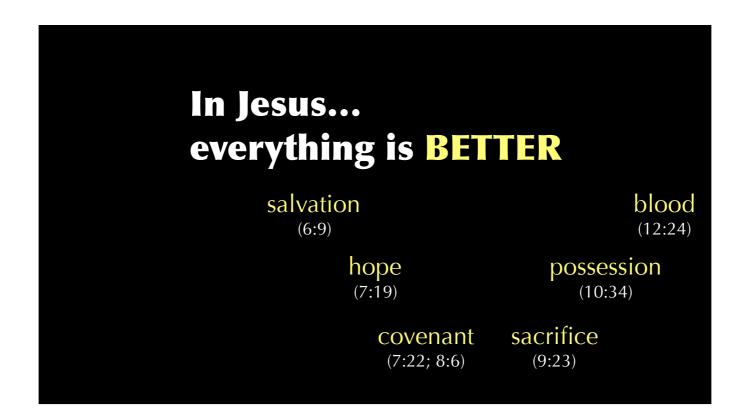
- Jesus fulfilled law in:
 - in bringing it to fruition
 - in prophecies of messiah
 - in forgiveness of sins
 - in us
- any doctrine which maintains the force of the old covenant (premillenialism or seventh day adventists {10 commandments}) is a contradiction of what Jesus said of himself
- Jesus affirmed the validity of the Old Covenant, and also its utter fulfillment.



- The old covenant and law is glorious and important.
- Great purpose ... faith in Jesus Christ
- Jesus fulfilled it...
 - My thought... every part of the old law, every prophecy of the prophets is fulfilled.
 - There is nothing in that covenant that Jesus did not completely accomplish in his life, death, and resurrection and exaltation.



- We have, through Christ, as Hebrew writer teaches
 - a better salvation (6:9)
 - a better hope (7:19)
 - a better covenant (7:22; 8:6)
 - better promises (8:6)
 - better sacrifices (9:23)
 - better possession (10:34)
 - better blood (12:24)



- While much of this teaching of Jesus is directed at Jews, accustomed to their lives being defined by the Old Covenant given through Moses
- It's broader application is for us too
 - We all have grown up following the course of this world (Ephesians 2:2)
 - For us, what we've always been taught about law, righteousness and obedience is WRONG.
 - Jesus' teaching is for us too....
 - offering something so much better.
- Believe, Repent, Obey

We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

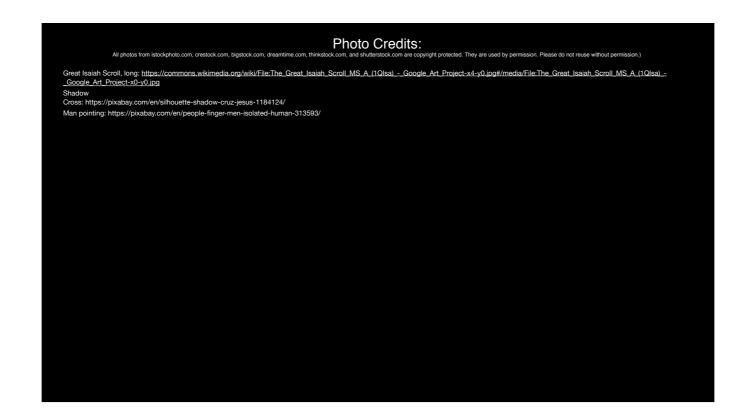
2 Corinthians 5:20

Let all that you do be done in love.

1 Corinthians 16:14



123rf.com: 9673438



Orange cross, sun: 123rf.com: 10561263_xxl

Scrolls: picjew.com: PicJew2.jpg

Isaiah scroll: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/c/ce/The_Great_Isaiah_Scroll_MS_A_%281QIsa%29_-_Google_Art_Project-x4-y0.jpg/1280px-

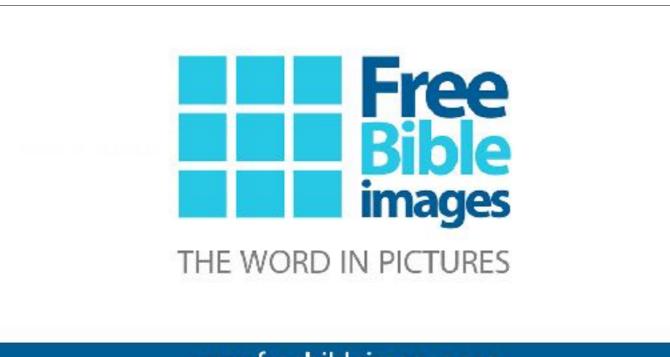
The Great Isaiah Scroll MS A %281QIsa%29 - Google Art Project-x4-y0.jpg

Great Isaiah Scroll, long: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:The_Great Isaiah Scroll_MS_A (1QIsa) - Google_Art_Project-x4-y0.jpg#/media/

<u>File:The Great Isaiah Scroll MS A (1QIsa) - Google Art Project-x0-y0.jpg</u> Shadow Cross: https://pixabay.com/en/silhouette-shadow-cruz-jesus-1184124/ Man pointing: https://pixabay.com/en/people-finger-men-isolated-human-313593/

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Righteousness in the Kingdom of Heaven

#04

Compiled and Presented by: Dave Stewart 2017 August 17 www.1corinthians1614.com

Fulfilling the Law Matthew 5:17-19

Synopsis: As Jesus continues teaching about righteousness in the kingdom, he's about to say some things that will sound very different to his audience, so he warns them that he is not abolishing the law but fulfilling it. In this lesson, we'll examine what that means.

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"Let all that you do be done with love."