

Understanding the Old and New Testament

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Scripture References:

- Luke 16:16
- John 1:17
- Matthew 11:13
- Joshua 23:6
- Hebrews 8:8, 9
- Hebrews 1:1
- 2 Corinthians 4:6
- Acts 17:28
- Hebrews 9:24
- Romans 3:19
- Romans 6:14
- 2 Corinthians 5:15, 21
- Romans 15:4
- Romans 3:21, 31
- Matthew 5:17, 18
- Genesis 15:6
- Isaiah 64:6
- Romans 5:17
- Isaiah 42:8
- Colossians 2:8, *GNT*
- John 17:22
- 2 Thessalonians 2:14
- Colossians 1:27
- Romans 8:30
- 2 Peter 1:3
- Hebrews 2:10
- 1 Peter 5:10

Summary:

For optimum results in life, we as Christians must understand the difference between the Old and New Testaments. If we have been born again and made children of God, we must no longer live by the law or the prophets. Therefore, although the law is useful and we can learn from it, we are not to live under the law, but under grace.

Notes:

1. We need to rightly divide the books of the Old Testament to avoid wrong interpretations. The Bible is divided into two halves: the Old Testament and the New Testament, a proper understanding of the Scriptures is necessary to get the big picture.
2. God no longer speaks through the prophets; He now speaks through His Son. If we are in Christ and He is in us, then when God speaks to Jesus, He also speaks to *us*. When we get born again, the focus shifts from us to Jesus.
3. Believers have been brought out from living under the law; we are as righteous as God. Immature Christians think that living under grace means they get to do whatever they want; this assumption is incorrect. We are not to live to please ourselves, but to please God.
4. Our perfect righteousness comes from Jesus Christ, not from our obedience to the law. Under the old covenant, righteousness came by self-effort to earn it; under the *new* covenant, it comes by faith in Christ.
5. Old-Testament mindsets no longer apply now; as believers, we can receive God's glory. It is unscriptural for anyone to say that God will not give us His glory. In the New Testament, the only qualifications to receive it is getting born again.

Category: grace

Keywords: Testament, covenant, law, prophets, live, grace