Understanding the Old and New Testament
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Broadcast Date: 12/3/21
Message Date: 11/1/20 ● 10:00 A.M.

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, Christians must understand the difference between the Old and New Testaments; what was once true under the old agreement may no longer true under the new agreement. The new covenant of grace radically changed the way we relate to God. If we’ve been born again and made children of God, we must no longer live by the law or the prophets. Although the law is useful and we can learn from it, we are to live not under the law, but under grace.

Notes:

1. The books that Moses wrote are only for those living by the law. Living under the law automatically puts you under the power of sin, but believers are not under the law. We need to rightly divide the books of the Old Testament to avoid wrong interpretations.
2. Although we’re now under grace, we shouldn’t completely disregard Old Testament laws; the lessons we learn from them are useful and valuable, even though we don’t live by them.
3. If we’re in Christ and He’s in us, then when God speaks to Jesus, He also speaks to us. Jesus is our advocate. When God speaks to Jesus, we get the message.
4. Grace isn’t a license to sin. Immature Christians think 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. We must stop allowing what’s in the world to determine what’s normal in our Christian lives.
5. In the New Testament, our righteousness is God’s righteousness. Jesus makes us the righteousness of God.

Category: grace
Keywords: Testament, Testaments, true, agreement, law, prophets, grace