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Hard Questions

By Rabbi Dr. Hillel ben David (Greg Killian)

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In this [study](study.html) I would like to show some weaknesses in Christian theology using didactic techniques.

QUESTION:

Why do you obey the [law](law.html) when Paul clearly say that we are “not under the [law](law.html)” in [Galatians](galatian.html) 5:18?

ANSWER:

Paul also said that we uphold the [law](law.html) when we are justified by faithful obedience - Romans 3:31.

Paul, in 1 Corinthians 9:19-21, indicates that even though he is not “under the [law](law.html)” he must still obey the [law](law.html). Notice that [HaShem](hashem.html)’s [law](law.html) and [Mashiach](mashiach.html)’s [law](law.html) are synonymous. So, not being “under the [law](law.html)” does not mean that we do not have to obey the [law](law.html).

Notice in [Galatians](galatian.html) 6:1 that if a brother [sins](sin.html) that we should restore him gently. Since we [know](daat.html) that the definition of [sin](sin.html) is the “transgression of the [law](law.html)”, from 1 John 3:4, we [know](daat.html) that we must still obey the [law](law.html).

QUESTION:

Some say, “I don’t have to [eat](eating.html) kosher because God abolished kosher [eating](eating.html) in II Luqas (Acts) 10:9-29”. Is this true?

ANSWER:

A careful reading will reveal that that Peter did not actually [eat](eating.html) anything! When Peter explains the vision, he say that he should not call any MAN impure or unclean. This vision had nothing to do with [food](food.html).

QUESTION:

Why do you worry so much about the [Sabbath](sabbath.html) and the [festivals](festivals.html) when Paul said that you should not judge me for not observing them in Colossians 2:16-17?

ANSWER:

If you look carefully, in Colossians 2:16, at the word ‘judge’ you will discover that Strong’s dictionary says that this word means to `condemn’. With this in mind lets change that word and reread the verse:

***Colossians 2:16-17*** *Let no man (who is a* [*Gentile*](gen-jew.html)*)* therefore *judge (condemn) you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of a religious* [*festival*](festival.html)*, or of the* [*new*](new.html)[*moon*](chodesh.html) *celebration, or of the* [*sabbath*](sabbath.html) *days: 17 Which are a shadow (prophecies) of things to come; but the* [*body*](body.html) *(the reality is found in) of* [*Messiah*](mashiach.html)*.*

Clearly he is talking to believers so these are obviously not pagan rituals that he is talking about. These are the biblical [commands](cmds613.html), and Paul is saying that no pagan ([Gentile](gen-jew.html)) [one](one.html) should condemn us for observing them.

QUESTION:

Yes, but these are just a shadow! We have the reality in [Mashiach](mashiach.html)!

ANSWER:

[One](one.html) day we will have the reality. Today all we have is the shadow. If we are to demonstrate our love for [HaShem](hashem.html) we need to obey Him by observing His [commands](cmds613.html) as it says in:

***Yochanan (John) 14:15*** *“If you love me, you will obey what I* [*command*](cmds613.html)*.*

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