

## Question and Answer

**Question:** My Pastor says we have freedom in Christ now, and so that is why we no longer do the Jewish festivals. Isn't keeping those old laws legalism?

**Answer:** The term legalism is not in Scripture but is a label invented by the church to discourage people from investigating any teaching of Scripture outside of those doctrines approved by reform catholicism (Protestantism). So by using this label to discourage you from investigating that which the Scriptures plainly teach, let me first establish that it is God who ordained the Feast, not Jews; **Leviticus 23:1-2**. And the Gentiles who ordained Christmas and Easter and other such things IN PLACE OF that which God ordained.

Likewise, what God ordained, He named and clearly commanded us when they were to be kept, and how. And what the Gentiles ordained, they named and defined when and how their feasts were to be kept. But Yeshua did not approve of traditions done in place of His Father's commandments; **Mark 7:6-9**.

The term legalism is used to imply that a person is trying to do things their way instead of God's way, and therefore trying to earn their way to heaven. So tell me, are the festivals ordained by men God's way or man's way? And are the festivals ordained by God, God's way or man's? So if legalism is going to be used to expose the error of trying to earn one's way to heaven by doing things one's own way, as opposed to God's way, then the church is the most guilty of all.

A Pastor once told me concerning the Sabbath that because we have freedom in Christ, that this is the reason why we can keep the Sabbath on any day of the week now.

So my question to him is, "if we are free now to keep Sabbath on any day of the week, then how come I am persecuted and called things like "legalist" if I freely choose to keep it on the 7th day of the week as opposed to the 1st day or 5th day or some other day? Likewise, if we are free to eat anything now, or even to be a vegetarian; **Romans 14:1-3**, then how come I am called a legalist if I freely choose not to eat pig or shell fish?

This is not true freedom, but rather an excuse provided by the Wicked One to people to seduce them into believing that anything is okay to do now, as long as it is not what God Himself commanded. In fact, the approach of the church to God's Law sounds alot to me like the words spoken by the Serpent to Havah (Eve) in the Garden when he said, "has God indeed said?"; **B'resheet (Genesis) 3:1(2-5)**.

It is interesting to me that the very first sin involved replacing a plainly stated commandment of God with an alternative understanding, so that the commandment to "not eat" from the forbidden tree, became understood to mean, "eat" of the forbidden tree.

**Question:** Quite a few of your studies are about defending the Torah? Isn't salvation about believing in Jesus?

**Answer:** It is critical to defend God's Law because it is attacked continuously by the Church and by society itself, because without it everybody is left to define right and wrong according to their own opinion. However, you are correct in that indeed our salvation is only by Faith in Yeshua.

Can a wound be healed without blood flow to the injury? Even so, we cannot be healed of our blemish of sin without His divine blood flowing into our souls. Salvation is not about what we do or do not do to escape death and go to Heaven - but is about spiritual rebirth.

In other words, even as a seed is dead until it is sprouted - even so we are dead in sin until our spirit is "sprouted" within us. But what good is a sprouted seed without dna instruction in its cells to tell it how to grow? Even so, without the Torah it would be impossible to know how to grow into the image of our Savior. The Torah is the Spiritual dna that grows us into spiritual maturity.

Likewise, once a seed is sprouted, like for example a tomato seed, then it becomes a tomato plant. It likewise remains a tomato plant for all of its life. So if a storm hits and it dies after one week, it was still a tomato plant when it died. Even so, once we are planted in Yeshua our Savior, we become a plant in His garden.

As such, reaching full maturity in the Torah (God's Law) is not necessary to become saved, any more than a tomato plant has to reach full maturity within its dna instruction to become a tomato plant - it was a tomato plant from the time it was sprouted. Even so, we are a plant in God's garden - not from the time we reach maturity in the Torah, but rather, from the very moment we were "saved" to be "sprouted" in Him.

And so Pastors are doing the right thing by bringing people to Yeshua to be "saved". This is not their weak point. The problem is that once a person is saved, they insert the wrong dna into their congregants, which in turn prevents their congregants from ever reaching full maturity. And not only this, but by placing the wrong dna into their congregants, they become like a blemished tomato plant, easily struck by diseases and eaten by pests.

Some become even so deformed by the defective dna inserted into them that they believe divorce and remarriage is okay, that homosexual and female pastors are okay, that bowing to Christmas trees and hunting for Easter eggs somehow glorifies God, and that smoking cigarettes, dressing immodestly, and listening to Christian Rock is no big deal.

You see, the Torah is God's dna. That is, it represents His character, and His value system which He as our Creator knows is eternally true and beneficial to us. So to take His dna into ourselves is

to be molded and shaped into His perfect image.

So any "dna" outside of this is in the devil's marred and blemished image, and leads, in due time, to death and destruction. We are all born into this world with that Wicked One's spiritual dna (self seeking) which when implanted into us in the Garden of Eden caused us to receive a dual nature. That is, it caused us to receive a nature that is partly good, and partly evil - partly harmonious with God's design, and partly at odds with God's design; thus assuring the death of every unsaved soul.

Yeshua was born into the world with God's spiritual dna (the Torah), which is always in complete harmony with God's design, and when we become believers and are "saved", God's dna is spiritually injected into us through Yeshua to bring healing in us in our areas of disharmony with God. This provides us the ability now to become fully harmonious with His design as reflected in the Torah - whereas prior to our salvation, we had no ability to be completely harmonious with it.

But once we are planted in Yeshua's Garden, just like in the Garden of Eden, the Serpent is there to do everything He can to insert wrong dna into us to prevent us from ever reaching our full potential in Yeshua - and from ever reaching full harmony with God's design as reflected in His Torah.

So that Wicked One hits us with this disease and that blight, and this pest and that mold, and this deformity and that drought or storm, etc... the natural result of which creates a cultural christianity that reflects more and more of the world's values, and less and less of God's glory and image over time.

**Question:** Do you believe in once saved always saved?

**Answer:** Yes and no. More specifically, I believe as reflected in my answer above, that we are more akin to being "once sprouted, always sprouted".

However, unlike plants (see the first question above), we have free will, and so even as salvation is a choice we make, even so, after we have been "sprouted" unto "salvation", we can still choose to walk away from God and go back into the world. Even as God never forces us to become a believer, even so, God will never force us to remain a believer either. In Scripture, walking away from the Faith is called apostasy in the Greek, and is translated in the English translations of Scripture generally as the phrase "falling away", like as for example in **2 Thessalonians 2:3**. Only believers can "apostacize/fall away".

Remember Yeshua's parable of the seed and the sower. You had some some that landed by the road, other that fell in rocky soil, other that landed in the thorns and bushes, and other that

landed in good soil; **Matthew 13:1-8**.

These correspond respectively to the one who hears the Gospel, but has insufficient faith to believe in it (seed by the road). Then the one who hears the Gospel and receives it gladly until persecution arises, who then at that time, forsakes it; (seed in the stony soil). Then the one who hears the Gospel and receives it, but due to cares in this world becomes unfruitful (seed in the thorny bushes). Finally, there is the one who receives the Gospel, and becomes fruitful in their walk (the seed in the good soil).

So 4 responses to the Gospel, respectively: 1 - to reject it out of disbelief. 2- to embrace it but walk away from it when difficult times or persecution arise because of it. 3- to embrace it, even in times of persecution and difficulty, but due to worldly distractions, are unfruitful. And then 4- To embrace it, even in times of persecution, and without worldly distractions, with the result of being very fruitful.

The first one was never "saved/sprouted". The second one was "saved/sprouted", but was not willing to take on satan's attacks, and so walked away from Yeshua's garden (see question 1 concerning His garden) - that is, walked away from their salvation. The third was willing to take on satan's attacks and remain in Yeshua's garden - that is, to remain in His salvation, but because of distractions, bore little fruit. And the fourth one, remained in Yeshua's garden - in His salvation, and bore much fruit.

So the first was never saved; **Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 13:19**. The second saved for a time, but did not endure; **Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 13:20,21**, and so "apostacized/fell away". The third saved, but unfruitful; **Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 13:22**. A back slider would fall into this category. And the fourth, both saved and fruitful; **Mattit'yahu (Matthew) 13:23**.

From my last statement, take note that I see a difference between "back sliding" and "falling away". A back slider is one who desires to serve God with all of their heart, but because of some addiction or other circumstance such as lack of support or fellowship, or time of severe stress, or "distractions of the world" they may slide back into sin unintentionally or against their will, that is, contrary to the desire of their heart, or otherwise be unfruitful. But they still want to serve Him, want to be pleasing to Him, and want to overcome their sin and be healed of their spiritual blemishes. They still continue to cry out to Him and ask Him for His help.

Whereas the one who walks away from their salvation is one who no longer wants to serve God, but wants to go back into the world rather than suffer too much discomfort for their Faith. This is the person that **Evreem (Hebrews) 6:4-6** states is impossible to renew back to repentance. And like Yeshua says, "if you remain in Me you shall bear much fruit", but that "if you do not remain in Me, you will be cast forth as a dead branch and be cast into the fire"; **Yehochanan (John) 15:1-6**.

I am persuaded that most believers have had the mixed dna of the serpent successfully inserted into them causing their growth and maturity in the Faith to be significantly hindered, and that many believers backslide at various times throughout their walk as a result.

However, concerning those who walk away from the Faith and apostasize; **1 Timothy 4:1; Evreem (Hebrews) 3:12-14**, I believe this group is composed of a small minority - at least until the end times arrive where Scriptures state "many will fall away"; **2 Thessalonians 2:3**.

In a nutshell, a person does not casually "lose" their salvation, but rather, a person "chooses" to walk away from it. So that in most cases it would be difficult and unlikely to be saved one day, then lost the next, and then saved again the next. I do not believe salvation is that casually applied and lost. Once we are sprouted, we are a plant in His garden - and nothing can change that.

No storm, no disease, no amount of pest can cause us to stop being a plant in His garden other than to willfully choose to no longer be in His garden. This is the only way we stop being a plant in His garden - that is, with the following exceptions of:

1- We cannot die in the purposeful/intentional/willful commission of a sin; **Kohelet (Ecclesiastes) 11:3; Yechezk'el (Ezekiel) chapters 18 and 33; Evreem (Hebrews) 10-26; I Yehochanan (I John) 5:16**.

2- We can never blaspheme the Holy Spirit (refer to the Holy Spirit as demonic, evil, or unclean); **Mark 3:28-30**.

The Levite

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