

ARGUMENTS ANSWERED

In this lesson I want to respond to 3 arguments that are used to say that MML&J were OT books that have no doctrinal application to us today: some say “The gospels are not the gospel”.

I. Since Jesus lived under the OT Law, everything He did was under the authority of that Law.

1. Moses lived in Egypt under the Patriarchal Law ([Heb 1:1](#)).
 - a. Yet God commanded him to institute the Passover ([Exo 12](#)).
 - b. The Passover eventually became part of the Law of Moses ([Exo 20](#)).
 - c. But Moses didn't violate Patriarchal Law by observing the Passover.

2. Similarly, Jesus lived under the Law of Moses.
 - a. Yet God commanded Jesus to institute the Lord's Supper ([Matt 26](#)).
 - b. And Lord's Supper eventually became part of the Law of Christ ([1 Cor 11](#)).
 - c. But Jesus did not violate Moses' Law by observing His memorial ([Rom 10:4](#)).
 3. Moses & Jesus worked toward establishing a new law while living under a different law.
 4. Moses & Jesus both prepared Israel to separate from one kingdom so it could enter another ([Matt. 4:23; 5:3, 10, 19; 6:10; 10:7; 11:12; 13:11, 19](#)).
- [The focus of Jesus' teaching was on preparing the Jews who had been following their tutor, the Law, ([Gal 3:24](#)) for graduation into the new kingdom.

The Jews needed to know how they would be expected to live in the kingdom of God.

That was not the only purpose but it was a primary purpose for Jesus' teaching in the S on the M.

The next argument takes us a step further.]

II. Since Jesus lived under the OT Law, He could not give new laws or else there would be two laws in force at one time (Jesus would be introducing a rival law).

The NT did not come into force until after the death of Christ (Heb 9:16-17)—that's not the issue.

The issue is whether Jesus could & did reveal some of His will or law prior to His death on the cross that would define the terms of the NT.

Let's build on a point we've already made.

1. The Patriarchal Law was the only divine law in force until God gave Moses the Law for Israel at Mount Sinai.

a. Yet God commanded Moses, while he lived under the Patriarchal Law, to initiate the Passover, feast of unleavened bread & Sabbath (Exo 12, 13, 16).

b. These laws became part of the Law of Moses.

c. Does this mean that God had two covenant laws in force at the same time?

d. No, it means that God was preparing Israel for a time when He would establish a new covenant with new laws.

2. Jesus did the same things during His life on the earth (Matt 7:24-27) – think of Jesus as drawing the faithful from past & future covenants to Himself & to His teaching.

[As God had required Moses to do in his time, Jesus was commanded to teach some things in MMLJ that would later be incorporated into the laws of a NT.

But while He was on the earth, Jesus did not put in force any laws that would rival the Law of Moses (Matt 5:17; Rom 10:4).

Jesus gave no commands that would have led any Jew to disobey the Law of Moses (Matt 23:3).]

III. Since Jesus lived under the OT Law, He could not introduce any new law regarding the worship of God.

First of all, Jesus worshipped His Father at the Temple according to the Law of Moses.

But WAS HE FORBIDDEN during His lifetime to teach new laws regarding the worship of God?

1. Under the Law of Moses, *angels & prophets* could not be worshipped (Deut 6:13).

a. But Jesus was greater than any angel or prophet (Matt 12:6, 41-42) – He was not the last OT prophet (Matt 16:14-17; Heb 1:1-3) – He was a prophet like Moses (Acts 4:22; Deut 18:15-19)

b. So Jesus accepted worship (Matt. 8:2; 9:18; 14:33; 15:25; 18:26; 20:20).

c. This was not contradictory to the Law, but in fulfillment of it (Matt 5:17; Heb 1:6; Deut 32:43; Psa 97:7).

2. Jesus also stated a NEW law of worship.

a. “*But THE HOUR IS COMING, & NOW IS, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit & truth; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him*” (Jn 4:23).

b. Here, Jesus connected His present time with a future time, NOT with the past.

c. His ministry was not an attachment to the Law of Moses (Kingdom of Israel), but an introduction to the Law of Christ (Kingdom of God).

Jn 5:22-23 – For the Father judges no one, but has committed all judgment to the Son, 23 that *all should honor the Son just as they honor the Father*. He who does not honor the Son does not honor the Father who sent Him.

d. Those who honored & worshipped Jesus—before the cross—were honoring & worshipping the Father.

e. Jesus told the Samaritan woman that those who honor Christ before His death (Jew & Gentile) will be joined with those who honor of Christ after His death.

f. These are the True Worshippers who worshipped the Father in spirit & in truth (**Jn 4:23-24**).

g. Other activities of worship would be delineated later by the apostles.

[And yet, there was only one covenant law in force while Jesus was on the earth, the Law of Moses.]

CLOSING

1. The OT contains a record of laws from the Patriarchal & Mosaical time period.
2. The Gospels (MMLJ) contain a record of laws from the Mosaical & Christian time period.
3. The Law of Moses was a schoolmaster to bring the Jew to Christ (**Gal 3:24-25**).

4. Jesus was born & He died under the Law of Moses ([Gal 4:4](#)).
5. Jesus was perfectly obedient to that Law ([1 Pet 2:22](#)).
6. But Jesus laid the groundwork for a new Kingdom ([Jn 3:3-5](#));
7. Jesus fulfilled the righteous requirements of the Law by turning away from sin in obedience to God's Law & by putting away sin by the sacrifice of Himself ([Rom 8:3-4](#); [Heb 9:26](#)).
8. Jesus did teach the Jews how to keep the Law of Moses ([Mat 7:12](#); [22:36-40](#)).
9. But Jesus also introduced laws in fulfillment of the Law of Moses that would carry over into the Law of the NT ([Matt 3-5](#); [26](#); [Jn 4](#); [Rom 10:4](#)).