

“HE ADDED NO MORE” (Deut 5:22)

A. “Deuteronomy” means “second law.”

1. Moses repeating & reemphasized the Law.
2. To a new generation – For a new purpose.

Deut 5:22 (After restating the 10) – “These words the LORD spoke to all your assembly, in the mountain from the midst of the fire, the cloud, & the thick darkness, with a loud voice; & *He added no more*. And He wrote them on two tablets of stone & gave them to me.”

B. “He added no more” had a broader application.

1. It applied to the whole Law given at Sinai.

Deut 5:32-33 (Moses) – “Therefore you shall be careful to do as the LORD your God *has commanded you*; you shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. 33 You shall walk in all the ways which the LORD your God *has commanded you*, that you may live & that it may be well with you, & that you may prolong your days in the land which you shall possess.”

C. There is a lesson in this for us.

1. When God finishes speaking nothing more can be added to it.

Heb 1:2 – *God...has* in these last days *spoken* to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds

Heb 2:3-4 – how shall we escape [punishment] if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be *spoken* by the Lord, & was *confirmed* to us by those who heard Him, 4 God also bearing witness both with signs & wonders, with various miracles, & gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will?

2. God has already spoken to US.
3. He has told US ALL the same thing.
4. “He added no more”.

[No one, since the apostles, has an inside track into the mind of God. No one actually hears God speaking to him. Therefore, no one has the ability to improve or to add to what God has already said. We must therefore be content to accept His word in the way He has revealed it unto us.

Let's be more specific & notice some things to which God has "added no more".]

I. NOTHING ADDED TO THE GOSPEL

A. In Deut., Moses is repeating a 40 year old law.

1. God's will had not changed.
2. Israel's duties & needs had not changed.
3. Because God was complete & thorough.

B. Sometimes, the longer a law is "on the books", the less it is enforced; but not with God's law!

1. In every age: God was complete & thorough.
 - a. Cain (Gen 4)
 - b. Nadab & Abihu (Lev 10; Deut 4:1-2)
 - c. Judaizers (Gal 1:8)
2. The passage of time doesn't diminish His law.

C. Some claim latter day revelation.

Mormonism: Joseph Smith. **Christian Science:** Mary Baker Eddy. **Seventh Day Adventist:** Ellen G. White. **Jehovah's Witnesses** Charles Russell (**Watchtower Bible & Tract Society**).

1. Catholicism: continuing revelation.

Catholic claim: the illumination of the church by the Holy Spirit is required to correctly interpret the Bible.

2. Many claim God speaks to & through them.

Prov 30:5-6 – Every word of God is pure; He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him. *6 Do not add to His words*, lest He rebuke you, & you be found a liar. (Rev 22:18-19)

John 16:13 (Jesus to the apostles) – However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, *He will guide you into all truth*; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; & He will tell you things to come.

Jude 3 – Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly for *the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints*.

Eph 3:3-4 – how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, 4 by which, *when you read, you may understand my knowledge* in the mystery of Christ)

[God has “added no more” to His word than what we have in our Bibles.]

II. NOTHING ADDED TO THE NAME CHRISTIAN

A. Disciples were called Christians first... (Acts 11:26).

1. Some claim this was a derogatory term.
2. Chrematizo (khray-mat-id'-zo) “Were called”:
 - a. “To appoint, warn, or nominate by Divine direction”.

Acts 10:22 – And they said, “Cornelius the centurion, a just man, one who fears God & has a good reputation among all the nation of the Jews, was *divinely instructed* [warned by God; Chrematizo] by a holy angel to summon you to his house, & to hear words from you.”

“Christian” was a name given by God’s direction.

Isa 62:2 – The Gentiles shall see your righteousness, & all kings your glory. *You shall be called by a new name, which the mouth of the LORD will name.*

3. Men hyphenate it, & use it descriptively to glorify to their works (Evangelical – Bookstore).

[God has “added no more” to the name He has given His people.]

III. NOTHING ADDED TO THE CHURCH

A. As God had a pattern for the Tabernacle (Heb 8:5), so is there a pattern of the church.

1. Law of Moses – Law of Christ

B. Members are added, but nothing else can be.

1. Work:

- a. Evangelism (1 Tim 3:15; 1 Thess 1:6-10)
- b. Edification by teaching (Eph 4:11-12)
- c. Benevolence toward saints (1 Cor 16:1; 2 Cor 9:12; Rom 12:13; 15:26).

God did not authorize the church to offer daycare & secular education, social & recreational activities, secular holiday events, haunted houses, egg hunts, ski trips or lock-ins. The church does not exist for the pleasure of its members, it exists to glorify God & to do His work in His way.

2. Worship:

- a. 1st Day Lord's S. (Not Saturday, quarterly).
- b. Singing (not choir, soloist, bands, instruments)
- c. Praying (not candles, beads, incense, kneeling before statues)
- d. Lord's day giving (Not multiple collections)
- e. Gospel preaching (Talks, comedy, drama)

Johnson Street c of c: Christian Seder (Passover). Participate in the ceremonial portion of the Passover that Jesus ate with his disciples the night before he was crucified. Experience the context in which the Lord's Supper was given to his followers & gain a deeper appreciation for its meaning & our heritage. (cf. **Rom 16:17-18**)

3. Organization:

- a. God
- b. Christ
- c. Holy Spirit
- d. Apostles (Not synods, councils, conventions)
- e. Elders (Not one man rule or women leadership)
- f. Deacons
- g. Teachers & Preachers
- h. Members

Churches of men today have their Synods & Counsels. Their local churches are Pastor driven (one or many, men or women). They have "ministers" of this & that, & in doing so have created a clergy system.

[**God** has "added no more" to the church, than what He has revealed in the New Testament.]

IV. NOTHING ADDED TO THE PLAN OF SALVATION

A. The Judaizers (false teachers) added to God's plan.

1. Gentiles: circumcised & keep Law (**Acts 15:1-2**).
2. God responded to their lies.

Acts 15:28-29 (the decree sent to Gentiles) – For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit, & to us [apostles], to lay upon you *no greater burden than these necessary things*: 29 that you abstain from things offered to idols, from blood, from things strangled, & from sexual immorality...

B. Were there other necessary things?

1. "He will tell you what you must do" (**Acts 10:6**).
2. "Word by which you...will be saved" (**11:13-14**).
3. "God has granted...repentance to life" (**11:18**).

4. “They magnified God” (confession) (10:46).
5. “He commanded them to be baptized” (10:48).
6. “Whoever fears Him & works righteousness is accepted by Him” (10:34).

C. Nothing added – to be saved, you must do the same.

1. Believe (John 8:24)
2. Repent (Luke 13:3)
3. Confess Christ (Rom 10:9-10)
4. Baptized (Mark 16:16)
5. Remain Faithful & Obedient to Christ (Acts 6:7; Rom 15:18; 2 Cor 2:9; 1 Pet 1:14; Rev 2:10)

[The Lord’s church & gospel preachers are often accused of adding to the gospel plan of salvation by teaching the necessity of these actions.

They falsely charge us with nullifying the grace of God.

But if these actions are necessary to one’s salvation, as the Scripture bears out, then it’s just as dangerous to take away from the plan of salvation as it is to add to it.]

CLOSING

God has added no more:

- To The Gospel
- To The Name Christian
- To The Church
- To The Plan Of Salvation