

Summary of Matthew 5:17-19 & Torah Today

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Matthew 5:17-19 and the Ongoing Role of Torah

Main Topic: Understanding Matthew 5:17-19 in Yeshua's Teachings

- The discussion centers on the significance of Matthew 5:17-19 as foundational for followers of Yeshua (Jesus).
- Emphasized that Yeshua declared he did not come to abolish the Torah (Law) or the Prophets, but to fulfill them.
- The Torah, given at Sinai, is still considered applicable and relevant for believers today, now written on hearts through the new covenant.
- The new covenant is described as "brand new," empowered by the Spirit, but does not negate the Sinai covenant or the Torah.
- Walking in the Spirit means being led to keep the laws of Yahweh, as taught and modeled by Yeshua.
- Yeshua's authority is highlighted as supreme, with his teachings interpreted as harmonizing with, not contradicting, the Torah.
- A warning is given against interpreting the writings of Paul or others in ways that contradict Yeshua's words.

Key Points:

- Yeshua is presented as Yahweh incarnate, the eternal Son who fulfills and exemplifies Torah obedience.
- Discipleship involves following Yeshua and walking in Torah as a means of expressing love for God and others.
- The Sermon on the Mount reinforces the call to be "salt and light," demonstrating covenant relationship through good works (Torah observance).

- Yeshua distinguishes his teachings from the heavy burdens of extra-biblical (oral) traditions added by first-century Jewish leadership.
- Critique of the Pharisees and scribes centers on their focus on tradition over true Torah observance and humility.
- The Torah always included pathways for repentance and forgiveness; no one was expected to live sinlessly.
- Fulfillment of Torah is ongoing; not all prophecies have been completed—Yeshua's second coming and the new heavens and earth are still future.

Questions & Discussion:

- What does it mean to "fulfill" the Torah? (Not abolishing, but living out and teaching it correctly.)
- Does the new covenant replace or expand the Sinai covenant? (It expands, including a new priesthood, but does not abolish the old.)
- How are Gentile believers to relate to Torah? (They are grafted into Israel's covenants and called to walk in Torah, without ethnic conversion.)
- What is the relationship between the priesthood of Yeshua (Melchizedek) and the Levitical priesthood? (Both exist; Yeshua's is greater but does not abolish the other.)

Decisions & Theological Positions:

- The words and teachings of Yeshua are the interpretive foundation for all apostolic writings.
- Torah observance is affirmed as a joyful obligation for both Jewish and Gentile followers of Yeshua.
- The oral traditions of the Pharisees are distinguished from the commandments of Torah; only the latter are binding.

Action Plans:

- Listeners are encouraged to study Yeshua's teachings, particularly Matthew 5:17-19, as foundational.
- Believers are to walk in Torah as empowered by the Spirit, expressing love, repentance, and humility.
- Promote discussion and further study by leaving comments and sharing the

message.

Additional Topics:

- Brief discussion about Hebrews 7 and the coexistence of Levitical and Melchizedek priesthoods—emphasizing that both remain significant until final fulfillment in the new heavens and earth.
- The Torah is described as universal (for all nations), not uniquely “Jewish,” and intended to bless all of humanity through Israel.
- Critique of Western Christian teachings that claim the Torah is “nailed to the cross” or abolished; instead, the Torah and the Spirit work together.

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