## A "TIMELY" AND "RELEVANT" MESSAGE FOR THOSE WHO DESIRE to be the bride of christ: why the love of many has grown cold

If we are not "walking" in the love of God, nor have we received His love fully into our hearts so we can be delivered and healed, then we cannot possibly love one another as God has loved us and love our neighbor as ourselves. And, if we do not walk in love, then we will be judged according to the law because essentially all the law and the prophets hang on these two commandments.

Unfortunately, the love of many believers in the body of Christ for God and for one another has grown cold. The primary reason why the love of many has grown cold is because "lawlessness" is flourishing as never before and because we do not love God as we should. And, as a result, we do not "obey" His commandments.

Jesus says to us in Matthew 24:12, "And because LAWLESSNESS will ABOUND, the LOVE of MANY will grow COLD." (NKJV) (emphasis added).

The reason why "lawlessness" is flourishing is that many believers have left our first love—Jesus Christ. As such, because we have left our first love, we are transgressing the Word of God.

The word "lawlessness" Jesus uses in Matthew 24:12 is synonymous with the word "iniquity." And, according to *Strong's Greek Lexicon* #G458, the word "lawlessness" as used in Matthew 24:12 is the Greek word "anomia" (pronounced "ä-no-mē'-ä"), which means the following: Without law because of being ignorant of it or because of violating it due to contempt of it which results in our "wickedness" or "iniquity" against God and His Word.

Furthermore, the Greek word "anomia" is derived from *Strong's Greek Lexicon* #G459, and is the Greek word "anomos" (pronounced "ä'-no-mos"), and is referring to the Gentiles—pagan, heathen people who are destitute of the Mosaic Law. Thereby, they are out of covenant with God.

However, it can also be referring to those of us who were formerly Gentiles from the House of Israel who have now been grafted into the commonwealth of Israel by our faith in Jesus Christ. Unlike, the Jews from the House of Judah, we have departed from God's law written by Moses because of our contempt of it or our ignorance of it. This is despite the fact that under the New Covenant, God has now put His law in our mind and written them on our hearts with His Spirit if we have not grieved the Holy Spirit by practicing "lawlessness."

And, as A.W. Tozier states in his book titled Mystery of the Holy Spirit, he proclaims this indisputable truth: "The Holy Spirit never enters a man and then lets him live like the world. You can be sure of that."

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In addition, the main reason why "lawlessness" will abound in the end times, as we are now witnessing and experiencing, is because many believers in the body of Christ have bought the lie from the pit of hell that Jesus did away with the law, rather than doing away with the "curse" we would receive for not keeping the letter of the law.

I believe this is the main reason why many of God's people under the New Covenant are ignorant of God's law. Therefore, they are perishing from a lack of knowledge concerning what our heavenly Father requires from us in order to be "walking" and "living" in a covenant relationship with Him after we become saved.

For those who are quick to say that under the New Covenant we are saved by grace, do we realize the children of Israel as they were led by Moses out of Egypt were saved by God's grace before He gave them His "house rules" (the law) at the base of Mount Sinai? Once He brought them out of Egypt, He gave the children of Israel His law so they would know His terms and conditions of "walking" in a covenant with Him and what He would require. And, so it is with this generation of the children of Israel.

A covenant is a legally binding contract between two people which is always ratified (sealed) with blood. Both parties have a responsibility to keep their end of the agreement. God is always faithful to keep His end of all the everlasting covenants (plural) He has established with mankind and creation throughout the *synergy of the ages*.

Unfortunately, the same cannot be said for many of His people, called before the foundation of the world for His purposes and His glory to prevail. Many self-professed believers in the body of Christ are using His name and worship Him in vain because they have rejected the very One they claim to serve. They are not "obeying" His "eternal" Word.

Therefore, many so-called believers in the body of Christ are using the grace and mercy of God as a license to sin. They are living according to what they deem right in their own eyes.

The apostle Paul tells us in Galatians 5:13, we are not to use the liberty we have been given in Christ as an opportunity for the flesh.

And, according to *Strong's Greek Lexicon* #G1657, the word "liberty" as used in Galatians 5:13, is the Greek word "eleutheria" (pronounced "e-lyü-the-rē'-ä"), which means the following: 1) liberty to do or to omit things having no relationship to salvation; 2) fancied liberty—having the license of liberty to do as one pleases; 3) true liberty is living as we should not as we please.

Thus, many individuals who call themselves Christians are not following God's instructions, written based on the whole counsel of His Word. He specifically tells us "how" we are to walk in His ways because we Page 2 *A Message to the Bride* by Donna M. Rogers Copyright©2017 Donna M. Rogers All rights reserved. <u>www.angeloffaith777.com</u>

love Him and want to please Him, rather than seeking to please ourselves based on how we choose to serve and worship Him.

Again, the "root" cause of why those who profess to be believers, but who are not "walking" and "living" according to God's commandments, is because we have left our first love—Jesus Christ. Therefore, we do not desire to please Him by keeping His commandments.

Hence, for those who do not "obey" His commandments—this means we have not really placed our faith and trust in our spiritual well-being in Him.

As such, we can "say" we believe in Jesus Christ all we want, yet the word "believe" is the Greek word "pistyoo'-o" which means: To entrust one's spiritual well-being to Christ. Thus, if we really have entrusted our spiritual well-being to Christ, then we will "do" what He says to "do" according to the whole counsel of His Word. Unfortunately, many believers have left their first love and do not love God as they ought to. This is why we do not walk in love with our sisters and brothers in Christ, let alone demonstrate the love of Christ as a light to the Gentiles as we are supposed to do.

Our heavenly Father is very grieved that so many who claim to know Him and serve Him in the body of Christ are breaking the greatest commandments. All the law and the Book of Prophets are based on these commandments: To love God and to love one another.

Hence, many so-called believers in the body of Christ have broken the everlasting covenant with God we entered into when we received Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. Many believers have "despised" and "forfeited" their birthright as His sons and daughters for the things of this world just as Esau did. Those who have "despised" and "forfeited" their birthright have no right to expect to inherit the covenant promises of God, or to walk in the fullness of His power and His authority.

The Lord wants me to convey to His people this truth: It is imperative we make an immediate course correction and return to keeping His commandments, His precepts, His statutes, and His judgments, not to be "legalistic" for we are no longer under the letter of the law.

We need to make an immediate course correction so we will not perish for all eternity for not "obeying" His Word. Again, in order to be in a covenant relationship with the One we profess to love and serve with all our mind, heart, soul, and strength, our love for God and for one another will be evidenced when we bear the proper "fruit." In fact, Jesus says our love for God and for one another, is how all will know that we truly are His disciples.

God has defined what love is from His perspective. This is based on Second John 1:6, which proclaims, *"This is LOVE, that we WALK according to His COMMANDMENTS. This is the COMMANDMENT, that as you have heard from the beginning, you should WALK in it."* (NKJV) (emphasis added).

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And, it is for this very reason, the love of God was manifested towards us and is why God sent His only *begotten* Son into the world so that He might live through us.

The apostle John tells us what love is which is this: Not that we loved God, but He loved us so much He sent His only *begotten* Son, Jesus Christ, to die for the atonement for our sins. Therefore, since God so loved us, then we also ought to love one another.

Again, Jesus emphatically tells us in John 13:34–35, "A NEW commandment I GIVE TO YOU, that you LOVE ONE ANOTHER; as I HAVE LOVED YOU, that you also love one another. BY THIS all will KNOW that you ARE MY DISCIPLES, IF you have LOVE for ONE ANOTHER." (NKJV) (emphasis added).

The apostle Paul reiterates what Jesus says to us in John 13:34–35 when he tells us in Galatians 5:14, *"For ALL the LAW is FULFILLED* [G4137: *plēroo*: to make full; to render complete; to carry into effect in order to execute, or finish] *in one word, even in this: 'YOU shall LOVE your NEIGHBOR as YOURSELF.'*" (NKJV) (emphasis added).

And, this is substantiated and summed up by what Jesus says to us in Matthew 22:36–39, in response to the question one of Jesus' disciples asked Him long ago. This Scripture says the following:

"'Teacher, which is the GREAT COMMANDMENT in the LAW?' Jesus said to him, 'You shall LOVE the LORD your God with ALL your HEART, with ALL your SOUL, and with ALL your MIND.' This is the FIRST and GREAT COMMANDMENT. And the SECOND is like it: 'You shall LOVE your neighbor AS YOURSELF.'" (Matt. 22:36–39, NKJV) (emphasis added).

What Jesus is saying to us, His disciples is this: There is no way we can love Yehovah, our heavenly Father, and Him, as our Lord and Savior, with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength and not want to keep His instructions.

Our love for God and for one another is the greatest commandment found in the law. If we would just keep these two commandments in Matthew 22:36–39, we will be in essence fulfilling God's Torah just as Jesus did. This is especially true since Jesus tells us in Matthew 22:40, *"On these TWO commandments HANG all the LAW and the PROPHETS."* (NKJV) (emphasis added).

Also, do not dismiss the significance of the following statement Jesus says to us in Matthew 22:40. As I have said many times before, but it bears repeating, the New Testament was not written when Jesus walked the face of the earth during His earthly ministry.

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Therefore, Jesus and His disciples, including the apostle Paul, taught strictly from the Torah, our heavenly Father's instructions for all His children. And, they also taught from the Book of the Prophets and the Book of Psalms.

As a matter of fact, the apostle Paul substantiates this truth in Acts 26:22–23. The apostle Paul said he witnessed and shared the gospel of the kingdom by saying no other things than those which the prophets and Moses said would come. Acts 26:22–23, says the following:

"Therefore, having obtained help from God, to this day I stand, witnessing both to small and great, saying NO other THINGS than those which the PROPHETS and MOSES said WOULD COME—that the Christ would SUFFER, that He would be the FIRST TO RISE FROM THE DEAD, and WOULD PROCLAIM LIGHT to the JEWISH PEOPLE and to the GENTILES." (Acts 26:22–23, NKJV) (emphasis added).

Many Christians claim the apostle Paul says the law is done away with. This isn't true. These people are deceived because Paul addresses "lawlessness" in Second Corinthians 6:14, which says the following:

"Do NOT be UNEQUALLY YOKED TOGETHER with UNBELIEVERS. For what **FELLOWSHIP** [G3352: metochē: participation; cognate: 3352: metoxḗ: a close relation between partners, i.e., people sharing something held in common; joint-activity] has *RIGHTEOUSNESS with* **LAWLESSNESS** [G458: anomia: & G459:anomos: the condition of being without law (destitute of the Mosaic Law) because of ignorance of it, or violating it because of contempt (enmity) for it]? And what <u>COMMUNION</u> [G2842: koinōnia: participation, or (social) intercourse, or (pecuniary) benefaction; communication; fellowship] has LIGHT with DARKNESS?" (2 Cor. 6:14, NKJV) (emphasis added).

Furthermore, we are told in First John 3:4 that whoever commits sins misses the mark which has been established by God according to His "eternal" Word. First John 3:4, says the following:

"Whosoever committeth SIN [G266: hamartia: offense; G264: hamartano: to miss the mark (and so not share in the prize), that is, (figuratively) to err, especially (morally) to sin; offend, trespass] TRANSGRESSETH [G3847: parabasis: violation or breaking] also the LAW [G458: anomia & G459: anomos: the condition of being without law (destitute of the Mosaic Law) because of ignorance of it, or violating it because of contempt (enmity) for it]: For SIN is the TRANSGRESSETH of the LAW." (1 John 3:4, KJV) (emphasis added).

Again, the word "lawlessness" means we are destitute of the Mosaic Law, which details our heavenly Father's terms and conditions of "walking" in a covenant relationship with Him. The New Testament builds on this.

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Unfortunately, many of God's people in the body of Christ are destitute of the Mosaic Law either because of our ignorance of it or because of our contempt of it. In either case, from our heavenly Father's perspective, when we transgress against His law, then we are in a revolt (nationally, morally, and religiously). If we are rebelling against Him and His Word, it is because we do not want to submit our will to His Lordship in our lives.

And, the Mosaic Law elaborates in detail God's Ten Commandments. Also, these are some of God's laws He has now put in our mind and written on our heart under the New Covenant rather than on two tablets of stone.

The first four (4) commandments of the Ten Commandments have to do with "walking" in a covenant relationship with *Yehôvâh*, our heavenly Father, who is our Creator. The 4th commandment of the Ten Commandments distinguishes who the Lord of the Sabbath is.

Whereas, the remaining six (6) commandments tell us how we are to love each other.

Moreover, ALL the Ten Commandments are still as valid today as when they were written by the finger of our heavenly Father, *Yehôvah*, who gave the two tablets of stone to His servant Moses to give to all the children of Israel—all twelve tribes of Israel.

As a matter of fact, all the Ten Commandments are reiterated in the New Testament, including keeping the seventh (7th) day Sabbath.

God has a plan to restore this nation back to Him once again. But first He must "destroy" and "uproot" the foundations in this nation which have not been built on His government—His justice, His righteousness, and His judgments. He must "reform" many things to re-establish His kingdom "rule" and "reign" in our nation for His eternal purposes to prevail once again.

Yet it begins with the "transformation" of His people—in our "hearts" and in our "homes."

As such, He will shake everything that can be shaken! In addition, God will release His glory like never before. At the same time, He will also be releasing His righteous judgments.

And, God's righteous judgments begin with His Church. This is based on First Peter 4:17 which says, "For the time has come for JUDGMENT to BEGIN at the HOUSE of GOD; and if it begins with us first, WHAT WILL BE THE END of those who DO not OBEY the GOSPEL of GOD?" (NKJV) (emphasis added).

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Do not dismiss the significance that we are specifically told in First Peter 4:17 that those who do not "obey" the gospel of God will be dealt with in the end—when Judgment Day commences.

Tragically, there are many believers in the body of Christ who do not "obey" the gospel and unless they repent—they shall perish for all eternity when God renders His final judgment on Judgment Day.

When God gets done re-structuring this nation and His church, all this will result in His people repenting, and returning to Him, with all our mind, heart, soul, and strength, so we do not perish for all eternity.

Unfortunately, it sometimes takes great persecution and calamity, to compel people to turn from our wicked ways, which is the fourth requirement of Second Chronicles 7:14.

Many of God's people in America do not even realize we have broken "covenant" with God, due to our lack of knowledge concerning the whole counsel of His Word.

Those who transgress His laws, change His ordinances (i.e., His seven holy convocations listed in Leviticus 23), and have broken His everlasting covenant He established with Abraham will be "consumed" and "destroyed" at the brightness of Jesus' second coming (Isaiah 24:4-6).

This is why we are told in Malachi 4:4-5 to "remember" the Law of Moses, with the statutes and judgments, before the *great* and *terrible* "Day of the Lord." The word "remember" is Strong's #H2142 and is the Hebrew word "zakar" (pronounced "zaw-kar"), which means: To mark (so as to be recognized).

God will "mark well" with His Mark of Authority (His signet ring-the seal of righteousness and genuineness) those who "remember" the Law of Moses and those who "remember" the Sabbath day (the 7th day) to keep it holy. The seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) day Sabbath is the only commandment in the Ten Commandments God tells us to "remember." Exodus 20:8: *"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy."* 

Yet most in Christendom say this is the only commandment of the Ten Commandments that no longer applies to New Covenant believers which is a "fatal" mistake.

PLEASE SHARE THIS TEACHING TO HELP SPREAD THE TRUE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM WHICH WAS ONCE DELIVERED TO THE SAINTS. IF YOU HAVE BEEN BLESSED BY THIS TEACHING, PLEASE CONSIDER SOWING A SEED INTO MY MINISTRY OR PARTNERING WITH MY MINISTRY. THANK YOU.

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