

## THE LAW IS NOT ABOLISHED

The law is not abolished but rather is fulfilled in LOVE! Christ came to make this fulfillment possible!

Far from being abolished, the Law and the Prophets are not going anywhere. Christ said, *“one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled.”* The law as a system was repealed, but the deeper spiritual essence of it as fulfilled in Christ remains as a New Covenant reality as seen in the lives of Christ’s people.

### **Matthew 5:18 (NKJV)**

**18 For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled.**

“For assuredly” is a strong assertion of authority occurring 31 times in Matthew.

“[Jesus] spoke with supreme authority; He did not need to quote another. Thus He put Himself on a level with God.” – **Howard Vos**

This is the first use of this “formula” (“For assuredly”) which signifies a statement of utmost importance. It is connected to the previous statement in verse 17 by the explanatory word “For” (Gk. *gar*). Thus, verse 18 affirms and further explains verse 17.

The deeper sense of the Law as fulfilled in Christ will not pass off the scene **“till heaven and earth pass away.”** The deeper fulfillment of the LAW is fulfilled in LOVE. The GREAT commandments to love God with our all and to love our neighbor as our self were the essence of the Law (Mt. 22:36-40). Christ came to make this possible. He gave us a NEW command to love one another as He loved us (Jn. 13:34-35). And then the sending of the Spirit makes this possible (Gal. 5:22-23).

Heaven and earth will not pass away until the conclusion of the Millennial Reign of Christ. Thus, all the kingdom Messianic prophecies will yet be fulfilled. And so the deeper moral application of the Law as found in Christ endures and will be ultimately fulfilled in the Millennial Kingdom in relation to the fulfillment of New Covenant promises.

The “jot” refers to the smallest letter in the Hebrew alphabet; the “tittle” refers to the smallest stroke that distinguishes one letter from another.

Jesus here emphasizes the inerrancy and authority of the entirety of the OT Scriptures right down to the very letter, yea, down to the smallest part of every letter. That is total inerrancy! Thus, Jesus affirms the HIGHEST view of the inspired Scriptures possible.

The deeper application and fulfillment of the OT Scriptures found in Christ will continue to be completely relevant and binding UNTIL all is fulfilled. It will apply until the heaven and earth pass away – meaning throughout the duration of the Millennial kingdom, which will then give way to a new heaven and earth.

**2 Peter 3:13 (NKJV)**

**13** Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth **in which righteousness dwells.**

Things will be different in the new heavens and earth. This will be a context in which perfect righteousness dwells and reigns supreme. Until then, the deeper significance of the law as fulfilled in Christ remains ever relevant.

Thus, the prophetic aspects and the moral aspects of the Law (finding fulfillment in LOVE) continue to remain relevant as long as heaven and earth remain.