

West Valley Church of God
P. O. Box 343
San Fernando, CA 91341

Pastors & Elders

Pastor: Wayne and Patty Mitchell
West Valley Elders
Carlton & Judy Green
Cornell Smith

Women's Ministry

September 1st, our ladies were blessed with another Women's luncheon, including catered meal; while many ladies contributed wonderful salads, side dishes and desserts.

scripture; prayers requested for those in need or ill,



"Ute" - Oil on Canvas
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and a wonderfully interesting talk by Ute Stultz, on some of her life story. Fellowship, food and beautiful decor made for a perfect afternoon!



A big "Thank You" to both Edit Ancona and Susan Thompson for their many labors of love in making this opportunity available to all of us.



We were pleased to have Tillie Sanchez visit us, with guests, as well as others who are not always able to attend. Some highlights of our meeting was commentary from Edit Ancona on favorite

Living Waters



Isa:43:25: I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.

Psalms:48:14: For this God is our God for ever and ever: he will be our guide even unto death.

Ph'p:4:13: I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Editor's Corner

● Submissions for inclusion in "The Vine" are welcome **at any time**. We need your input! Please email to the editor (See right column) - in **10 point type, Arial font**, for easier placement.

Send submissions to:
TheVineEditor@aol.com -
Subject Line: Title of Article. **Time sensitive** submissions due **5th** of month for following month's issue. **News and Inspirational articles welcome any time.**

NOTICE... Many paintings shown in this publication are for sale. Check your old copies. Contact Editor.

The Vine

"I am the Vine, you are the branches: He that abides in me, and I in him, the same brings forth much fruit: for without me you can do nothing."
John 15:5

October 2018

West Valley Church of God -- "Come worship with us..."
Submissions: TheVineEditor@aol.com
We meet at the Congregational Church of Northridge
9659 Balboa Boulevard, Northridge, CA 91325
Saturday Service 10:30 A.M. - www.westvalleywgc.org

Which Torah?

~~~ John Brown



**ROMANS 7:15-25** 15 I don't understand my own behavior - I don't do what I want to do; instead, I do the very thing I hate!

16 Now if I am doing what I don't want to do, I am agreeing that the Torah (2) is good. 17 But now it is no longer "the real me" doing it, but the sin housed inside me. 18 For I know that there is nothing good housed inside me - that is, inside my

old nature. I can want what is good, but I can't do it! 19 For I don't do for the good I want; instead, the evil that I don't want is what I do! 20 But if I am doing what "the real me" doesn't want, it is no longer "the real me" doing it but the sin housed inside me. 21 So I find it to be the rule, a kind of perverse "torah," that although I want to do what is good, evil is right there with me!

22 For in my inner self I completely agree with God's (1) Torah; 23 but in my various parts, I see a different "torah," one that battles with the Torah in my mind and makes me a prisoner of sin's "torah," which is operating in my various parts. 24 What a miserable creature I am! Who will rescue me from this body bound for death? 25 Thanks be to God, [he will]! - through Yeshua the Messiah, our Lord! To sum up: with my mind, I am a slave of **God's "Torah"**; but with my old nature, I am a slave of **sin's "Torah."**

## Upcoming Events

● Bible Studies, Letters and other Events...see Weekly Bulletin and Bulletin Board.



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Which Torah? (cont.)

Chapter 8: 1-4 1 Therefore, there is no longer any condemnation awaiting those who are in union with the Messiah Yeshua. 2 Why? Because the **Torah of the Spirit (3)**, which produces this life in union with Messiah Yeshua, has set me free from the "Torah" of sin and death. 3 For what the Torah could not do by itself, because it lacked the power to make the old nature cooperate, God did by sending his own Son as a human being with a nature like our own sinful one [but without sin]. God did this in order to deal with sin, and in so doing he executed the punishment against sin in human nature, 4 so that the just requirement of the Torah might be fulfilled in us who do not run our lives according to what our old nature wants but according to what the Spirit wants.

(1) Yehova, (2) principle of law (3) living inside me  
Complete Jewish Bible



## Truth or Consequences



~~~ Sharon Mills

A matter of semantics

How do you choose your words carefully? By using considerable forethought, or just settling for a generic descriptive of thought?

How you articulate affects the way others perceive your meaning. In matters of great importance, it is advisable to consider well prior to speaking. Spontaneous verbiage has its own place, of course, but not when it comes to life-changing matters.

It is generally understood that "Law" as it related to the Bible, refers to the greater law given to Moses by God himself, known as the Ten Commandments. The many hundreds of "added" requirements were added by man, in an attempt to clarify various situations and for a multitude of purposes.

In specific scriptures:

Ac:13:39: And by him [Jesus] all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses.

The Ten Commandments point out our utter inability to perfectly obey them; as we are guilty of disobeying all, if only we disobey a single one. Therefore, we cannot be justified by obeying "most". No one has perfectly obeyed them but Jesus.

2Co:3:14: But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same vail untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which vail is done away in Christ. Eph:2:15: Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain

Joh:5:24: Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

one new man, so making peace;

The abolished item would seem to be The Ten Commandments ...but it is they which indeed show us how to perfectly obey God, and acquire peace and happiness. What did Christ "abolish" by dying for us? He abolished the consequences of disobedience = death, not the principles of how to be happy. The Ten Commandments are called the "Law of Sin and Death" because of these consequences; even so, our "works" can't save us.

Ro:8:2: For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

The "Law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus" is what we obey IN THE SPIRIT, notwithstanding, we fail in the LETTER of the law in the flesh. **So, not by our works...But the principles are the same! The Law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus is that which is God's gift to us - life through Christ's sacrifice -- which frees us from the "other" Law's consequences.**

Does that mean the Ten Commandments are no longer valid and totally abolished? NO. Not in the sense that the principles are the same. They are still valid as a guideline to peace and happiness. It is the CONSEQUENCES of disobeying them that we are free from...It is DEATH which has been abolished for us.

God does not change. His ways do not change. The roadmap for

our happiness has not changed. He has only changed our penalty from DEATH to LIFE.

To say simply that "The Law is done away with" or, "We are no longer under the Law" does not tell the whole story, and may be misleading to some. Better to say, "The Penalty of the Law is done away with; we are no longer condemned to die." To be more accurate and precise in meaning, the change in semantics becomes more understandable. God's (spiritual) Law** has always been in effect. It is the PENALTY that has been abolished, through Christ's sacrifice. **THAT IS THE GOOD NEWS! (**See page bottom)**

HERE YOU HAVE IT:

2Tm:1:9: Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, 2Tm:1:10: But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:

**** TWO KINDS OF LAW:** (1) **Ro:7:14: For we know that the law is spiritual: (God-made Laws of conduct).** The 'new' covenant is that God puts these laws *into our hearts and minds* (**Heb:8:10**); they are eternal; (*Satan disobeyed a spiritual/eternal law (covet) BEFORE the 10 Commandments*). (2) The (physical) laws of men (customs, ordinances) are not permanent.