Understanding Christ’s Role in Revealing God’s Perfect Will

Introduction: The Incomplete Picture of the Old Covenant

When we study the Old Testament, we find the stories of faithful men and women—patriarchs, prophets, kings, and servants of God. They were chosen, used mightily, and blessed by the Lord, yet many of their lives were marked by imperfection. Why?

Because the Mosaic Law, though holy, righteous, and good (Romans 7:12), was never meant to perfect mankind—it served as a temporary guide, a shadow of the reality that was to come in Christ (Hebrews 10:1).

> *Romans 8:3 (NKJV)*
> *“For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son…”*

Old Testament Saints and the Limits of the Law

Let’s consider King David. The Bible calls him *“a man after God’s own heart”* (1 Samuel 13:14; Acts 13:22), yet he committed acts that today would be considered sinful—he married many wives (2 Samuel 5:13), and he orchestrated the death of Uriah the Hittite (2 Samuel 11). His son Solomon took it further with 700 wives and 300 concubines (1 Kings 11:3).

Despite these, God still used David and blessed him—but we must understand this was not a license for sin, nor was it a pattern for us to follow today. These actions were tolerated under the Old Covenant due to the hardness of human hearts, not because they aligned with God’s perfect will.

> *Acts 17:30 (NKJV)*
> *“Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent...”*

> *Matthew 19:8 (NKJV)*
> *“He said to them, ‘Moses, because of the hardness of your*

> *hearts, permitted you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so.’”*

Jesus Came to Fulfill the Law

Jesus did not come to abolish the Law, but to fulfill it—to complete, embody, and clarify it. He showed us the spiritual depth behind the commandments, which were often misunderstood or reduced to external observances.

> *Matthew 5:17–18 (NKJV)*
> *“Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill.*
> *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.”*

Examples of Jesus Clarifying the Law’s Deeper Meaning:

- Murder is not only the physical act, but also hatred and anger (Matthew 5:21–22).
- Adultery is not just a physical act, but also lustful thoughts (Matthew 5:27–28).
- Oaths and vows, which were common under the Old Covenant, are now replaced

with simple, honest speech (Matthew 5:33–37).

- Vengeance, once allowed (“an eye for an eye”), is now forbidden—replaced with grace, forgiveness, and love for enemies (Matthew 5:38–48).

The Law Was a Shadow; Christ Is the Reality

> *Colossians 2:17 (NKJV)*
> *“...which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.”*

The Old Covenant—including its priesthood, sacrifices, temple rituals, and moral regulations—pointed forward to Christ. They were incomplete without Him.

> *Hebrews 10:1 (NKJV)*
> *“For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never... make those who approach perfect.”*

Salvation Now Requires the New Birth

It’s a dangerous misinterpretation to say, *“David wasn’t baptized, so I don’t need to be”* or *“David had many wives, so polygamy must be acceptable.”* This thinking ignores the progressive revelation of God’s will, which was fully revealed in Christ.

Jesus said:

> *John 3:3 (NKJV)*
> *“Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”*

And again:

> *Mark 16:16 (NKJV)*
> *“He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.”*

Baptism is not optional—it is an act of obedience and the public testimony of our new life in Christ (Romans 6:3–4; Acts 2:38).

Jesus Sets the New Standard for Marriage and Morality

Jesus restored God’s original design for marriage—one man, one woman, united for life (Genesis 2:24).

> *Matthew 19:9 (NKJV)*
> *“And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery…”*

While Moses permitted divorce due to human weakness, Jesus affirms that God’s original design never included divorce or polygamy.

There Is No Purgatory—Only Judgment After Death

Many false doctrines have arisen—such as purgatory, or the idea that the dead can be prayed into heaven. But Scripture is clear:

> *Hebrews 9:27 (NKJV)*
> *“And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment…”*

There is no “second chance” after death. Once a person dies, their eternal destiny is sealed—either with Christ in paradise or separated from Him in eternal judgment (Luke 16:19–31; Revelation 20:11–15).

We Must Follow Jesus—Not Old Testament Examples Alone

David was a great man of faith, but he is not our final example. Jesus is. David sinned and needed God’s mercy just like the rest of us. But Jesus never sinned (Hebrews 4:15) and is the only perfect standard we are called to follow.

> *John 14:6 (NKJV)*
> *“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.”*

> *Hebrews 12:2 (NKJV)*
> *“Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith…”*

> *Matthew 17:5 (NKJV)*
> *“This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!”*

Final Call: Believe in Christ and Be Saved

> *Acts 4:12 (NKJV)*
> *“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”*

Do not rely on traditions, partial truths, or the examples of Old Testament saints. Christ is the fulfillment of all things. Trust in Him, obey His words, and receive the Holy Spirit.

> *Hebrews 1:1–4 (NKJV)*
> *“God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets,*
> *has in these last days spoken to us by His Son… who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person… sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become so much better than the angels…”*

Share This Truth

These are the final hours of mercy. Share this message with others so they too can come to know the full truth of the gospel and be saved.

Be blessed—and may you walk in the fullness of God’s revealed will through Christ Jesus.

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