

# **BA10. Obeying the Commandments of God and Yeshua.**

*We are to obey the commandments of God and Yeshua.*

BA10a: *We are to obey the commandments (Mitzvot /Torah) of God.*

BA10b: *We are to obey the commandments (Mitzvot /Torah) of Yeshua.*

This precept is derived from His Word (blessed is He):

## **Key New Testament Scriptures**

### Matthew 5:18-19

*Yes indeed! I tell you that until heaven and earth pass away, not so much as a yud or a stroke will pass from the Torah- not until everything that must happen has happened. So whoever disobeys the least of these mitzvot and teaches others to do so will be called the least in the Kingdom of Heaven. But whoever obeys them and so teaches will be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven.*

### Matthew 19:17

*Why are you asking me about good? There is One who is good! But if you want to obtain eternal life, observe the mitzvot.*

### John 8:31-32

*So Yeshua said to the Judeans who had trusted him, "If you obey what I say, then you are really my talmidim, you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."*

### John 8:47

*Whoever belongs to God listens to what God says; the reason you don't listen is that you don't belong to God.*

### John 8:51

*Yes, indeed! I tell you that whoever obeys my teaching will never see death.*

### John 14:15

*If you love me, you will keep my commands;*

### John 14:23-24

*Yeshua answered him, "If someone loves me, he will keep my word; and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Someone who doesn't love me doesn't keep my words- and the word you are hearing is not my own but that of the Father who sent me.*

### John 15:10

*If you keep my commands, you will stay in my love- just as I have kept my Father's commands and stay in his love.*

## **Additional New Testament Scriptures**

Matthew 7:24-27, 12:50

Mark 7:9-13, 10:19

Luke 11:42

Acts 3:22, 5:29

Romans 2:13, 21-27, 3:31, 10:21, 15:18, 16:19

1 Corinthians 7:19

Ephesians 5:6-7

Philippians 2:12

1 Timothy 6:13-14

Titus 3:3

Hebrews 3:18, 4:11, 5:9, 10:36

1 John 2:3-5, 17, 3:22, 24, 5:2-3

2 John 1:6

Revelation 2:26, 3:8, 10, 12:17, 14:12

## **Related New Testament Mitzvot**

AA02 Embracing and Not Suppressing Godly Truth

AA44 Knowing and Doing What is Right and Good

BA20 Listening to, Believing, and Obeying the Good News of Yeshua

HB01 Not Pursuing Torah Observance Legalistically

HB12 Not Neglecting the Torah (God's Teaching)

HB13 Not Speculating About God's Word

HB14 Using Torah as Torah Itself Intends

HB15 Knowing for Whom Torah is Intended

HB20 Not Disregarding the Torah of Moses

HB22 Being Both a Hearer and Doer of God's Word

HB23 Considering the Torah a Torah of Freedom

HB24 Thirsting for the Word of God

HB27 Doing God's Will

## **Supportive Tanakh Scriptures**

Exodus 15:26

*He said, "If you will listen intently to the voice of ADONAI your God, do what he considers right, pay attention to his mitzvot and observe his laws, I will not afflict you with any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians; because I am ADONAI your healer."*

Numbers 15:38-40

*Speak to the people of Isra'el, instructing them to make, through all their generations, tzitziyot on the corners of their garments, and to put with the tzitzit on each corner a blue thread. It is to be a tzitzit for you to look at and thereby remember all of ADONAI's mitzvot and obey them, so that you won't go around wherever your own heart and eyes lead you to prostitute yourselves; but it will help you remember and obey all my mitzvot and be holy for your God.*

Deuteronomy 4:13-14

*He proclaimed his covenant to you, which he ordered you to obey, the Ten Words; and he wrote them on two stone tablets. At that time ADONAI ordered me to teach you laws and rulings, so that you would live by them in the land you are entering in order to take possession of it.*

Deuteronomy 4:40

*Therefore, you are to keep his laws and mitzvot which I am giving you today, so that it will go well with you and with your children after you, and so that you will prolong your days in the land ADONAI your God is giving you forever.*

Deuteronomy 6:17

*Observe diligently the mitzvot of ADONAI your God, and his instructions and laws which he has given you.*

Deuteronomy 11:22-23, 32

*For if you will take care to obey all these mitzvot I am giving you, to do them, to love ADONAI your God, to follow all his ways and to cling to him, then ADONAI will expel all these nations ahead of you; and you will dispossess nations bigger and stronger than you are. ... And you are to take care to follow all the laws and rulings I am setting before you today.*

Deuteronomy 13:5(4)

*You are to follow ADONAI your God, fear him, obey his mitzvot, listen to what he says, serve him and cling to him;*

Deuteronomy 26:17-19

*You are agreeing today that ADONAI is your God and that you will follow his ways; observe his laws, mitzvot and rulings; and do what he says. In turn ADONAI is agreeing today that you are his own unique treasure, as he promised you; that you are to observe all his mitzvot; and that he will raise you high above all the nations he has made, in praise, reputation and glory; and that, as he said, you will be a holy people for ADONAI your God.*

Deuteronomy 27:10

*Therefore you are to listen to what ADONAI your God says and obey his mitzvot and laws, which I am giving you today.*

Deuteronomy 28:1

*If you listen closely to what ADONAI your God says, observing and obeying all his mitzvot which I am giving you today, ADONAI your God will raise you high above all the nations on earth;*

Deuteronomy 28:15

*But if you refuse to pay attention to what ADONAI your God says, and do not observe and obey all his mitzvot and regulations which I am giving you today, then all the following curses will be yours in abundance:*

Deuteronomy 29:28(29)

*Things which are hidden belong to ADONAI our God. But the things that have been revealed belong to us and our children forever, so that we can observe all the words of this Torah.*

Deuteronomy 30:8-16

*... but you will return and pay attention to what ADONAI says and obey all his mitzvot which I am giving you today. Then ADONAI your God will give you more than enough in everything you set out to do - the fruit of your body, the fruit of your livestock, and the fruit of your land will all do well; for ADONAI will once again rejoice to see you do well, just as he rejoiced in your ancestors. However, all this will happen only if you pay attention to what ADONAI your God says, so that you obey his mitzvot and regulations which are written in this book of the Torah, if you turn to ADONAI your God with all your heart and all your being. For this mitzvah which I am giving you today is not too hard for you, it is not beyond your reach. It isn't in the sky, so that you need to ask, 'Who will go up into the sky for us, bring it to us and make us hear it, so that we can obey it?' Likewise, it isn't beyond the sea, so that you need to ask, 'Who will cross the sea for us, bring it to us and make us hear it, so that we can obey it?' On the contrary, the word is very close to you - in your mouth, even in your heart; therefore, you can do it! Look! I am presenting you today with, on the one hand, life and good; and on the other, death and evil - in that I am ordering you today to love ADONAI your God, to follow his ways, and to obey his mitzvot, regulations and rulings ; for if you do, you will live and increase your numbers; and ADONAI your God will bless you in the land you are entering in order to take possession of it.*

**Comment** (from *Mitzvah* #W8 of Volume 2)

Christian theologians have often misinterpreted (and sometimes mistranslated) the *Shaliach* Paul's writings to be saying that the *mitzvot* (commandments of the *Torah*) – the laws – the statutes, ordinances, and judgments given at Mt. Sinai – were rendered uselessly obsolete by Yeshua. Those who hold that view teach that God's law has been replaced by his grace, so that if we love God and one another, none of the specifics of the “Mosaic Law” matter anymore.<sup>1</sup> Such views are in direct contradiction of Yeshua's words in Matthew 5:19, which says:

*“So whoever disobeys the least of these mitzvot and teaches others to do so will be called the least in the Kingdom of Heaven. But whoever obeys them and so teaches will be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven.”*

Also problematic, is the mistranslation (of Matthew 5:17 of many Bible versions) of the Greek word “πληρῶσαι,” that is commonly but incorrectly rendered “fulfill:”

*“Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill.”* (NKJ)

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<sup>1</sup> Scriptures often cited to support this view include Romans 6:14 and 2 Corinthians 12:9.

The word in this context should actually be translated “fill” (the CJB translates it “complete”). These numerous mistranslations have fueled antinomians to teach that no part of God’s Law given at Mount Sinai is to be obeyed today because Yeshua fulfilled it in Himself.<sup>2</sup>

There is another Scripture whose misunderstanding has caused no little amount of controversy, and that is Matthew 19:17, in which Yeshua tells a man:

*“But if you want to obtain eternal life, observe the mitzvot.”*

Yeshua seems to be saying that salvation comes from a legalistic observance of the law, whereas we know from Galatians 2:16 (as well as other Scriptures) that:

*“.. a person is not declared righteous by God on the ground of his legalistic observance of Torah commands, but through the Messiah Yeshua's trusting faithfulness.”*

The answer to this seeming contradiction is, of course, that Deuteronomy 18:15-19 of the Mosaic *Torah* prophesies the coming of Messiah Yeshua, and commands us to listen to him and obey him, as he will be speaking in God’s Name. So, to obey the *Torah*, is also to receive and obey the *mitzvot* of Yeshua.

A final word: This *Mitzvah* rests on my (and Daniel Juster’s) belief in the continued efficacy of all the Scriptures of the *Torah* (2 Timothy 3:16-17), recognizing that we have to be led by the *Ruach Hakodesh* for their application in this New Covenant age.<sup>3</sup>

### **Related Mitzvot in Volumes 1 & 2**

A02 Walking in God’s Ways

W01 Studying, Hearing & Teaching Torah & Torah-Obedience

W08 Obeying the Mitzvot of Adonai & Yeshua

W09 Nullifying the Word of God through Our Rules & Traditions

W10 Attending to Both the Lesser & the Weightier Matters of Torah

Y09 Obeying the Commandments & Teachings of Yeshua

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<sup>2</sup> Not all of the Scriptures and *mitzvot* given centuries ago and referenced herein can (or should) be applied literally in today’s world, and thus has nothing to do with Yeshua having come. We must rely on the *Ruach HaKodesh* for discernment regarding application.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.