



[1 Corinthians 7:19](#)

(19) Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, but the keeping of the commandments of God.

King James Version

Here the apostle Paul tells us that we are to keep the Ten Commandments under the New Covenant. It cannot be refuted. The Ten Commandments were part of the Old Covenant too. That part is not obsolete; we are still using it in the brand new model. The moral law is still in force and effect. To break the commandments is [sin](#), while to do them is righteousness.

That includes all ten - not just nine. Remember Jesus' declaration that not one jot or tittle would pass from the law. If [Jesus](#) speaks the truth, how can people say that the [fourth commandment](#) is done away? They directly refute their Savior. It is really quite silly.

Most of the rest of the law, that is, part of the terms of the Old Covenant, still directly apply. How about tithing, part of the Old Covenant? We find that tithing supersedes the Old Covenant. What about the food laws, also is part of the Old Covenant? The New Testament records that they were still being kept by people who should have known better if they were done away. Many of those laws still directly apply.

Even those that may only indirectly apply are still applicable in their spirit, in their intent. *Intent* suggests "the stretching out." Those laws help to define sin and righteousness in specific situations. Their positive intent is always to bring us to [holiness](#) - to the [image of God](#).

We need to discipline ourselves never to look at a [law of God](#) - whether it is civil or ceremonial - and assume it has no application for us, as if [God](#) just intended it for the Israelites back then. Far from it! God's law (and its intent) is always love and eternal, which is why Jesus says that none of it would pass until all is fulfilled.

The Berean: Daily Verse and Commentary for 1 Corinthians 7:19 (<http://www.theberean.org>)

Obedience to those laws can neither justify nor save us, but they are the wisdom and the love of God, given to guide us. We should be studying them to understand how to make our lives holier than ever before.

— John W. Ritenbaugh

To learn more, see:

[The Covenants, Grace, and Law \(Part 29\)](#)



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