

# The Two Laws

The Church of God's position on the law of God in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries was addressed by Alexander C. Long. His tract titled *The Two Laws* was published in January 1898 and became a permanent part of the Church's Bible Tract Series. It supported the Church's decades-old position on the nature of God's laws by stating that God gave Israel two laws: one, the Ten Commandments — a universal, eternal, moral, and unchanging law; and the second, the law containing instructions on Judaism's annual Sabbaths, ceremonies, and sacrifices, written by Moses in a book.

Long wrote:

... we present these two laws in contrast, numbering them accordingly:

LAW NO. 1	LAW NO. 2
Was declared by God. Ex. 20:1-17	Was declared by Moses. Ex. 24:3.
Was written by the finger of God. Deut. 9:10.	Was written by Moses. Deu. 31:9.
Was written on tables of stone. Deut. 9:10.	Was written in a book. Deut. 31:26.
Contained but ten precepts. Deut. 4:13.	Contained a hundred or more precepts. Deut. 27:3-26; Josh. 8:31, 32.
Was placed in the ark. Deut. 10:5.	Was placed by the side of the ark. Deut. 31:26 R. V.
Defines sin. Rom. 3:20.	Was for the pardon of sin. Lev. 4:27-35.
Is perfect. Psalms 19:7.	Made nothing perfect. Heb. 7:19.
Is established by faith. Rom. 3:31.	Is abolished. Eph. 2:15.
Is spiritual. Rom. 7:12.	Was carnal. Heb. 7:16.
Is not grievous. 1 John 5:4.	Was a yoke. Acts 15:10.
Whole law binding now. James 2:8.	Whole law now abolished. Col. 2:16.
Is the knowledge of sin. Rom. 7:7.	Is the remedial or added law. Gal. 3:19
Christ did not destroy. Matt. 5:17.	Christ nailed it to the cross. Col. 2:14.
Continues forever. Psalms 111:7, 8.	Only until the seed should come. Gal. 3:19.
Was to last as long as heaven and earth. Matt. 5:18.	Till Christ came. Heb. 9:10.

The reader will see by this contrast that while law No. 1 defines sin and is holy, just, good, spiritual, based on God's love, and is as enduring as the heavens and earth, yet, on the other hand, law No. 2 was carnal, a yoke, added till Christ came, and is now abolished.

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