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Hebrews 7:12

Have you ever been told, the Law of God has changed?

It is different now.

It is not the same yesterday, today, and forever.

This verse is often cited:

Hebrews 7:12

For when there is a change (metatíthēmi) in the priesthood, there is necessarily a change (metáthesis) in the law as well.

The word for "change" as in “change of priesthood” and also "change of law" means "transfer" in the Greek.

It simply means that because the priesthood is transferred to the order of Melchizedek through our Messiah then the law must transfer to His administration as well.

So, same law, different administration.

If one reads the context of the surrounding text, this can be better understood.

It also helps to better understand the Greek definitions of the words translated as “change.”

The first, primary definition from Strong’s says it precisely.

“metatíthēmi / metáthesis”

First Primary Definition from Strongs:

“transfer: from one place to another”

There is a big difference in saying that the law is different versus simply transferred.

For example:

If a car is transferred from a car dealer in New York to a car dealer in California, the car is exactly the same, but simply in a different administration.

Did the car change?

No

The car was transferred.

When the administration of the priesthood was transferred in Messiah, the transfer of the law was transferred to that priesthood.

The Heavenly priesthood has always existed.

YHWH built into His law the right to administrate a priesthood on Earth as well.

The Heavenly always trumps the Earthly, as the Heavenly is perfect and the higher order...and the Earthly is only a reflection of the true image in the Heavens. This is what Hebrews goes on to say as well. (Exodus 25:40; Hebrews 8:5; Revelation 11:19).

Again...still the same law...

...new covenant, but same law.

Only four chapters later, the author of Hebrews uses the SAME Greek word in referring to Enoch:

Hebrews 11:5

By faith Enoch was taken up (*metatithēmi*) so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God.

Enoch was "*transferred*" up to the heavenlies.

Did YHWH "*change out*" Enoch and "*replace him*" with another Enoch?

No.

He was simply transferred, just as the law was transferred...not made different...not changed...but transferred.

Some then might point to verse 18, seemingly stating that the law of God was worthless:

Hebrews 7:18

For on the one hand, a former commandment is set aside because of its weakness and uselessness (for the law made nothing perfect); but on the other hand, a better hope is introduced, through which we draw near to God.

The first thing to note is that this verse is referring to a particular instruction, or commandment, in the Torah, not the whole Torah, or Law, in of itself.

Some attempt to state that verse 18 is referring to the whole Torah, but that is not what is being said.

The commandment that is being set aside, is the commandment for the Levites to administrate the priesthood. That commandment is set aside, not replaced or abolished. It is set aside through the means of the destruction of the temple.

There is a difference between set aside, and abolished.

This means that the commandment of the Levitical system still exists, but it is not exercisable because of the destruction of the Temple, which was scheduled to occur a couple years after Hebrews was written.

The destruction of the temple was a curse, not a blessing. It was a punishment, not a gift (Matthew 23:38).

This occurred because fault was found with “them” not the law of God. We see this in the very next chapter:

Hebrews 8:8

For he finds fault with them when he says:
“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord,
when I will establish a new covenant with the house of Israel
and with the house of Judah,

So, the Levitical system is set aside through the destruction of the Temple, and we have a new High Priest in the order of Melchizedek, our Messiah Yeshua (Jesus).

The priesthood was set aside because of weakness and uselessness because they were found to be at fault. The law did not make the Earthly priesthood perfect.

On the other hand, our Messiah is perfect, and He is our High Priest. He operates in the Heavenly Tabernacle, that is also perfect, not built with human hands (Hebrews 8:2).

So in summary, Hebrews 7:12 and 7:18 do not state that the Law of God changed. The law remains intact and unchanged.

What changed is that:

- We have a new High Priest in the order of Melchizedek.
- The Earthly temple is destroyed, setting aside the ability for the Levites to function as priests according to the commandment.
- The Levites were found at fault, which merited the punishment of the destruction of the temple
- We have a better hope and promises through Yeshua in the order of Melchizedek.

We hope that this teaching has blessed you, and remember, continue to test everything.

Shalom

For more on this and other teachings, please visit us at www.testeverything.net

Shalom, and may Yahweh bless you in walking in the whole Word of God.

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