

## INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **2Corinthians 3:7-18**.
- B. To have a greater appreciation of why we have a ministry of righteousness is to understand the ministry of condemnation.
- C. To have a better understanding of the Old Testament is to know how Jesus is the "end of the law."
- D. This morning's lesson we shall preach Christ from the Old Testament.

## I. THE OLD TESTAMENT POINTS TO CHRIST.

- A. The old Law is a mystery to the Jews without Jesus (Col. 1:26,27; Jn. 5:39).
- B. The OT is such a well written, perfectly put together package that you can preach Christ from any point of it (Ac. 8:35).
- C. From Gen. 3:15 on, we see the unfolding mystery and story of how Jesus was to come as the promised Messiah.
- D. That is why the OT can make us wise unto salvation, it leads us to Jesus Christ (2Tim. 3:14,15).

## II. THE OLD TESTAMENT HAS NEED OF CHRIST.

- A. We must remember that the old Law as hostile to us and of itself could not give salvation (Col. 2:13-14).
- B. Therefore, its aim was not salvation, but to show that salvation is in Christ alone
- C. The Law is a schoolmaster, teaching us about the coming of Jesus (Gal. 3:22-25).
- D. This makes Jesus the "end of the law" (Rom. 10:4).

## III. THE OLD TESTAMENT EXPLAINS CHRIST.

- A. A Jewish rabbi was asked to speak about the lion of Judah, the Prince of Peace, the wonderful Counselor, a man whose name is Branch. And the rabbi replied, "I don't want to talk about Jesus." Who said anything about Jesus! "
- B. One cannot explain who the scripture speaks of, unless he looks at it with the end thereof in Christ.
- C. One cannot hope to understand the OT unless they have view of it looking to Jesus (2Cor. 3:14,15).
- D. To understand the mystery of the old Law, look to Christ (2Cor. 3:16-17).
- E. We can now have a much greater appreciation for the forgiveness, mercy, and grace of the NT by understanding how the OT leads to it.

## IV. THE OLD TESTAMENT WAS FULFILLED IN CHRIST.

- A. Jesus himself did not nullify the OT, or say that it was useless. He lived under it, kept its laws perfectly and fulfilled its prophecies (Mt. 5:17-19).
- B. We cannot be justified today by the OT, in fact we can fall from grace by following its teachings (Gal. 5:4).
- C. The OT today is for examples and for our learning (1Cor. 10:11; Rom. 15:4).
- D. In the NT we have the word of prophecy made more sure (2Pet. 1:19).

## CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. We have seen:
  - 1. The OT points to Christ.
  - 2. The OT has need of Christ.
  - 3. The OT explains Christ.
  - 4. The OT was fulfilled in Christ.

- B. We now have a ministry of righteousness, not condemnation, because Jesus is the difference. He is what the OT is all about.
- C. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring Xians.