

Acts 15:5 -- "But certain ones of the sect of the Pharisees who had believed, stood up, saying, 'It is necessary to circumcise them, and to direct them to observe the Law of Moses.'"

Acts 28:23 -- "And when they had set a day for him, they came to him at his lodging in large numbers; and he was explaining to them by solemnly testifying about the kingdom of God, and trying to persuade them concerning Jesus, from both the Law of Moses and from the Prophets, from morning until evening."

I Corinthians 9:9-11 -- "For it is written in the Law of Moses, 'You shall not muzzle the ox while he is threshing.' God is not concerned about oxen, is He? Or is He speaking altogether for our sake? Yes, for our sake it is written, because the plowman ought to plow in hope, and the thresher to thresh in hope of sharing the crops. If we sowed spiritual things in you, is it too much if we should reap material things from you?"

(Other uses include Exodus 24:4, Deuteronomy 1:5; Deuteronomy 31:24, Joshua 23:1-2, 6, II Kings 14:5-6, II Kings 21:8; II Chronicles 23:16-18, II Chronicles 25:4, II Chronicles 30:6, II Chronicles 34:14, II Chronicles 35:6, Ezra 3:2, Daniel 9:11-13, John 1:45, Hebrews 10:28)

2. Synopsis of the scriptural meanings

The various usages appear to fall into two categories of meaning:

- a. The Torah of Moses as the Special Revelation of God given through the words and writings of Moses, and addressed to Israel's faith
- b. The Torah of Moses as the Revealed Will of God given through the words and writings of Moses, and addressed to Israel's obedience

B. The Three Aspects of the Mosaic Law

1. Distinctions seen in the Mosaic Law: a moot question

- a. A number of interpreters refuse to acknowledge distinctions between aspects of the Mosaic Law. Since they see all of it as abrogated for the New Testament believer, it is all of one piece, and no distinctions should be made, even those based on internal considerations.
- b. However, the Mosaic Law is frequently distinguished in three aspects: moral, civil (or judicial), and ceremonial.

For example, Clarence Larkin in his book Rightly Dividing the Word sees a threefold distinction in the Mosaic Law:

The Moral Law (the Ten Commandments) -- Exodus 20:1-17
The Civil Law -- Exodus 21:1-24:18
The Ceremonial Law -- Exodus 25:1-40:38

The New Scofield Reference Bible, in footnote 2 on Exodus 19:5, distinguishes three "divisions" of the Mosaic Covenant:

Commandments -- Exodus 20:1-26
Judgments -- Exodus 21:1-24:11
Ordinances -- Exodus 24:12-31:18