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## **Eeny, Meeny, Miny, Moe**

Several times we’ve been told from people that we preach the law but we don’t really follow it. They say we just pick and choose what part of the law that we want to follow. Then, regarding those parts that we supposedly don’t want to follow, well, we are accused of conveniently saying, “Those are done away with,” when in actuality, nothing could be further from the truth.

One time someone actually accused us of playing Eeny, Meeny, Miny, Moe. Many have said things like, “If you’re following the law, why don’t you stone people for sinning?” And, my favorite, “If you’re following the law, why aren’t you making sacrifices?”

My initial response is to simply ask them, “Did God do away with His law when the Southern kingdom was banished to Babylon?” Immediately they respond with, “No.” I then ask, “Were they allowed to follow their own laws for punishment while in bondage in Babylon?” No response.

The answer is no. They were under Babylonian rule. They no longer had autonomy as a self-governing body under God. Yet, God’s law told them specifically what to do. So were they picking and choosing? Or, were they prohibited from obeying? I then ask, “Were they able to do sacrifices to God while in Babylon?” Again, no response.

The answer is no. All that which was established for sacrifices in the law was commanded to be done in Jerusalem by the priests. They were no longer in Jerusalem, thus they were unable to do the sacrifices prescribed by the law. So, were they picking and choosing regarding sacrifices or were they prohibited from obeying. They were prohibited.

We can’t forget that the law brings blessings if it is obeyed. Compare:

### **Deuteronomy 11:26-28**

*See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse - the blessing if you obey the commands of the LORD your God that I am giving you today; the curse if you disobey the command of the LORD your God and turn from the way that I command you today by following other gods which you have not known.*

Thus, obeying the law brings blessings in your life. At that time, the Southern kingdom was in rebellion.

Thus, the punishment given to them consisted in not allowing them to continue in that which would bring them blessings.

Did they repent afterwards? Of course. Were they allowed immediately back in? No. Did they at least obey all that they could while banished from the temple and Jerusalem? Of course. But they were unable to participate in all that was designed to bring them blessings. If they had tried to offer sacrifices to God where it was not ordained for them to do so, would God have accepted those sacrifices? No. For they would have been offered in disobedience.

The same goes for us today. We are only able, or permitted, to follow certain elements of the law today simply because of circumstances.

If someone performed a sacrifice to God, today, in their back yard, they would NOT be obeying the law. The reality is that they would be DISOBEYING it. It wouldn't be in Jerusalem, and it wouldn't be done by a priest. This is why we can't do sacrifices today. Any attempt to do so would be disobedience.

If one would stone someone today, they would not be obeying the law. They would be disobeying it. Only when the Torah is truly the law of the land can this be followed. This is why we see that Yeshua could not be crucified without the permission of Rome. Torah was not the law of the land. Only when the Torah is the true law of the land can this be done.

So, this is not a matter of picking and choosing what laws one wants to follow. It's about pursuing all that we can in effort to be wholly obedient to what we are able to follow in that which was written.

Many even suggest that Christ did not follow all of the law for many various reasons. Little do they know they are then claiming that He broke the law. Thus, their theology does away with Christ being our spotless lamb.

Many will use the story from John chapter 8 of when the Pharisees brought the woman caught in adultery and threw her before Yeshua. They say that since He didn't follow the law in stoning her, that He was bringing forth a new way of "love" that we are to now follow. What they are seeming to forget is that context is everything.

Let's read a small segment of these verses together.

### **John 8:2-6**

At dawn He appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around Him, and He sat down to teach them. The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group and said to (Yeshua) Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. In the law, Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing Him. But (Yeshua) Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with His finger.

It is verse 6 that many overlook. Oh, everyone remembers the part of Him bending down and writing in the grass, but it seems that everyone forgets the first part of that verse.

### **John 8:6**

They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing Him.

It must be understood that the law requires BOTH of the individuals who commit adultery to be stoned, not just the female. Their trap was to get Him to declare that she should be stoned. When, in reality, the man was needed for this to be done. Consider:

**Leviticus 20:10**

If a man commits adultery with another man's wife – with the wife of his neighbor - both the adulterer and the adulteress must be put to death.

Not only was Yeshua not falling for their trap, He turned it back on them by telling them to cast the first stone. “How is this turning it back on them,” you ask? Consider:

**Deuteronomy 17:6-7**

On the testimony of two or three witnesses a man shall be put to death, but no one shall be put to death on the testimony of only one witness. The hands of witnesses must be the first in putting him to death, and then the hands of all the people. You must purge the evil from among you.

Where were the two witnesses? These people were to be the first to cast the stones. If they were there, they knew that they would have had to have the man there to stone as well. Otherwise it would be THEM sinning and not Yeshua. Remember, they were trying to trap Him. They wanted Him to break the law so that they had something to accuse Him of. Yet, He stayed faithful to the Word of God. And remember, they couldn't stone anyone anyway without the Roman's consent and enforcement.

However, today, many say that Yeshua did, in fact, break the law by not stoning her. Little do they know that their interpretation of this passage gratifies that of the Pharisee's desires, making Him a lawbreaker. But was Yeshua breaking the law by not stoning her, or obeying it?

Sometimes we get accused on topics that the inquirer knows little about like, “Do you travel more than a Sabbath's day's journey on the Sabbath?” I then ask them to show me where it says this in the law. It's not there. (Please see our Sabbath day teaching for more on that topic.)

Some have also asked, “Why do you cut the hair on the sides of your head? The law says we're not supposed to do that.” They then quote:

**Leviticus 19:27**

Do not cut the hair at the sides of your head or clip off the edges of your beard.

What they fail to realize is that this verse needs to be read in conjunction with the following verse, which says,

**Leviticus 19:28**

Do not cut your bodies for the dead or put tattoo marks on yourselves. I am (Yahweh) the LORD.

These were all practices that the pagan nations did for their dead. Compare a little farther down regarding this:

**Leviticus 20:23**

You must not live according to the customs of the nations I am going to drive out before you. Because they did all these things, I abhorred them.

Compare how the following verse in Deuteronomy (where the law is repeated) seems to unite these verses in Leviticus:

**Deuteronomy 14:1**

You are the children of (Yahweh) the LORD your God. Do not cut yourselves or shave the front of your heads for the dead,

The whole issue was that of cutting yourself or your hair FOR THE DEAD. Context is truly everything.

So, please understand that we are not playing Eeny, Meeny, Miny, Moe. We are simply trying to pursue obedience to what we can in God's eternal Word. Just like those who were banished to Babylon, we pursue all that we can until Yeshua returns and enables all to follow in perfect obedience once again.

**Micah 4:1-3**

In the last days the mountain of (Yahweh's) the LORD's temple will be established as chief among the mountains; it will be raised above the hills, and peoples will stream to it. Many nations will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of (Yahweh) the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us His ways, so that we may walk in His paths." The law will go out from Zion, the Word of (Yahweh) the LORD from Jerusalem. He will judge between many peoples and will settle disputes for strong nations far and wide. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.

This is also mentioned in Isaiah chapter 2.

We pray that you seriously consider the words in this teaching and remember that God's Word is truly eternal as Isaiah said.

**Isaiah 40:7-8**

The grass withers and the flowers fall, because the breath of (Yahweh) the LORD blows on them. Surely the people are grass. The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the Word of our God stands forever.

We hope you have enjoyed this teaching. Remember, continue to test everything. Shalom!

For more on this and other teachings, please visit us at [www.testeverything.net](http://www.testeverything.net)

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

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