

Misleading Translation

It is easy to miss the mark when translating from one language to another. This awareness has us alert that an incorrect (or misleading), translation can cause a reader to take a wrong turn, ending up way off course. As God's Plan moves along, His increasing light causes the Bible to become a book where hidden things get revealed. Truths are emerging to be understood correctly. As we are hungry for truth, His Spirit leads us into more truth. We are now more rapidly identifying translation inaccuracies in order to expose the truth.

[Note that the most current entry is the one below; also entries 1-4 were regrouped for continuity.]

Misleading Translation: Romans 10:4

"4. For Christ is the END of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth."

Romans 10:4 King James Version

This is a very misleading translation. The word "end" is a viable option to use for translating the Greek word, but it is not the best word to use in English translations, because "end" in our culture typically refers to "elimination", which misses the mark. It is not the "end" in terms of "termination", but the "end" in terms of "end purpose", such as "completion in fullness", or "goal", as stated in the footnote of "The Scriptures". Let's look at another more accurate translation for confirmation.

"4. For the GOAL at which Torah aims is the Messiah, who offers righteousness to everyone who trusts. 5. For Moshe [Moses] writes about the righteousness grounded in the Torah that the person who does these things will attain life through them."

Romans 10:4 The Complete Jewish Bible

Besides here and in "The Scriptures" translation, the word "GOAL" is also used in "The English Aramaic New Testament". Even King James Version, in the very next verse, gives context to prove that "end" does not mean "termination", but the FULLNESS in its perfect beauty. The Concordant Literal New Testament has "*Christ is the CONSUMMATION of law for righteousness to everyone who is believing.*" Walking in the law is not how we "get saved", but is a by-product of our walking in Him. To obey the word as written in the Old Covenant is still a vital part of our spiritual walk.

"2. The one who says he abides in Him ought himself to walk in the same manner as He walked."

1John 2:6 New King James Version

“17. Don’t misunderstand why I have come. I did not come to abolish the law of Moses or the writings of the prophets [together they are the whole Old Covenant]. No, I came to fulfill them.” **Matthew 5:17 New Living Translation**

To explain **Romans 10:4** another way, then we look at the big picture. The law was given to Israel at Mt. Sinai as part of the marriage covenant with Yehovah (God). The law demonstrated the things that pleased and displeased Yehovah (God). The law placed in practical terms what the character & nature of Yehovah (God) was (& is), like. To become one with Him, we must also change to become like Him. We must let go of our ways, while letting His Spirit rule within to change who we are...to guide us into all truth. In Yeshua (Jesus), we see what the law looks like when fully lived out in a person, for He is the Word displayed in a flesh & blood person. We see the first New (Renewed) Covenant law-abiding man; one who has the law written in His mind & upon His heart. But the lawless will never be allowed to enter to be a part of the Bride, (New Jerusalem).

“14. Blessed are those WHO DO HIS COMMANDMENTS, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city.”

Revelation 22:14 The New King James Version

The purpose of the law is to define sin. The law shows us that Yehovah’s (God’s) standard is too high for anyone from Adam to be able to achieve. The law teaches us that only Yeshua (Jesus) could fulfill the law. We can only fulfill the law by being found in Him. It is not of works, or we would boast. It is by grace through faith, (**Ephesians 2:8,9**). Yeshua is the only way to salvation. There is no other way.

When we have faith in Yeshua (Jesus), our redeemer, then His Spirit changes our hearts and minds so that our walk (our works), reflect His Life within.

Obviously there is much more to this subject. The “law” for today can be confusing if we don’t realize that the word “law” is used to mean different things. A major distinction is that there is the “law of Yehovah (God)”, and also the “law of man”. The religious law of man is called “religious tradition” apart from the Word. Yeshua (Jesus) consistently disobeyed the religious law of man, and exhorted others to disobey it too; and instead to follow the law of God. It for this reason that the religious leaders had Yeshua (Jesus) killed! (For more on this, see the “Mistranslation: Should refer to Moses, and not to the Pharisees!”, below to understand the polar contrast of the two types of laws.) Many places in the Renewed (New) Covenant where the word “law” is used is referring to religious traditions...not the ways/teachings of God.

Another important point to clarify is the word “legalism”. “Legalism” is not the same as “lawful”. “Legalism” can refer to two things. One is the obedience to man’s religious laws/traditions that cannot be found in the Old Covenant. Another is a description of

those who try to obtain favor with God by keeping the law of the Old Covenant. We obtain favor by being found in the nature of our Messiah. There is no other way to obtain favor. Yet, if we are found to have his nature rule in us, then we'll easily keep the law, because that is who we have become.

This is made clear in many places, such as when Yeshua (Jesus) says to yoke with Him, since His yoke is easy, and burdens are light in Him, (**Matthew 11:29,30**). Also, John says that if we love Him, then we will obey Him, and that it really is not a difficult thing to do, since in love all things are overcome, (**1John 5:3 & Song of Songs 8:6**). In fact, the whole basis of the law, the Torah, the Word, the Old Covenant is LOVE! The greatest laws sum up all of the others as to LOVE Yehovah (God), (**Deuteronomy 6:4,5**), and also to LOVE our neighbor as ourself, (**Leviticus 19:18**). He gave us His laws because he LOVES us. They are for our benefit. The blessings & curses are based upon flowing in these laws or not. This applies to individuals, families, communities, states, & nations.

Yes, Yeshua (Jesus) came to establish His Kingdom in a people to be a light of His life to all of creation. He is the fullness, the completion, the goal, the full maturity of what the nature (ways/laws) of Yehovah (God) looks like in reality, and the Door to enter into His image and likeness by grace through faith in His Spirit.

Learning the Word, and keeping what it says, helps us to understand who Yeshua (Jesus) is and what He is like. Keeping the law is not the end. Stopping with keeping the law would be “legalism”, and misses the point. The Word/law/commandments are to lead us into the life of Yeshua (Jesus). The law is good...very, very good (**Psalm 19:7-13** & echoed in **2Timothy 3:16** below), a starting point, but not the goal. When Timothy is referring to “All Scripture is good for...”, he is referring to the Old Covenant, since that is all that was compiled when he wrote his books.

“16. All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It straightens us out and teaches us to do what is right. 17. It is God’s way of preparing us in every way, fully equipped for every good thing God wants us to do.”

2Timothy 3:16,17 New Living Translation

The law leads us to our master, Yeshua (Jesus). It is the way to grow. It is a first step in our personal relationship with Yeshua (Jesus). It is only bondage & death to our old, lawless nature.

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