## The Gospel Herald

"As the truth is in Jesus" (Ephesians 4:21)

For The LORD'S PILGRIMS, STRANGERS & SOJOURNERS by
Donald E. Martin, Sr.

## The Grand and Glorious Change

"For the priesthood being <u>changed</u>, there is made of necessity a <u>change</u> also of the law"

(Hebrews 7:12).

The above-referenced scripture in its context is referencing the <u>change</u> in the carnal priesthood: "for after the similitude of melchisedec <u>there ariseth another priest</u>, who is made, not after the law of a carnal commandment, but after the power of an <u>endless life</u>. For He testifieth, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec. For there is verily a <u>disannulling</u> of the commandment going before for the weakness and unprofitableness thereof. For <u>the law made nothing perfect</u>, but the bringing in of a <u>BETTER HOPE</u> did: by the which we draw nigh unto God" (Heb. 7:15-19). "For the priesthood being <u>changed</u>, there is made of necessity <u>a CHANGE also of the law"</u> (Heb. 7:12).

The New Testament/New Covenant has ushered in new PROMISES and a more glorious COVENANT than that of the Old Testament and Old Covenant.... "for the law maketh men high priest which <u>have infirmity</u>: but the word of the oath, <u>which was since the law</u>, maketh the <u>SON who is consecrated for evermore</u>" (Hebrews 7:28).

Christ has manifested an <u>excellent priesthood</u> in the fullness of time as the mystery which was keep secret in times past is now revealed to the heirs of divine grace by the proclamation of the everlasting gospel of which Christ came to preach and reveal the Kingdom of God has come among men.

"But now hath He (Christ) obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also He (Christ) is the <u>mediator</u> of a <u>better covenant</u>, which was established upon <u>better promises</u>. For if the first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second" (Heb.8:6-7).

"Then said He, Lo, I come to do thy will O God. <u>He taketh away the FIRST</u>, that He <u>may</u> <u>establish the second</u> (covenant) (Heb. 10:9).

Beloved of God, there was not ONLY a change in the priesthood covenant as was established by the law of God, but also a CHANGE in the law and the commandments as to the application and operation within the elect children of God in this New Testament / New Covenant dispensation... For we are they which are <u>not</u> under the <u>old</u> letter as was Israel when the law and commandments had come by Moses while upon the mount as well as ALL the other laws, commandments, statutes and testimonies of which God demanded the children of Israel to live by, including the civil and dietary laws and rules given by the Almighty. For beloved brethren, if we are under such ball and chain of legalistic demands the God of eternal glory would have NEVER shown to Peter that grand revelation, "Peter saw heaven opened, and a certain vessel descended unto him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners, and let down to the earth: Wherein all manner of fourfooted beast of the earth, and wild beast, and creeping things, and fowls of the air. And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; Kill and eat. But Peter said, "No so, Lord; for I have never eaten any thing that is common or unclean. And the voice spoke again to him the second time, What God hath cleansed, that call NOT common. This was done thrice: and the vessel was received up again into heaven" (Acts 10: 11-16).

Beloved of God, this is that <u>NEW COVENANT</u> which God our Father had promised by the prophet when he said, "This is the COVENANT that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will <u>put my laws into their hearts and in their minds will I write them</u>: And their sins and iniquities will I remember <u>no more</u>" (Heb. 10:16-17).

The Lord Jesus Christ by the operation of the Holy Spirit comforter has written those laws upon the hearts and minds of His elect children as they are brought from death unto life by the quickening of the Spirit of our living God in the New Birth resurrected experience of being made New Creatures in Christ. We that have been called into such blessed hope have been set FREE from the law and the commandments stringent demands by Christ. "Having <u>abolished</u> in His flesh the enmity, even the <u>law of commandments</u> contained in ordinances" (Eph.2:15).

"Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to His cross" (Colo.2:14-15). For we must keep in mind, "The law is not of faith" (Gala.3:12), and, "whatsoever is not of faith is SIN" (Rom. 14:23).

"For the law is our <u>schoolmaster</u>, but when the schoolmaster has done its perfect work and Christ is revealed as the divine antidote for sins dread curse, the law has no power to condemn the heirs of divine favor.

What glorious freedom the New Covenant children of God has been blessed to receive by this New and Living way which Christ alone has made us free from the laws burdensome demands and duties. Yet, there remains the validity and operation of the law upon all those which desire to be under the law. It still stands as PERFECT demands to all who seek to attempt to fulfill its perfect demands to every "jot & tittle", for by the law shall NO flesh be justified. For the law and all its demands CONDEMNS the guilty sinner and says "cursed is everyone who keepeth not the law and the commandments!"

Thanks be unto God our Saviour, That Christ has become the elect believers <u>law keeper</u> and <u>performer</u> of ALL THINGS required to satisfy the Holy demands of our heavenly Father; For IN HIM (Christ) is ALL our sufficiency, righteousness, holiness, and justification now and for evermore, to them blessed to believe that He alone is <u>the Saviour of sinners!</u>

Respectfully submitted, December 8, 2010