

Paul Taught Nothing but the Torah and the Old Testament - Part 1

HIGH-LEVEL STUDY GUIDE

Finding the Ancient Path

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jc3wCbTfLLk&t=4362s>

Designed to align with the companion presentation and the supplied teaching transcript.

Teaching Summary

Part 1 examines the claim that Paul taught believers to abandon the Torah and the Old Testament. The speaker begins with Paul's Jewish credentials and his defense against accusations that he taught against Moses. Using Peter's warning about difficult passages, the Teaching argues for reading Paul in light of the Hebrew Scriptures. It traces justification by faith to Abraham, Habakkuk, and the Prophets, distinguishing salvation through faith from obedience as a response to salvation. The Teaching interprets Romans 3:31 as affirming the law, Romans 10:4 as describing Messiah as the law's goal, and Romans 7's marriage analogy as a discussion of covenant and release from the law of the husband rather than abolition of Torah. Part 1 closes with discussion of serving in the Spirit and questions about lawlessness, grace, and continued obedience.

Key Scriptures

- Philippians 3:4-6 — Paul's Israelite lineage, Benjaminite identity, Pharisee background, and zeal
- Acts 25:8; Acts 24:10-16 — Paul's defenses and affirmation of the Law and Prophets
- Acts 21:20-28; Acts 16:20-21 — Accusations brought against Paul concerning Moses and customs
- 2 Peter 3:15-17 — Peter warns that Paul's letters contain difficult passages that can be distorted
- Romans 1:16-17; Habakkuk 2:4 — The just shall live by faith, traced to the Prophets
- Genesis 15:4-6 — Abraham believes God and is accounted righteous
- Job 1:8; Job 42:1-6 — The speaker's interpretation of Job's journey from hearing to knowing
- Romans 3:21-31; Isaiah 46:12-13 — Righteousness through faith witnessed by the Law and Prophets
- Galatians 3:11-12; Leviticus 18:5 — The speaker contrasts justification by faith with living by God's statutes
- John 14:15 — Obedience is discussed as an expression of love
- Romans 3:31 — Faith does not nullify the law; Paul says it is upheld
- Romans 9:30-33; Romans 10:1-4; Isaiah 28:16 — The cornerstone and the speaker's reading of Messiah as the goal of the law
- Galatians 3:24-25 — The law as tutor leading to Messiah
- Romans 7:1-6; Deuteronomy 24:1-4 — The marriage-law analogy used in the speaker's covenant interpretation
- Romans 7:6; 1 John 3:4 — Serving in newness of Spirit and discussion of sin as lawlessness

Key Takeaways

- Paul's credentials and defenses in Acts are presented as important context for interpreting his letters.
- The Teaching uses 2 Peter 3 to urge care with difficult Pauline passages.
- The speaker traces justification by faith to Genesis 15 and Habakkuk 2 rather than treating it as Paul's invention.
- Justification by faith is distinguished from obedience motivated by love and gratitude.
- Romans 3:31 is central to the Teaching's claim that faith upholds rather than abolishes the law.
- The Teaching interprets 'end' in Romans 10:4 as goal or purpose, not necessarily termination.
- The law-as-tutor passage is explained through a driving-manual illustration.
- The Romans 7 marriage analogy is interpreted in the Teaching as covenantal; its details should be studied in context.
- Part 1 introduces the question of Gentile inclusion but leaves fuller treatment for Part 2.
- Listeners are urged to test interpretations against the Torah, Prophets, and wider context.

Study Outline

Introduction and the question about Paul

- A viewer asks how Paul's words can be reconciled with Yeshua's teaching on the law.
- The speaker introduces a two-part investigation.

Paul's credentials and defense

- Philippians 3 describes Paul's heritage and Pharisee training.
- Acts records accusations against Paul and his denials.

Why Paul is difficult to read

- Peter warns that some twist Paul's writings.
- The speaker argues that Hebrew Scripture is necessary context.

Justification by faith in the Hebrew Scriptures

- Habakkuk 2:4 and Genesis 15:6 are connected with Romans 1.
- Job is discussed as the speaker's example of the distinction between outward uprightness and inward trust.

Righteousness apart from the law

- Romans 3 and Isaiah 46 are compared.
- The Teaching separates the basis of justification from the response of obedience.

Upholding the law

- Romans 3:31 is read as affirming rather than setting aside Torah.
- Romans 9–10 and Isaiah's cornerstone are examined.

Messiah as the law's goal

- The Greek word telos is discussed as goal or end.

- Galatians 3's tutor is illustrated with a driver's manual.

Romans 7 and the law of the husband

- The speaker reads the marriage analogy with Deuteronomy 24 in view.
- This is presented as the speaker's covenant interpretation.

Serving in the Spirit and closing questions

- Romans 7:6 is discussed.
- Participants raise questions about lawlessness, salvation, and obedience.
- Gentile inclusion is deferred to Part 2.

Discussion & Reflection

1. What is the central question in Part 1?

2. Why does the Teaching begin with Paul's credentials?

3. What does Paul say about the law in his defense in Acts 24?

4. What accusations against Paul are described in Acts 21?

5. Why is 2 Peter 3 important when studying Paul?

6. Why does the speaker focus on Romans?

7. Was justification by faith invented by Paul according to the Teaching?

8. What does 'the just shall live by faith' connect in the Teaching?

Personal Application

Prayer Focus: Ask Yahovah for humility, discernment, and wisdom when studying difficult passages.

- Where have I confused justification by faith with obedience?
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- Which passage from Romans should I reread in its Old Testament context?
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- How can I test my assumptions about Paul against Scripture?
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