

## Are Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John In The New Testament?

### I. Introduction:

A. We know that the Law of Moses was put away after the death of Christ (**Romans 7:1-6**).

1. Jesus shed His blood for the New Testament (**Mark 14:24**).
2. The Law of Moses was figuratively nailed to the cross of Christ (**Colossians 2:6-15**).

B. However, to think that the Law of Moses was in full effect until Jesus died is a great error (**Matthew 11:10-13** and **Luke 16:16**). Notice further evidence...

1. It was said, but... (**Matthew 5:21-24**; cf. **Exodus 20:13** and **I John 3:14-15**).
2. It was said, but (**Matthew 5:27-32**; cf. **Exodus 20:14**, **Deuteronomy 24:1-4**, **Matthew 19:3-12**, and **I John 2:16**).
3. Again... (**Matthew 5:33-37**; cf. **Leviticus 19:12**, **Deuteronomy 10:20**, and **James 5:12**).
4. The Law of Moses instructed a death penalty for adultery (**Leviticus 20:10**), Jesus taught something different (**John 8:1-11**).
5. And on, and on, we could go (**John 1:14-17**).

### II. Body: We Must Properly Discern What Words Of Jesus Apply Today (**John 12:48** and **II Thessalonians 1:7-8**).

A. Notice carefully what Jesus said to His Apostles about how they would be led to remember and teach what Jesus had taught them (**John 14:15-26**).

1. The Apostles were to teach, make disciples, and then teach those persons what Jesus had taught them (**Matthew 28:18-20**).
2. Christians were taught to remember the words of the Lord Jesus (i.e. **Acts 20:35**).
3. The Apostles taught what they saw and heard from Jesus (**I John 1:1-5**).

B. The consequences of tossing these books out are huge. For example, if we remove Mathew, Mark, Luke, and John; what happens to practices such as the Lord's Supper (**Matthew 26:26-30**)?

1. What did Paul quote from for binding authority regarding the Lord's Supper (**I Corinthians 11:23-26**)?
2. Think about what Jude said (**Jude 1:17**).
3. Understand this as well... Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John were written AFTER Jesus died. Like a legal will today, even though the accounts are during His life, His death makes those words His will (**Hebrews 9:11-17**).

C. There are many things recorded in Matthew - Revelation that do not directly apply to us today. Thus, we have to rightly divide the word of truth (**II Timothy 2:15**).

1. John, who was a man of truth (**John 5:33**), baptized with a baptism that was valid just for a short period of time (**Mark 1:4** and **Acts 19:1-7**).
2. We cannot pray for the kingdom to come as Jesus did while He was alive (**Matthew 6:9-10**; cf. **Colossians 1:12-13** and **Hebrews 12:28-29**).
3. That which is often called the “Great Commission” (**Mark 16:15-20**) doesn’t directly apply today (**Colossians 1:5-6**, **Colossians 1:23**, and **Hebrews 8:7-13**).
4. The Passover was practiced and then changed (**Luke 22:7-20**; cf. **I Corinthians 5:7**).
5. Saints in Rome had spiritual gifts, such as prophesying (**Romans 12:4-6**), but such doesn’t apply today (**I Corinthians 13:8-13**; cf. **James 1:25**; **2:12**).
6. Christians in the first century were looking for a day to come (**Romans 13:12** and **Hebrews 10:25**), that we are not looking towards the coming of today (**Luke 21:20-32**).
7. Decrees were sent to the saints (**Acts 16:4**), but we now have the once delivered system of faith (**Jude 1:3**).
8. The Holy Ghost once appointed elders (**Acts 20:28**), but even in the first century changes came about regarding that too (**Titus 1:5-9**; cf. **I Timothy 3:1-15**).
9. Churches were told prophesies that have since been fulfilled (**Revelation 1:1-3**; **22:6**).
10. So, if someone tosses Matthew - John because not all things contained therein apply directly today; consistency would demand all of the Scriptures would be tossed. However, we know better. All Scriptures have a purpose that serve us to this day (**Luke 4:4**, **Romans 15:4**, **I Corinthians 10:1-12**, and **II Timothy 3:15-17**)!

III. Conclusion: To have a relationship with God, we must abide in, “*the doctrine of Christ*” (**II John 1:9**). That started in Matthew and concluded in Revelation! So, we have to rightly divide what applies today (**II Peter 3:15-18**).