
No More, No Less

God Has Said No More, No Less

- In the Old Testament (Dt. 4:1-2; Dt. 5:32; Josh. 1:7; Prov. 4:26-27; Dt. 12:32; Prov. 30:5-6; Num. 22:18; Num 24:13)
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Deuteronomy 4:1-2

¹ “Now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the judgments which I teach you to observe, that you may live, and go in and possess the land which the Lord God of your fathers is giving you. ² **You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it,** that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you.”

Deuteronomy 5:32

³² “Therefore you shall be careful to do as the Lord your God has commanded you; **you shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left.**”

Joshua 1:7

⁷ “Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you: **do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left**, that you may prosper where ever you go.”

Proverbs 4:26-27

²⁶Ponder the path of your feet, and let all your ways be established. ²⁷**Do not turn to the right or the left;** remove your foot from evil.

Deuteronomy 12:32

³² **“Whatever I command you, be careful to observe it; you shall not add to it nor take away from it.”**

Proverbs 30:5-6

⁵Every word of God is pure; He is a shield to those who put their trust in Him.

⁶**Do not add to His words**, lest He rebuke you, and you be found a liar.

The Testimony of Balaam

“Though Balak were to give me his house full of silver and gold, **I could not go beyond the word of the Lord my God, to do less or more.**” – Numbers 22:18

“If Balak were to give me his house full of silver and gold, **I could not go beyond the word of the Lord my God, to do bad or good of my own will.** What the Lord says, that I must speak.” – Numbers 24:13

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- In the Old Testament (Dt. 4:1-2; Dt. 5:32; Josh. 1:7; Prov. 4:26-27; Dt. 12:32; Prov. 30:5-6; Num. 22:18; Num 24:13)
 - In the New Testament (Rev. 22:18-19; 2 Jn. 9; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; Mt. 7:21; Gal. 3:15; Gal. 1:6-9; 1 Cor. 4:6; Mt. 16:19)
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Revelation 22:18-19

¹⁸For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: **If anyone adds to these things**, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; ¹⁹and **if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy**, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

2 John 9

⁹Whoever **transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ** does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

¹⁶All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

¹⁷That the man of God may be **complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.**

Matthew 7:21

²¹ “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven.

Galatians 3:15

¹⁵Brethren, I speak in the manner of men:
Though it is only a man's covenant, yet if it is
confirmed, **no one annuls or adds to it.**

Psalm 89:34

³⁴ “My covenant I will not break, nor alter the word that has gone out of My mouth.”

Galatians 1:6-9

⁶I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, ⁷which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. ⁸But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.

1 Corinthians 4:6

⁶Now these things, brethren, I have figuratively transferred to myself and Apollos for your sakes, that you may learn in us **not to think beyond what is written**, that none of you may be puffed up on behalf of one against the other.

Matthew 16:19

¹⁹ “And I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”

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Does Silence Forbid?

- Strange Fire?



Nadab and Abihu

- Offered strange fire (Lev. 10:1-2)



Nadab and Abihu

¹Then Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron. Each took his censer and put fire in it, and offered **profane fire** before the Lord, **which He had not commanded them.** ²So fire went out from the Lord and devoured them, and they died before the Lord – Leviticus 10:1-2

Nadab and Abihu

- Offered strange fire (Lev. 10:1-2)
- The correct fire had been specified (Lev. 16:12)



Nadab and Abihu

¹Then he shall take a censer full of burning coals of fire from the altar before the Lord, with his hands full of sweet incense beaten fine, and bring it inside the veil. – Leviticus 16:12

Nadab and Abihu

- Offered strange fire (Lev. 10:1-2)
 - The correct fire had been specified (Lev. 16:12)
 - **All other fire was excluded**
-

Does Silence Forbid?

- Strange Fire? **YES!**
- Strange Incense?

Incense

- The correct incense had been specified (Exodus 30:34-36)
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Incense

³⁴And the Lord said to Moses, “Take sweet spices, stacte and onycha and galbanum, and pure frankincense with there sweet spices; there shall be equal amounts of each. ³⁵You shall make of these an incense, a compound according to the art of the perfumer, salted, pure and holy. ³⁶And you shall beat some of it very fine, and put some of it before the Testimony in the tabernacle of meeting where I will meet with you. It shall be most holy to you.” – Exodus 30:34-36

Incense

- The correct incense had been specified (Exodus 30:34-36)
 - **All other incense was excluded** (Exodus 30:9)
-

Incense

⁹“You shall not offer strange incense on it, or a burnt offering, or a grain offering; nor shall you pour a drink offering on it.” – Exodus 30:9

Does Silence Forbid?

- Strange Fire? **YES!**
 - Strange Incense? **YES!**
 - Added Religious Traditions?
-

Human Tradition Added

- Washing hands before eating as a religious practice (Mk. 7:1-13)



Human Traditions Added

⁵Then the Pharisees and scribes asked Him, “Why do Your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with unwashed hands?” ⁶He answered and said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: ‘This people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. ⁷**And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.**’” – Mark 7:5-7

Human Tradition Added

- Washing hands before eating as a religious practice (Mk. 7:1-13)
 - Not commanded
 - Not forbidden
 - Not mentioned!
 - Made worship vain!!!
-

Does Silence Forbid?

- Strange Fire? **YES!**
 - Strange Incense? **YES!**
 - Added Religious Traditions? **YES!**
 - Alteration of Miraculous Cures?
-

Naaman

- The Jordan river was specified (2 Ki. 5:10)

Naaman

¹⁰And Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying,
“Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and
your flesh shall be restored to you, and you
shall be clean.” – 2 Kings 5:10

Naaman

¹² “Are not the Abanah and the Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?” So he turned and went away in a rage. – 2 Kings 5:12

Naaman

- The Jordan river was specified (2 Ki. 5:10)
 - All other rivers were excluded (2 Ki. 5:12)
-

Does Silence Forbid?

- Strange Fire? **YES!**
 - Strange Incense? **YES!**
 - Added Religious Traditions? **YES!**
 - Alteration of Miraculous Cures? **YES!**
 - Eating the Showbread?
-

David and the Showbread

- The showbread was for the priests (Lev. 24:9)



David and the Showbread

⁹ “And **[the showbread] shall be for Aaron and his sons**, and they shall eat it in a holy place; for it is most holy to him from the offerings of the Lord made by fire, by a perpetual statute” – Leviticus 24:9

David and the Showbread

- The showbread was for the priests (Lev. 24:9)
 - All others were excluded (Matt. 12:3-4)
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David and the Showbread

³But He said to them, “Have you not read what David did when he was hungry, he and those who were with him: ⁴ how he entered the house of God and ate the showbread which was **not lawful for him to eat**, nor for those who were with him, but **only for the priests?**” – Matthew 12:4

Does Silence Forbid?

- Strange Fire? **YES!**
 - Strange Incense? **YES!**
 - Added Religious Traditions? **YES!**
 - Alteration of Miraculous Cures? **YES!**
 - Eating the Showbread? **YES!**
 - Building the Temple?
-

David and the Temple

- David wanted to build a temple for God



David and the Temple

Now it came to pass when the king was dwelling in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies all around, 2 that the king said to Nathan the prophet, "**See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells inside tent curtains.**" - 2 Samuel 7:1-7

David and the Temple

- David wanted to build a temple for God
- Nathan the priest said, “Yes”



David and the Temple

3 Then Nathan said to the king, "**Go, do all that is in your heart, for the LORD is with you.**" - 2 Samuel 7:1-7

David and the Temple

- David wanted to build a temple for God
 - Nathan the priest said, “Yes”
 - God said, “No”
-

David and the Temple

4 But it happened that night that the word of the LORD came to Nathan, saying, 5 "Go and tell My servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: "**Would you build a house for Me to dwell in? ...** 7 Wherever I have moved about with all the children of Israel, **have I ever spoken a word to anyone** from the tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd My people Israel, **saying, 'Why have you not built Me a house of cedar?'** " ' - 2 Samuel 7:1-7

David and the Temple

- David wanted to build a temple for God
 - Nathan the priest said, “Yes”
 - God said, “No”
 - Silence forbids!
-

Does Silence Forbid?

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 - Added Religious Traditions? **YES!**
 - Alteration of Miraculous Cures? **YES!**
 - Eating the Showbread? **YES!**
 - Building the Temple? **YES!**
 - Adding Religious Holidays?
-

Religious Holidays

- Personally significant days a matter of liberty and conscience (Rom. 14:5-6)



Religious Holidays

⁵One person esteems one day above another; another esteems every day alike. Let each be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶He who observes the day, observes it to the Lord; and he who does not observe the day, to the Lord he does not observe it.... – Romans 14:5-6

Religious Holidays

- Personally significant days a matter of liberty and conscience (Rom. 14:5-6)
 - Unauthorized religious observances are an addition (Gal. 4:10-11)
-

Religious Holidays

¹⁰You observe days and months and seasons and years. ¹¹I am afraid for you, lest I have labored for you in vain. – Galatians 4:10-11

Religious Holidays

- Personally significant days a matter of liberty and conscience (Rom. 14:5-6)
 - Unauthorized religious observances are an addition (Gal. 4:10-11)
 - Former religious holidays removed (Col. 2:14-16)
-

Religious Holidays

¹⁴having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. ¹⁵Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it. ¹⁶So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or new moon or sabbaths – Colossians 2:14-16

Religious Holidays

- Personally significant days a matter of liberty and conscience (Rom. 14:5-6)
 - Unauthorized religious observances are an addition (Gal. 4:10-11)
 - Former religious holidays removed (Col. 2:14-16)
 - First day of the week is the day of religious observance for the church (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:1)
-

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 - Eating the Showbread? **YES!**
 - Building the Temple? **YES!**
 - Adding Religious Holidays? **YES!**
 - Adding Instruments to Music?
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- Strange Fire? **YES!**
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 - Added Religious Traditions? **YES!**
 - Alteration of Miraculous Cures? **YES!**
 - Eating the Showbread? **YES!**
 - Building the Temple? **YES!**
 - Adding Religious Holidays? **YES!**
 - Adding Instruments to Music? **YES!**
 - A Priest from the Tribe of Judah?
-

Priest from Judah

- Forbidden by the silence of God (Heb. 7:14)
-

Priest from Judah

¹⁴For it is evident that our Lord arose from Judah, of which tribe Moses spoke nothing concerning priesthood. – Hebrews 7:14

Priest from Judah

- Forbidden by the silence of God (Heb. 7:14)
 - Levites specified, all others excluded (Num. 3:5-13, 41-45, 18:1-7, 21-32)
-

Priest from Judah

¹⁰ “So you shall appoint Aaron and his sons, and they shall attend to their priesthood; but the outsider who comes near shall be put to death.” – Numbers 3:10

Priest from Judah

- Forbidden by the silence of God (Heb. 7:14)
 - Levites specified, all others excluded (Num. 3:5-13, 41-45, 18:1-7, 21-32)
 - A priest from any other tribe would require a change in the law (Heb. 7:12-14)
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Priest from Judah

¹²For the priesthood being changed, of necessity there is also a change of the law.

¹³For He of whom these things are spoken belongs to another tribe, from which no man has officiated at the altar.¹⁴For it is evident that our Lord arose from Judah, of which tribe Moses spoke nothing concerning priesthood – Hebrews 7:12-14

Priest from Judah

- Forbidden by the silence of God (Heb. 7:14)
 - Levites specified, all others excluded (Num. 3:5-13, 41-45, 18:1-7, 21-32)
 - A priest from any other tribe would require a change in the law (Heb. 7:12-13)
 - **We cannot claim a practice is lawful simply on the grounds that it is not forbidden**
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 - A Priest from the Tribe of Judah? **YES!**
-

Does Silence Forbid?

YES!

No More, No Less

- When God gives us instruction, we must do what He says, No More, No Less

