

**The Birth of Christ:
Unity Between the First and Second Testaments**
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Not everyone identifies the important _____ that exists between the Old Testament and the New Testament.

How might people come to understand the two testaments of the bible to be at odds with one another?

The greatest difference from the Old to the New is the presence and ministry of Jesus Christ on earth. The grace that Jesus displays in His life, death, burial, and resurrection is also the pivotal _____ that ties the two testaments together.

*The relationship between the Old and New Testaments is one of strong _____ and a _____ revelation.

The arrival of Christ set into motion...

1. Not an *abandonment* of the law, but its _____

The laws that we are no longer bound to were not removed because they were _____, nor were they removed because they didn't _____, they are no longer strictly enforced because they have *fulfilled* their purpose...

It is by the law that we are made aware of our deep need for salvation.
(see Galatians 3:23-29)

Galatians 2:16 – ...yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ... by works of the law no one will be justified.

- Jesus fulfilled the law by _____ righteously every moment of His life.
- Jesus fulfilled the law by _____ a sinner's death in our place.

The arrival of Christ set into motion...

2. The provision of substitutionary _____

*God gave the law to man knowing full well that man could not keep it.

Knowing beforehand that man could not keep the law, the law itself contained built-in measures for man's inevitable failure to keep the law – the system of sacrificial atonement.

Though all of God's creation is valuable, only *man* is made in God's _____. The blood of an animal could never atone for the sins of man.

1 Corinthians 5:7 – Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed.

The arrival of Christ set into motion...

3. The _____ that was promised, ruled from David's line.

- Through the Old Testament, God supplied priests to minister to the people
- Through the Old Testament, God supplied kings to lead and rule the people

In the ministry of Jesus God brought together both offices in One perfect man
(see Hebrews 7:1-3)

1 Timothy 1:17 – ¹⁷To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Practical implications:

- If I see the law as obsolete, I would be tempted to live in sin and think there were no _____ to my actions. (Hebrews 12:5-6, Matthew 28:19-20)
- If we think the law was enough to save sinners, then Jesus' death was _____, and a cruel thing for God to subject Him to.
- If the New Testament is God's second try at redeeming man, it implies that He was _____ in His first attempt. God's omnipotence and sovereignty are at stake.