

## TATTOOS- WHAT DOES OUR CREATOR SAY?

I got caught up in a debate the other day about tattoos and a few Christians basically told me that because "Christ Died" for them that the law of the Torah no longer applied to them... Whoa...

So I guess we can now lie, cheat and murder? Or do we only have to follow a certain 10? Do we get to pick and choose which commands "Christ Died" for? Not wanting to get into a long dissertation over what Christ actually died for- we need to understand that He didn't do away with Torah- He was against the rabbinical oral laws that were making it impossible to even follow Elohim's covenant.



Remember a covenant is between two or more parties- and our covenant with our Creator is that IF we follow His Torah commands- He will make us HIS people and BE OUR ELOHIM. PERIOD.

Another thing I was told that it is okay to have a tattoo "If it means something to you." WHAT? And another told me that she only had tattoos to show her "LOVE of Jesus." Well my thought is that if you love Christ- you would be obedient and not mark your body... Obedience is the best way to show love-

WHAT ABOUT LEVITICUS 19:28?

**Leviticus 19:28** Ye shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the dead, nor print any marks upon you: I am Elohim.

Could that be any more clear?

"Ye shall not. . .print any marks upon you. . ."

Simple. . . Straightforward. . .Settled. . .

Elohim Said It. . . I Believe It. . . That Settles It. . . Right. . .?

Not hardly. . .

The clear statement from the word of Elohim does not settle anything for this generation of disobedient, carnal, worldly, tolerant, non-judgmental, Christians. Rather than obey, they run miles and miles and miles to "justify" their open disobedience to the Word of our Creator.

How do they get around Leviticus 19:28?

Clearly, there it is. "Ye shall not. . .print any marks upon you. . ."

A lot of Christians when confronted with Leviticus 19:28, scream, "Hey dude, that's not for today. Man, that's the Old Testament. I'm under the New Testament".

Did you know that "bestiality" was ONLY forbidden in the Old Testament Levitical Law? Does that mean our Holy Creator NOW – under the New Testament, approves of bestiality? Although more and more we see "MANS" laws being changed to be more acceptance of this- Do you think our Elohim does?

The verse immediately AFTER the "it's not for me" Leviticus 19:28?

Do not prostitute thy daughter, to cause her to be a whore; lest the land fall to whoredom, and the land become full of wickedness.

This is the only place in the Bible that our Creator directly forbids someone to prostitute their daughter. And since, it's ONLY in the Old Testament Levitical Law (and "hey, dude, we're NOT under the law") – it MUST be ok by our Creator for a parent to cause their daughter to prostitute.

Same line of reasoning as the "it's ONLY in the Old Testament-tattoo-bearer-wearer". Same reasoning... Same disobedience... Same perversion of the Word of Elohim.

There are many other "moral laws" that are ONLY forbidden in the Old Testament, such as the human sacrifice of children. Nowhere in the New Testament is this forbidden. Does that mean that NOW under the New Testament, the Almighty endorses throwing babies into the fire as a human sacrifice?

**Leviticus 18:21** And thou shalt not let any of thy seed pass through the fire to Molech neither shalt thou profane the name of thy Elohim: I am YHWH.

Matthew Henry's Commentary at the beginning of Leviticus 19 explains that most of Leviticus 19 (such as verse 19:28) are moral commandments that applies not only for Israel but **for ALL Believers today**.

*"Some ceremonial precepts there are in this chapter, but most of them are moral. . . Most of these precepts are binding on us, for they are expositions of most of the Ten Commandments."*

IT'S ONLY "FOR THE DEAD"

But by far the Christian tattooers favorite excuse for disobeying Leviticus 19:28 is the... That means do not print any marks upon you – "for the DEAD". It's ok, as long it's not for "the dead." -See the "*for the dead!!! For the dead!!!!*"

Is it ok to practice satanic bloodletting, self-mutilation or cutting of the flesh as long as it's not for the dead? It's in the same verse. . . Hmmm. . .?

**Leviticus 19:28** Ye shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the dead, nor print any marks upon you: I am Elohim.

Notice also, the phrase "for the dead" is ONLY referencing the "cuttings in your flesh". The condemnation of "nor print ANY marks upon you" is not qualified by the phrase "for the dead". Also, if you'll notice the verse clearly says "ANY marks" period.

Merrill F. Unger's, very popular and authoritative, Unger's Bible Dictionary 1974 ed., p. 696- under the definition for "Mark" includes the following reference for Leviticus 19:28:

*"In Lev. 19:28 we find two prohibitions of an unnatural disfigurement of the body: 'Ye shall not make any cutting in your flesh for the dead, nor any print any marks upon you.' The latter (Heb. qa aqa, incision) refers to tattooing, and has no reference to idolatrous usages, but was intended to inculcate upon the Israelites a proper reverence for Elohim's creation."*

Notice that Unger teaches that tattoos were forbidden without any reference to pagan, heathen, or idolatrous usages. In other words, the tattoo itself, regardless the reason, was forbidden!

Wycliffe's Bible Encyclopedia 1975 ed., p. 1664 under the definition for TATTOOING distinctly says:

*"While 'cuttings in the flesh' have reference here to mourning customs [for the dead], the tattooing does not appear to pertain to such practice."*

The New American Commentary 2000 ed., p. 262- on Leviticus 19:28 writes the condemnation was for;

*"cutting the body either for the dead or with tattoo marks."*

Explicitly recognizing the tattoo was not "for the dead."

Do you see how disobedient this "it doesn't apply to my New-Testament-Christian-marked-for-Jesus-tattoo" is? Find what you don't like in the Word of our Creator, cut it out because it doesn't apply to New Testament Christians or misapply... it's just for the DEAD, when it's clearly NOT. Same tactics used by the satanic cults and heretics for years. You can prove anything and everything with such deceitful methods.

### **THE "FORBIDDEN" HAIRCUT**

One of the silliest and childish arguments to justify the Christian tattoo is the: "Hey man, do you get a haircut or trim your beard? God condemned getting a haircut or trimming your beard in the verse before forbidding the tattoo. Dude, the tattoo is the same as getting a haircut."

Believe it or not . . . this is a widely used argument.

Leviticus 19:26-28 is a clear condemnation of pagan, witchcraft and heathen practices. Look at the context. Verse 26 is plainly referring to "enchantment [spells or witchcraft] nor observe times [astrology]. . .

Verse 28 is the pagan, demonic practice of bloodletting [cuttings in your flesh] and tattooing. Why would Elohim stick in the middle a verse that "condemns simply getting a haircut"? Of course, He wouldn't. . . And He didn't. . .

**Leviticus 19:26-28** reads:

**Leviticus 19:26** Ye shall not eat any thing with the blood: neither shall ye use enchantment, nor observe times.

**Leviticus 19:27** Ye shall not round the corners of your heads, neither shalt thou mar the corners of thy beard.

**Leviticus 19:28** Ye shall not make any cuttings in your flesh for the dead, nor print any marks upon you: I am Elohim.

The condemnation found in verse 27 of "rounding the corners of your head" or "mar the corners of thy beard" was the forbidding of a common pagan practice that cut the hair as worship and honor of the hosts of heaven.

Here's how Matthew Henry's and Coffman's Commentaries reflect on the "forbidden haircut" of Leviticus 19:27:

*"Those that worshipped the hosts of heaven, in honour of them, cut their hair so as that their heads might resemble the celestial globe; but, as the custom was foolish itself, so, being done with respect to their false gods, it was idolatrous."*

Coffman Commentaries on the Old and New Testament, Leviticus 19:27

*"Herodotus tells of the use of this type of haircut, forming what is called a tonsure, as the practice of pagan religious cults of ancient times who did so honoring one of their gods."*

The fact is. . . Up until a few years ago, virtually everyone, including the most liberal Christian, KNEW the tattoo was clearly forbidden by the Word of Elohim. And throughout history, the tattoo has ALWAYS been condemned by Bible Believing Christians... Always. Every historical resource ever written on tattoos clearly confirms this fact.

Jean-Chris Miller, The Body Art Book : A Complete, Illustrated Guide to Tattoos, Piercings, and Other Body Modifications, p.9

*"Just as occurred in other cultures with tattoo traditions, when these pagan tribes were 'converted' to the Christian religion, their spiritual and cultural rites (which included tattooing, piercing and scarification) were outlawed. . ."*

Gilbert, Steve, Tattoo History: A Source Book, p. 101:

*"Whenever missionaries encountered tattooing they eradicated it."*

Jean-Chris Miller, The Body Art Book : A Complete, Illustrated Guide to Tattoos, Piercings, and Other Body Modifications, p.11

*"While these and other body modifications continued to be practiced underground as a way for non-Christian people to identify each other, God forbid you got caught and your mark was revealed."*

Up until a few years, virtually every commentary written understood Leviticus 19:28 as an open condemnation of the tattoo. The Christian acceptance of a tattoo was not even considered for serious discussion.

Jameison-Faussett-Brown Commentary and Explanatory on the Whole Bible writes under Leviticus 19:28

*"nor print any marks upon you—by tattooing, imprinting figures of flowers, leaves, stars, and other fanciful devices on various parts of their person. The impression was made sometimes by means of a hot iron, sometimes by ink or paint, as is done by the Arab females of the present day and the different castes of the Hindus. It is probable that a strong propensity to adopt such marks in honor of some idol gave occasion to the prohibition in this verse; and they were wisely forbidden, for they were signs of apostasy; and, when once made, they were insuperable obstacles to a return."*

James M. Freeman in his excellent book, *The New Manners & Customs of the Bible*, 1998 edition, p. 157 says of Leviticus 19:28:

*"Tattooing Forbidden"*

*Both cutting and tattooing were done by the heathens, and so God forbade His people from doing so in imitation of them."*

Coffman's Commentary on the Old and New Testament under Leviticus 19:18 says:

*"The cutting of one's flesh also characterized pagan worship as attested by the priests of Baal on Mount Carmel in the contest with Elijah. Tattooing was also a device of paganism. . . Christians generally disapprove of tattooing, despite the fact of the widespread use of it by many even today. In the light of what God says here, and in view of the history of it, it seems strange that anyone would pay someone else to tattoo him."*

Charles R. Erdman *The Book of Leviticus*, 1951 ed., p.93: In his commentary on Leviticus 19:28 writes:

*"The custom of tattooing was forbidden, while among all the nations of antiquity it was common."*

But Naves famous Topical Bible puts it best. Under the topic "Tattooing", Nave's simply and bluntly writes: "TATTOOING, forbidden, Lev. 19;28" (Nave's Topical Bible, p. 1312)

#### **BUT WHAT ABOUT ISAIAH 44:5 & EZEKIEL 9:4**

I've seen several references by Christian who claim Isaiah 44 and Ezekiel 9 are examples of Elohim-ordained tattoos in the Bible.

**Ezekiel 9:4** And Elohim said unto him, Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and set a mark upon the foreheads of the men that sigh and that cry for all the abominations that be done in the midst thereof.

**Isaiah 44:5** One shall say, I am Elohim's; and another shall call himself by the name of Jacob; and another shall subscribe with his hand unto Elohim, and surname himself by the name of Israel.

The following excellent explanation of Isaiah 44:5 and Ezekiel 9:4:

- 1) In Leviticus 19:28 the term used is "k'thoveth qa'aqa." "K'thoveth" means "writing or inscription." "Qa'aqa" comes from a root whose meaning is "to insert or to stick in." Together, "writing that is stuck in".

What the verse is talking about is what we refer to today as tattoos, i.e. scratching or piercing the skin and filling it in with pigment.

- 2) Isaiah 44:5 uses the word "yichtov" which means "will write" without the word "qa'aqa" "to insert or to stick in." Isaiah is not talking about tattoos. What he is saying is "...and he will write with his hand to Elohim..."

Like someone who signs a contract to express his utmost commitment and obligation.

- 3) Ezekiel 9:4 uses the word "tav" which means "a mark or a sign."

The man clothed with linen is going to mark the foreheads of the righteous with ink, not tattoo them!

### ***THE "TATTOOED" MESSIAH. . .***

Some Christian goes so far as claim that the Messiah has a tattoo!

Many Christian claims that when the Messiah returns in Revelation chapter 19 on a horse – He has a tattoo on his thigh!

**Revelation 19:11** And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.

**Revelation 19:12** His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.

**Revelation 19:13** And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of YHWH.

**Revelation 19:14** And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.

**Revelation 19:15** And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.

**Revelation 19:16** And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND MASTER OF MASTERS.

I know you don't believe Christians can be that deceived so here's the proof:

"And what of the Messiah Himself? Twice in chapter 19, our Messiah is depicted as having a name written on Him (verses 12 and 16). As unthinkable as it may be for some to picture our Messiah as having a tattoo, the author of the Apocalypse had no problem with it."

Revelation 19:16 clearly is referring to the "vesture his thigh" – ". . . he hath on his vesture and on his thigh. . ."

Can anyone with any spiritual discernment really believe the Messiah has a tattoo? Isn't it amazing how spiritually blind someone becomes when they began to justify their disobedience to the Word of God?

But what really is frightening about this perverse interpretation of a "tattooed" Messiah in Revelation 19:16 – it makes the our Messiah a SINNER!

It means the Messiah CLEARLY disobeyed Leviticus 19:28! It means the Messiah was not Holy! He was not the sinless, spotless Lamb of Elohim. He clearly was disobedient and broke the Levitical Law of Leviticus 19:28!

And if the Messiah committed sin – everyone is either in hell or on the way to hell. There is no salvation without a sinless, spotless Lamb of YHWH. It took a sinless, perfect, Savior to pay for your sins.

Despite what these Christian tattooers "preach" – The Messiah was without sin – and without "tattoo"!

**1 Peter 1:18** Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;

**1 Peter 1:19** But with the precious blood of Messiah, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

**Hebrews 4:15** For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.

**2 Corinthians 5:21** For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of Elohim in him.

**1 Peter 2:21** For even hereunto were ye called: because Messiah also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:

**1 Peter 2:22** Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:

**1 John 3:4** Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for **sin is the transgression of the law.**

**1 John 3:5** And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.

## ***DEFILING THE TEMPLE OF THE LIVING ELOHIM***

Most Christians, even the most carnal and back-slider, would never desecrate or defile the local church building. Even among most lost people there is a reverence and sacredness to the church building.

But. . . Did you know?

If you are truly born again the Holy Spirit dwells within in (John 14:17, Romans 8:9, 11) and your body is the temple of Elohim. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 makes this very clear.

**1 Corinthians 6:19** What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of Elohim, and ye are not your own?

**1 Corinthians 6:20** For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify Elohim in your body, and in your spirit, which are Elohim.

And . . . Did you know?

Messiah warns several times of the seriousness of defiling the temple of HIS FATHER – your body!

In 1Corinthians 3, the Messiah clearly and sternly warns against defiling your body – the temple of Elohim. If any man defiles the temple of Elohim – **HIM SHALL ELOHIM DESTROY!**

**1 Corinthians 3:16** Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of Elohim dwelleth in you?

**1 Corinthians 3:17** If any man defile the temple of Elohim, him shall Elohim destroy; for the temple of Elohim is holy, which temple ye are.

My friend, you'd better watch what you do with your body. It is the temple of a Holy YHWH. You'd better not defile it with pagan, devil-worshipping tattoos!

**". . . If any man defile the temple of YHWH, him shall YHWH destroy. . ."**

What YHWH said – He meant!

**Numbers 23:19** YHWH is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?

**Galatians 6:7** Be not deceived; Elohim is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap.

**Galatians 6:8** For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

Do you really believe the Messiah is pleased with a **BELIEVER** wearing a pagan tattoo? Do you honestly believe our Heavenly Fathers perfect will is for a **BELIEVER, ANY BELIEVER**, to be "marked" with a demonic tattoo? In the eyes of our Creator there is no difference between...



There is no question to the pagan and devil-worshipping source of the tattoo. Every tattoo historian traces the root of the tattoo to religious paganism. Every one!

2 Corinthians 6:14-17 is another warning against the tattoo. Notice the warning against the "fellowshipping" and concord with Messiah and Belial (the devil). Verse 16 is very interesting. . . As it relates the "fellowshipping" with your body – the temple of the living Elohim.

**2 Corinthians 6** reads:

**2 Corinthians 6:14** Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

**2 Corinthians 6:15** And what concord hath Messiah with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel?

**2 Corinthians 6:16** And what agreement hath the temple of Elohim with idols? for ye are the temple of the living Elohim; as Elohim hath said, **I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their Elohim, and they shall be my people.**

**2 Corinthians 6:17** Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith YHWH, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you,

I realize, a lot of Christians could care less what our CREATOR says BECAUSE "Jesus Died for them". They're going do what they want to do – despite heaven or hell.

But there are many **BELIEVERS** who want to serve Elohim more than anything – with every fiber of their soul.. And it was for those "good and faithful servants" of the Messiah that this was written for.

**Matthew 25:23** His master said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy master.

Elohim desires first of all obedience unto salvation by receiving the Messiah (John 1:12). And after salvation, His will for you is to serve and love Him with all you heart, body, mind and soul.

We have all made mistakes- we all sin... But to do a sin after learning it is a sin is called **A WILLFUL SIN...**

**Hebrews 10:26-27 FOR IF WE SIN WILLFULLY AFTER WE HAVE RECEIVED THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH, THERE REMAINS NO MORE SACRIFICE FOR SINS**

Simply put... you are not covered by the blood of the lamb.