

Then why is the Old Testament “old”? Not because it was written first, and not because it is older than the New Testament. Paul said, in Hebrews 8:13, that God **made** it old. “In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old.” He made it old by abrogating it, taking it out of the way. The Old Testament is true as the revelation of God and the history of man, and of God’s people Israel, and as an inspired record of the development of the Divine plan of redemption. All of that is in the Old Testament. The Bible is thus the longest thread of thought ever woven in the loom of time. There is no repudiation of the Old Testament, but we recognize the difference in the dispensations under which men have lived and served God.

—Foy E. Wallace, Jr.
Deceased

THAT YOU MAY KNOW...

Let us pray for...

Tonya Thatcher—difficulty with pregnancy
Judy Reid—treatment for auto accident injuries (sister in NJ, planning to move here)
Mike Mallett—fighting leukemia (faithful brother in Evant, TX)
Ken Chumbley—fighting cancer and other physical problems (Gospel preacher)
Janice Ruffner—fighting various physical issues
Ann Henderson—fighting cancer (Sheri Woodall’s aunt)
Brian Ritter—fighting rare autoimmune disease (son of Rick Ritter, Gospel preacher)
Tim Smith—fighting chronic physical problems from auto injuries (Gospel preacher)
Richie Aidoo—Joshua Aidoo’s 8-year-old son (fighting seizures)
Samuel Bagsangi—Gospel preacher in Philippines we help support
Joshua Aidoo—Gospel preacher in Ghana we help support

Records you helped make last week...

Bible Classes	17
Sunday AM Worship	17
Sunday PM Worship	17
Wednesday PM Bible Class/Worship	17
Contribution	\$810.00
Contribution average (2014)	\$836.49

Internet Sermon broadcasts...

Both sermons each Sunday are broadcast, beginning at approximately 10:45–10:50 a.m. and 1:12–1:15 p.m., via Internet through our Website, www.northpointcoc.com.

Assignments...

Bible class teacher for November	Dub McClish
Chairman of Men’s Meetings (October–December)	Phil Smith
Preacher, <i>The Lighthouse</i> editor	Dub McClish



The Northpoint Lighthouse

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Fools— ANCIENT AND MODERN

IN ROMANS 1:19–21, Paul, the irrepressible apostle of Christ, described the Atheists, Humanists, and Secularists of ages past, declaring of them, “Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools” (v. 22). In his words we hear the echo of David’s words: “The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God” (Psa. 13:1).

To such folk Paul remarked that God had manifested His existence clearly in the things He had created. Again, his words echo David’s observation: “The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament showeth his handiwork” (Psa. 19:1). However, those Paul described rejected (and still reject) the abundant evidence in their vain, nonsensical, and irrational thought processes, thereby corrupting their hearts.

The apostle continued, reporting the consequences of their denial and rejection of God:

1. They invented their own “gods” and began worshiping creatures instead of the Creator (men are incurably “religious” and must worship something). Let us not miss the irony of the apex of God’s creation, His only rational beings, bowing before images of other mere men and even of lower life forms (Rom. 1:23).
2. Denying God meant abandoning His benevolent law; they exchanged “the truth of God for a lie” (v. 25a). In their moral and spiritual vacuum, they strayed into the forbidden fulfillment of every imaginable “vile passion” (including murder, deceit, absence of natural affection, and male and female homosexual practices) (vv. 26–31). To all such—both ancient and modern—“the word of the cross...is foolishness” (1 Cor. 1:18). They count themselves “wise” (as does much of mankind), but their “wisdom” will eventually be exposed for the abject foolishness it is (v. 20).

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Sunday
 Bible Class 9:30 AM
 Worship 10:30 AM
 Worship 1:00 PM

Wednesday
 B.C./Worship 7:00 PM

3. This sort brought (and bring) the wrath of God down upon themselves (Rom. 1:18). Because of the evidence for His existence and His benevolence and because they chose the lies of their own dark hearts over His Truth, they were “without excuse” for their behavior (v. 20b). Thus “God gave them up” – abandoned them – to their own dedicated rebellion, Atheism, and Hedonism (vv. 24, 26, 28). God will not deter those who reject the Truth and take pleasure in unrighteousness (2 The. 2:10–12). God is longsuffering (2 Pet. 3:9), but He “shall not strive with man forever” when he is determined to persevere in degeneracy (Gen. 6:3). Make no mistake: Men can become so perversely corrupt that even God, man’s Supreme Lover, gives up on them.

God’s moral attributes and His moral requirements of men are static (Psa. 102:27; Heb. 13:8). His attitude is the same toward those in our time who, in the face of the overabundance of evidence of His existence and creative power, obstinately deny, curse, and “decide” Him out of existence. It is silliness and folly gone to seed to admit (as every Atheist must) that even a paper clip had a designer and a maker, but then insist that this vast universe – which our deepest space probes have not even begun to fathom – is but the result of a huge, unintelligent, inexplicable explosion and that life “somehow” – just “somehow” – sprang from non-living matter, the beginning of which is inexplicable.

The elitist God-denying academics, philosophers, and scientists of our day are “without excuse,” for “professing themselves to be wise, they became fools.”

– Dub McClish
Denton, TX

WHERE Truth IS

NEWSPAPERS seldom print all of it; the entertainment media usually hides it; philosophers ignore it because of its simplicity. There is only one place that one can find the Truth – all the Truth that will enable a person to live righteously here before God and prepare one for Heaven – in the Word of God. Some truths are discovered through research and exploration – but none of a spiritual nature is, because they have been available for hundreds of years. In one sense, they are discovered afresh by every generation, but it is not as though they have never before been known.

A person must go to the Source to get the full benefits because Satan has distorted many of its teachings; he is skillful at misrepresentation and deception. Just as the news media withhold pertinent data about the source of a problem, he will emphasize grace and faith, keeping people’s attention away from repentance and baptism. For that reason, people must not be satisfied with anything less than learning “all the counsel of God” (Acts 20:27). “Thy word is true from the beginning: And every one of thy righteous judgments endureth for ever” (Psa. 119: 160).

Too many people have camped on a particular verse or passage, thereby excluding others that modify or explain it. Sometimes useless divisions have occurred by a failure to approach the sacred Word properly. *Buy the truth and sell it not* (Pro. 23:23) means that, once we understand its teachings, we must hold on to them. First, however, we must be certain that our understanding is correct. Many are easily susceptible to error because they have not hungered or thirsted after righteousness (Mat. 5:6), nor have they been **diligently** seeking God (Heb. 11:6). No one is a success in business because of a casual interest in the marketplace. No one sets eight world records in swimming because he had a mild interest in the sport. No one becomes a champion runner because he or she possesses a nominal interest in jogging.

Truth is only located in one place – the Bible. Therefore, we must have the Book open frequently. We must study at home consistently. We must be present for Bible study always when the saints meet. There is no danger of an overdose; overexposure might be a problem from the sun – but not from the Son. Searching the Scriptures daily (Acts 17:11) not only serves as a good precedent, it is the pathway to eternal life.

– Gary Summers
Winter Park, FL

The Old Testament

THE OLD and the New Testaments represent together the continuity of Divine revelation. We are not under the Old Testament – but that does not mean that we do not believe in it. When we try to show people that we are not under the Old Testament, they think that we do not believe in the Old Testament. Let us ask who it is that does not believe in the Old Testament. Do you believe that it has been taken away? If you say no, then **you** do not believe in the Old Testament, because the Old Testament is the book that said,

In that he saith, A new covenant he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away (Heb. 8:13).

Here Paul showed that what the Old Testament said in advance about itself had been done. That was a quotation from the Old Testament. So, if you do not believe that the Old Testament has vanished away, then you are the one who does not believe in the Old Testament.

I believe in the Old Testament, but we are not under it. That does not mean that it is not true; it means that it was fulfilled and has been abrogated. It was not called the “Old Testament” as long as it was in force. There is not a law on the statute books of the State of Tennessee that you would call an “old” law while it is in operation. When a law is repealed, when it is abrogated, when it is relegated, it becomes an old law.