

what he wants them to know, and how it is to be driven home to their minds and hearts. If a person carelessly and defiantly casts this aside, he is in rebellion against God. He deserves punishment. But if a man is trying to serve the Lord and finds there are particular emergency situations which require a different application, he is showing his love to God by trying to work it out in a way that will fit the situation. This is very important to remember. We are apt to make this error about the law, and we are very apt to make it about doctrine too, thinking that all doctrine is equally important; that if you are wrong about one particular point it means you are wrong about the whole system! There is no such teaching anywhere in God's word. God wants us to study very carefully those doctrines in His word which are very important for our salvation and for our growth in grace. There are other doctrines which are very important for our encouragement, help, and strengthening, and we miss a tremendous blessing if we do not get their correct understanding from God. There are other matters which are solely a matter of curiosity as far as our practical life is concerned. It is for us to emphasize what God says. To say I am not interested is an act of wickedness to God. But God does not want us to get terribly concerned about matters which do not affect our lives but are purely a matter of curiosity. He wants us to do that which is conducive to the advancement of His kingdom here. Dr. Robert Dick Wilson used to say, "The Lord did not call you to explain all the mysteries of the universe. He calls you to go out and preach the gospel." That is what He has left us here to do; it is to preach the gospel that He has given as His means of salvation, not to explain all the mysteries of the universe. The more we can understand of the mysteries of the universe from what He has given in His word, the more affectively we can preach the gospel, but there is a point at which it ceases to be practical and becomes purely a matter of satisfying curiosity. When we reach that point we become "unprofitable servants." A correct understanding of this is very vital!

The claim that there is such a progress in these documents as the critics say does not fit with the facts. There is progress, but it is a progress of taking things and rearranging them in certain ways to get that progress. By taking the Levitical law, which is given right after the first covenant, and putting it at the end you get a progress to some