

So that the ceremonial law is not something that goes for a certain length of time and is necessarily changed. Certain ceremonial laws were, because certain ceremonial laws looked forward to Christ. Then when he came they were fulfilled and we have new ceremonies that look back to Christ. But the ceremonial law is not an end in itself, but is a means to impress ideas upon people, and the strict observance of this law in the camp and then later among the people had an important part in putting into their minds the importance of God's holiness and of the removal of all that was impure and unclean. And also the correct idea of the meaning of the human body.

But now there are-- is No. 4, The Application in the Moral Sphere.

This is not a direct command of moral law. But it has an application, certainly a vital application by analogy, to the moral sphere. This law about the avoiding the touching of that that is unclean. We find in the book of Jude that there is a very interesting statement in vs. 17 - 24, (reading the text) Here we have the application in the moral sphere. There are those who are the mockers, those who walk after their own ungodly lusts, those who lead astray the people of God. And from these it is ^{vital} ~~vital~~ that we separate ourselves, that we do not have a close relationship with them which leads us soon to become hardened to their attitudes and to come to overlook them. Who was it who said how vice at first appears so awful so that you feel you can have nothing to do with it and once you begin to look at it, and to look at it you begin to lose that detestation and begin to become more attracted to it, and eventually can be easily drawn into it. ("Vice is a monster of so frightful a mien, that to be hated needs but to be seen; but seen too often, familiar with her face, first we endure, then pity, then embrace.") Someone has said that the best way to avoid become an alcoholic is not to take the first drink, and it surely is true as to our relation to that which is unclean, that we are to avoid contamination with the world. But as Jude points out we are to make a difference. We are to recognize those who are being led astray