

## **Authentic Christianity Part 3**

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### I. Introduction.

- A. Authentic Christianity is difficult to find.
- B. Many Christians struggle with how to walk with continual dependence upon God.
- C. Text: II Corinthians 3:6-11.

### II. The Old Covenant is a dependence upon the flesh with the law of Moses.

- A. Without the law, people would have thought that the utter turmoil would have been normal.
- B. The law shows us that the problem is in us.
- C. The problem with the law was that the flesh was incapable of keeping it—there was no inherent problem with it itself.
- D. The law was not given for the just man but the unjust man. (I Timothy)
- E. Man cannot serve two masters and man was made to be mastered.

### III. In Christ, there is freedom from the Old Covenant.

- A. Obedience to the law is attractive, symbolized by the brightness on Moses' face.
- B. The face of Christ is contrasted to that—it is the symbol of freedom.
- C. The Old Covenant produces death and the New produces life in the present life—this is the immediate effect of dependence or independence upon God.

### IV. The New Covenant is concerned with people over things.

- A. Many churches have a concern for things over people.
- B. Churches must re-evaluate their concerns in this area.
- C. Our concern ought always to be to reach people.

### V. The Old Covenant produces a sense of righteousness and the New Covenant produces a sense of worth.

- A. There is a glory in both.
- B. Many sermons produce a heavy sense of guilt with the message of trying harder.

C. When one has a sense of worth, he produces out of gratitude for what he has been given and how he has been forgiven.

D. Paul's works were not of splendor to him—he reckoned that it was God who was at work in him. (Philippians 3, Acts 9, 11, II Corinthians 11)

**Application questions:**

1. Is the Old Covenant bad? Explain.

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2. How does the New Covenant create a sense of worth in the individual?

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3. In light of the New Covenant, how might one encourage others to obedience?

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