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### Written Assignment 3

The statement that “There is no need for Christians to obey the Law (Ten Commandments) anymore because we cannot gain our righteousness through it, but only through faith in Christ” is a complex statement. This statement addresses questions which arise about issues such as the relationship between faith and works, the role of the Old and New Testaments in Christian theology, and the meaning of salvation. This paper seeks to answer these questions by using the biblical context of the Ten Commandments to examine New Testament teachings on obedience to the law and the Old Testament concept of salvation.

The Ten Commandments appear in the Old Testament in the book of Exodus (Exodus 20:1-17) and are repeated in Deuteronomy (Deuteronomy 5:1-21). The Ten Commandments are a fundamental part of Jewish and Christian ethical and moral teaching and provide a clear outline of how to love God and one's neighbor. Among the commandments are the instructions to honor one's parents, not to steal, not to commit adultery, and not to covet. They are considered binding on both Jews and Christians. Their importance is repeatedly emphasized in both the Old and New Testaments, thus bringing forth their importance.

The question of whether Christians should obey the Ten Commandments has been debated by many theologians and scholars in the lye of Christian history. One view is that Christians are no longer under the law because salvation is a free gift of God's grace that cannot be earned by good works or obedience to the law. This view is supported with Paul's letters,

especially Galatians, in which he argues that salvation is not earned by obedience to the law but is a free gift of God's grace (Galatians 2:16). That Christians can ignore the Ten Commandments or other biblical moral teachings, however, is not the meaning. Rather, it emphasizes that good works and obedience to the law are the result of salvation, not the cause of it.

On the other hand, theologians argue that Christians are still bound by the law, including the Ten Commandments, because they are expressions of God's character and reflect His will for human behavior. This view emphasizes that Christians are not saved by obeying the law, but that they are nevertheless called to obey it as an expression of their love for God and their neighbors.

There are several passages in the New Testament that emphasize the importance of obedience to the Law, including the Ten Commandments. For example, in Matthew 5:17-20, Jesus says that He did not come to abolish the law, but to fulfill it, and that the one who relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called the least in the kingdom of heaven. Furthermore, James 2:10 states that the one who keeps the whole law but fails in one point will be held accountable for the whole law. These passages emphasize that Christians are called to keep the Law, including the Ten Commandments, as an expression of their love for God and for their neighbors.

More important to note, however, is that obedience to the Law does not lead to salvation. In the Old Testament, the concept of salvation is closely linked to the concept of covenant, which is a binding agreement between God and His people. God's covenant with the Israelites was based on faith in God's promises, not on obedience to the law. The Old Testament emphasizes that salvation is a gift of God's grace received by faith, not by works or obedience to the law.

In summary, although the statement "There is no need for Christians to obey the Law (Ten Commandments) anymore because we cannot gain our righteousness through it, but only

through faith in Christ” is controversial, the Ten Commandments are considered moral laws that are still applicable to Christians. They are seen as God's guidelines for righteous living and are considered universal principles that transcend time and culture. Therefore, Christians should still obey these commandments because they are seen as a reflection of God's holy character and an expression of His love for mankind. The Old and New Testament also teaches that these commandments are the foundation for all other commandments and laws. However, it also recognizes that salvation is now through faith in Jesus Christ and not through obedience to the law.