

Study Guide: The Law: Oral & Written

JESUS

with Rabbi Schneider A Jewish Believer In Jesus

## The Law: Oral and Written

**EPISODE 4** 

Series: How Judaism and Christianity Separated



## Introduction

In this series, Rabbi is explaining why Judaism and Christianity became two separate religions, though they were never meant to be. Thus far, we have learned that the Chief Priests and Pharisees of Jesus' time were jealous of Him. Not only because of the way He taught and healed people, but because of the masses of Jews who began to believe in and follow Him. The Chief Priests and Pharisees were losing their power. They also didn't believe that Jesus was the Son of God—calling it blasphemy when Jesus proclaimed this truth. In this episode, Rabbi will continue to uncover how and why Judaism and Christianity separated.

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In the Gospel of John, the use of the term

is often misunderstood. John was actually referring to the
when he used the word Jew. (such as in John 5:14-16 and John 1:19) Thus the term "Jew" has derived a derogatory
connotation.

Thus the church adopted an \_\_\_\_\_\_ mindset toward the Jews because of the way the word is used in the Gospel of John.

<b>→</b>	However, we know from John 4:22 that comes from the Jews.
<b>&gt;</b>	Orthodox Jews believe that Moses received the Ten  Commandments AND other information he passed down orally to the of Israel (Exodus 24) and they passed the tradition on to the rest of Israel.
<b>→</b>	Jesus rebukes this oral tradition, stating: "Neglecting the of God, you hold to the of men." (Mark 7:8)
	All of this had the affect of further separating Christianity from Judaism.

## **Key Points**



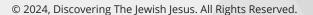
In the Gospel of John, the word "Jew" was used to refer to the religious leaders of Jesus' time who were jealous of Jesus miraculous power, authority, and growing following.



Because the word "Jew" has been misunderstood in the Gospel of John, it is linked to antisemitism.



Jesus warned that you should not hold fast to the traditions of man over the commandments of God. (Mark 7:8)



Rabbi shared that separation between Jewish and Christian belief came because of a misunderstanding about what Jesus meant when He used the term "Jews" (from the Gospel of John). He used the term for the leaders of the Jewish religion who were rejecting Him, not for all Jewish people in general. This misunderstanding caused an anti-Semitic mindset to develop within the church toward Jewish people, yet Jesus affirmed the importance of the Jewish community as the source of our very salvation. Why are Jewish people worthy of our love, respect, prayers, and witness?

Those who are of Orthodox Judaism believe that on Mt. Sinai, Moses—in addition to the written law—received oral revelation to which they were also to be bound, though not written down. What was Jesus' thinking about some of these traditions contained in the
Oral Law?
As we honor the Jewish roots of our faith, how can Jesus' thinking help keep us free from legalism and law-keeping yet at the same time appreciate that the Law the Lord gave Moses at Mt Sinai is God's self-revelation and can guide us in our walk with Him today? Take time to thank Father today for the freedom we have through Jesus.

The second reason that Judaism and Christianity separated from each other was the inability of the Jewish leaders to understand the relationship that Jesus claimed to have with the Father. Has this episode helped you understand traditional Jewish objections and the answers from Scripture that help overcome them? How will this help you as you pray and
share the Messiah with Jewish people?