

- (3) Roy L. Aldrich, in various articles in Bibliotheca Sacra, emphasizes what he considers to be an important distinction between the Mosaic Law and the eternal moral law of God (or moral law):

In the July 1959 issue, Aldrich defines "moral law":

We shall use the term moral law to describe the eternal principles of righteousness which are a reflection of the character of God. This law has always existed and is the essence of the will of God for every dispensation. Its standards are as high as the glory or character of God (Rom. 3:23), and its obligations rest alike upon all created intelligences.

In the same issue he says:

Much of the confusion over law and grace is caused by the failure to distinguish the moral law from the Mosaic law -- especially from the Ten Commandments. When so many commentators and theologians say that the Ten Commandments have never been repealed or abrogated they really mean that the moral law of God is eternal. This conclusion no one would question. But the moral law of God is not identified with the Mosaic Ten Commandments. . . All of this yes-and-no attitude toward the law can be avoided by a simple distinction between the eternal moral law of God and the Mosaic law. The first is as immutable as the character of God but the second was temporary and has been abolished.

In the October 1959 issue Aldrich states:

. . . the end of the Mosaic law, including the Ten Commandments, does not cancel or detract one iota from the eternal moral law of God. The moral principles of the ten laws did not begin with Sinai but are as eternal and immutable as the character of God.

In the April 1961 issue he writes:

Critics of dispensationalism usually fail to recognize that most dispensationalists would approve of the following: (1) that there is only one plan of salvation for all dispensations. (2) that the new birth is characteristic of all dispensations. (3) that the eternal moral law of God (not the Mosaic law) applies to all dispensations. (4) that the saints of all dispensations have far more in common than they have in difference.

In the July 1961 issue Aldrich says:

Is the Christian under the Ten Commandments? Those who answer this question in the affirmative point out that all of the Ten Commandments except the fourth are restated in the New Testament and therefore must apply to the Christian. But this position involves the false assumption that the moral law of God is identical with the Ten Commandments. The moral law is the basis of the Mosaic law, but the two should not be confused. Christians and all of God's intelligent creatures are under His eternal moral law, but only Israel was ever under the Mosaic pattern of the moral law. . . . In