

THE MICHAELIC JUDAISM ARGUMENT AGAINST MEANINGLESS REPETITION

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Abstract

This argument critiques ritualized repetitive recitations across several religious traditions and claims that such practices violate Jesus' explicit warning against "vain repetitions" (Matthew 6:7) and deviate from the Torah's original commandments. Within Michaelic Judaism, prayer must be genuine, intent-filled, and not mechanically performed. God desires intentional communion, not numerical recitations or verbal quotas.

1. Human additions masquerading as commandments

Across traditions, humans have turned voluntary remembrance into commanded repetition:

Judaism:

The obligation to recite the Shema twice daily is not found in the Torah. The original instruction is to speak of God's words "when you lie down and when you rise up"—language of ongoing remembrance, not a legalistic schedule of fixed daily recitations.

Catholic Christianity:

Counting rosaries, repeating Hail Marys, and completing fixed-number devotions are post-biblical customs, not commandments from Jesus or the Hebrew Scriptures.

Islam:

Forms of dhikr or repeated phrases can become numeric targets—"say this word N times"—where the focus shifts from remembering God to satisfying a verbal quota.

Because these forms of repetition arise from later religious development and not from explicit revelation to prophets, they lack divine authority.

2. Jesus explicitly warns against mechanical repetition

Jesus says in Matthew 6:7:

“And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think they will be heard for their many words.”

This identifies three core problems:

- emptiness — speech lacking heart or intention
- quantitative obsession — believing “many words” increases spiritual power
- magical thinking — treating prayer as a verbal spell

Any system built on verbal quotas institutionalizes exactly what Jesus condemned.

3. Spiritual costs of meaningless repetition

When prayer becomes counting:

- devotion becomes performance
- relationship becomes obligation
- repentance is overshadowed by routine
- attention fragments; the mouth moves while the mind wanders

This trains people to associate God with boredom rather than encounter.

4. Silence of Moses on numeric prayer requirements

Nowhere in Torah does God command numeric repetition of any prayer.

When God desires something repeated or scheduled, He states it explicitly (sacrifices, festivals, tithes).

The absence of numeric prayer commands is decisive.

If God wanted Israel to recite the Shema or any formula at fixed intervals forever, Moses would have written it plainly.

5. Michaelic Judaism: intention over automation

Michaelic Judaism affirms:

The purpose of life is to love something—including God.

Love forced into automation becomes mechanical and ceases to resemble love.

Prayer is:

- an encounter, not a quota
- repetition allowed only when intentional
- not spiritually safe when automated

Conclusion

Meaningless repetition—whether Shema cycles, rosary counts, dhikr quotas, or other numeric recitations—

violates Torah's spirit and Jesus' teaching. Michaelic Judaism therefore rejects rote repetition and elevates

authentic, intentional communion with God as the proper form of prayer.