



Written in Stone

God's Purposes in the Law

Why the Law? (Part Two)



“Our constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.”



John Adams



Deuteronomy 5:29

Oh that they had such a heart in them, that they would fear Me and keep all My commandments always, that it may be well with them and with their sons forever!



1 John 3:4

Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness.

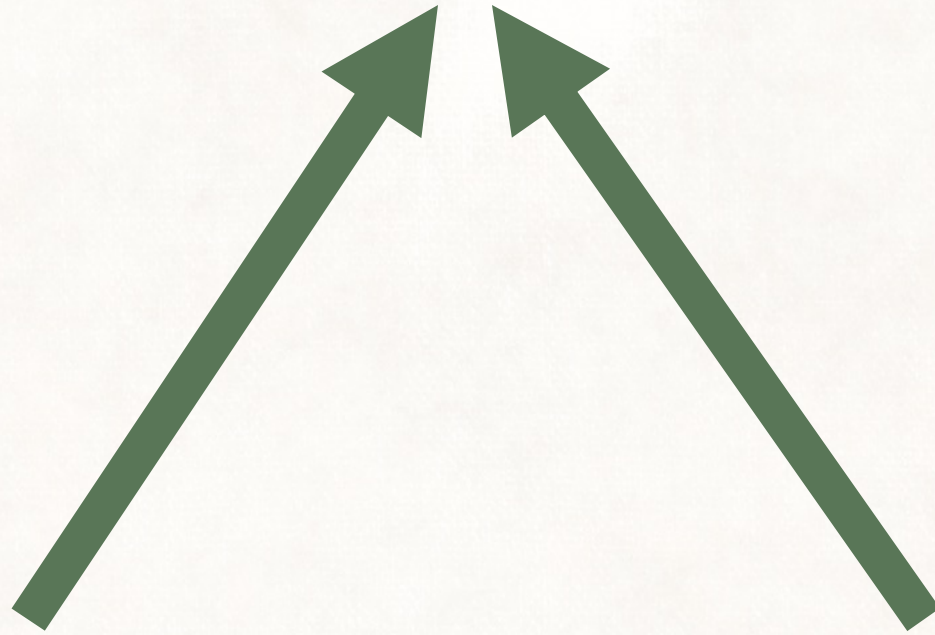


God

Law

or

Grace



Obedience to God

Obedience
by Works

or

Obedience
of Faith



John 14:15

If you love me, you will keep my commandments.

John 14:21

Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me.

John 14:23

If anyone loves me, he will keep my word,



Romans 8:4

For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.



Obedience to God

Obedience
by Works

or

Obedience
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How Jesus and the Apostles Applied the Mosaic Law



How Jesus and the Apostles Applied the Mosaic Law

1. Some laws are annulled (like dietary restrictions)

Mark 7:18-19

And he said to them, “Then are you also without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile him, since it enters not his heart but his stomach, and is expelled?” (Thus he declared all foods clean.)



How Jesus and the Apostles Applied the Mosaic Law

2. Some laws are reiterated.
(9 of the 10 Commandments)



How Jesus and the Apostles Applied the Mosaic Law

3. Some laws are transformed (Saturday Sabbath was changed Sunday)

Hebrews 4:9-10

So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his.



How Jesus and the Apostles Applied the Mosaic Law

4. Some laws are expanded (murder, adultery, etc.)

Matthew 5:21-22

You have heard that it was said to those of old, ‘You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.’ But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire.



How Jesus and the Apostles Applied the Mosaic Law

5. Some laws are **brand new** (love one another as I have loved you, appointing elders, etc.)

John 13:34

A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another.



How Jesus and the Apostles Applied the Mosaic Law

5. Some laws are brand new (love one another as I have loved you, appointing elders, etc.)

Mark 1:15

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.



Romans 4:1-8

What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due.



Romans 4:1-8

And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.”



1. It is useful to convict the lost of their sin.

1 Timothy 1:8-10

But we know that the Law is good, if one uses it lawfully, realizing the fact that law is not made for a righteous person, but for those who are lawless and rebellious, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers and immoral men and homosexuals and kidnappers and liars and perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound teaching,



“Although Christianity does not end with the broken heart, it does begin with the broken heart; it begins with the consciousness of sin. Without the consciousness of sin, the whole of the gospel will seem to be an idle tale. But how can the consciousness of sin be revived? Something no doubt can be accomplished by the proclamation of the law of God, for the law reveals transgressions. . . .



J. Gresham Machen



When a man comes under the conviction of sin, his whole attitude toward life is transformed; he wonders at his former blindness, and the message of the gospel, which formerly seemed to be an idle tale, becomes now instinct with light. But it is God alone who can produce the change.”



J. Gresham Machen



“I’ve noticed an interesting irony when taking people through the Ten Commandments. An honest person will admit he’s a liar, while a liar will insist that he’s honest.”



Ray Comfort



Matthew 19:16-22

And behold, a man came up to him, saying, “Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?” And he said to him, “Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only one who is good. If you would enter life, keep the commandments.” He said to him, “Which ones?”



Matthew 19:16-22

And Jesus said, “You shall not murder, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother, and, You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” The young man said to him, “All these I have kept.”



Matthew 19:16-22

“What do I still lack?” Jesus said to him, “If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.” When the young man heard this he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.



Romans 5:2

Through [Christ] we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.



Titus 2:11-12

For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age,



2. It is useful in its promises to all believers throughout time.



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2 Corinthians 1:20

For all the promises of God find their Yes in him [Jesus]. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory.



Jeremiah 29:11

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.



3. It is useful in anticipating the need of a new and better covenant.



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Jeremiah 31:31-34

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord:



3. It is useful in anticipating the need of a new and better covenant.

Jeremiah 31:31-34

I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."



3. It is useful in anticipating the need of a new and better covenant.

Hebrews 8:6

But as it is, Christ has obtained a ministry that is as much more excellent than the old as the covenant he mediates is better, since it is enacted on better promises.



3. It is useful in anticipating the need of a new and better covenant.

Hebrews 10:1-3

For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near.



3. It is useful in anticipating the need of a new and better covenant.

Hebrews 10:1-3

Otherwise, would they not have ceased to be offered, since the worshipers, having once been cleansed, would no longer have any consciousness of sins? But in these sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year.



2 Corinthians 3:7-11

Now if the ministry of death, carved in letters on stone, came with such glory that the Israelites could not gaze at Moses' face because of its glory, which was being brought to an end, will not the ministry of the Spirit have even more glory?



2 Corinthians 3:7-11

For if there was glory in the ministry of condemnation, the ministry of righteousness must far exceed it in glory. Indeed, in this case, what once had glory has come to have no glory at all, because of the glory that surpasses it. For if what was being brought to an end came with glory, much more will what is permanent have glory.



Old Covenant

BY LAW

(ברית ישנה)

Static – Written on stone
Glorious
Was to end
Ministry of Death
Ministry of Condemnation
Powerless to save
Outer Form (flesh)
Law of Moses
Law of sin and death
Law of works (*mitzvot*)
Shadow
Many sacrifices
Yearly atonement
Earthy Tabernacle

New Covenant

(ברית חדשה) BY FAITH IN JESUS CHRIST

→ Dynamic – Written on hearts
→ More Glorious
→ Will never end
→ Ministry of Life
→ Ministry of Reconciliation
→ Powerful to Save
→ Inner Reality (spirit)
→ Law of Messiah
→ Law of the Spirit of Life
→ Law of Faith (*emunah*)
→ Substance
→ One Sacrifice
→ Eternal Atonement
→ Heavenly Tabernacle

Fill in the blank of this verse:

Sin is _____.

(1 John 3:4)



John 6:48-58, 63

I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”



John 6:48-58, 63

The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.



John 6:48-58, 63

Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like the bread the fathers ate, and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.”



John 6:48-58, 63

The words that I have spoken to you are
spirit and life.



Announcements:

- No service in 2 weeks on July 23
- Flyover Newcomer lunch today in Room 221 (upstairs)
- Costa Rica Missions interest meeting in the fellowship room after service

