

Whatever You Say We Will Do

(Part 2 of 3)

Exodus 20

Deuteronomy 18:15-22; Matthew 5:17-20



14 May 2023

Pressing Forward into 2023

- Being a Disciple - **“Imitate Me as I Imitate Christ”**
 - ☆ 1 Cor 11:1; 4:16; Philip 3:17; 1 Thess 1:6; 2 Thess 3:9; Heb 6:12
 - ★ **Be an example to believers** in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith and in purity. - 1 Timothy 4:12
 - ★ To be an example you must be seen.
- Catechism & Meditation

God’s Eternal Purpose

The Glorious Gospel So Far

Two Major Views of the Law in the “Church”

- ① I am no longer under the Law, commandments of God, and imperative verbs in the New Testament. I can decide for myself what I will obey, when I will obey, and how I will obey. I am free to live my Christian life as I please.
- ② Speak, Lord, your servant is ready to do all that you command. (Matt 7:21-23; 12:50; Luke 6:46; John 14:15, 21, 23-24; 15:10, 13-15; 1 John 5:3)

God’s Law Is Holy, Just, and Good (Romans 7:12)

The God Spoke (Exodus 20:1-21)

- God has laws, commandments and demands.
- All men everywhere are obligated to repent and obey. (Acts 17:30-31)
- GOD (Elohiym) spoke! God spoke to His people as their Creator. All men everywhere are obligated to obey the Creator’s Law as His creatures. All men are completely dependent on their Creator and are under obligation to worship and obey Him.
- (vv. 1-2) God reminds His people of HIS GRACE. “I AM the LORD, your God, who brought you out of the house of bondage to Myself.” (Exod 19:4; 20:1-2)

Two Tablets of Law (Exodus 20:1-17; Matthew 22:36-40)

- (vv. 3-17) The MORAL LAW - 10 Commandments.

- **Tablet 1:** Laws concerning the nature and character of God.
 - ❶ (vv. 2-3) Tells us who we are WORSHIP/SERVE. “before Me” - “before My face” - see Genesis 17:1. **YOU CANNOT WORSHIP/ SERVE SOMEONE YOU DO NOT KNOW.** To worship a god of your opinion is to worship an idol.
 - ❷ (vv. 4-6) How are we **not** to worship. We **are** to worship in spirit and truth. (John 4:34)
 - God is **UNIQUE** and therefore **INCOMPARABLE.** (Job 23:13; Psalm 89:6; Isaiah 40:18; 46:5)
 - God, and God alone, is be **SERVED!**
 - **WARNING:** God is a **JEALOUS** God! There are consequences for not taking His commandments serious.
 - His mercy comes to those who love Him and obey His commandments.
 - ❸ (v. 7) God’s name(s) are **HOLY** - they are not to be used in common use! God’s name is to be **HALLOWED!** (Matthew 6:9)
 - God holds **ALL MEN GUILTY** who take His name in vain.
 - ❹ (vv. 8-11) Give **ONE DAY** to the **LORD.** (Isaiah 58:13-14) We are not to work nor cause others to work.
 - This command is binding on believers and unbelievers.
- **Tablet 2:** Laws concerning others. (Though all sin is sin against God - Psalm 51:4)
 - ❺ (v. 12) **HONOR** your father and mother. (Colossians 3:20; Ephesians 6:1)
 - ❻ (v. 13) You shall not murder. See Matthew 5:21-24; 1 John 3:15 - **NO MURDERER IS ALLOWED INTO HEAVEN!** (Galatians 5:21; Revelation 21:8; 1 Corinthians 15:50;)
 - ❼ (v. 14) You shall not commit adultery. See Matthew 5:27-30.
 - ❽ (v. 15) You shall not steal. See Malachi 3:8-10; Ephesians 4:28
 - ❾ (v. 16) You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. This includes gossip (talking about those who are not present); slander.
 - ❿ (v. 17) You shall not covet. (Romans 7:7; Philippians 3:6)
- The sins against the first tablet are more **HEINOUS** than the second, and, **yet, today we ignore the first more than the second!**
- Breaking one of these commandments makes one **GUILTY** of ALL! (James 2:10)

The Need of a Mediator (Exodus 20:18-21)

- (v. 18) **THE PEOPLE TREMBLED AT THE PRESENCE OF GOD!**
- (v. 19) They asked that Moses to be their **MEDIATOR** between them and God!
 - God said they did a good thing! (Deuteronomy 18:16-17)
 - ★ Here, also, is God’s promise to send another **MEDIATOR** like Moses!
 - ☆ That Prophet would be the Man, Jesus - the **ONLY MEDIATOR** between a **HOLY** God and sinners. - 1 Timothy 2:5; Deut 18:18-19)

- (v. 20) Read this verse carefully.
 - God has come to test you. Will you cling to His Word or your own? Will you obey or disobey?
 - God has put His fear in your, **so that you may not sin.** (Jer 32:39-40)
 - See Ecclesiastes 12:13-14; 2 Corinthians 7:2; Deuteronomy 10:12-13; Ephesians 5:21; Colossians 3:22; Hebrews 12:28; 1 Peter 2:17; Revelation 14:7; 19:5. **DO YOU FEAR GOD?**

Christ and the Law

- (Isaiah 42:21) Christ came to magnify God's Law. He came to bring back the majesty and glory of God's Law.
- God and His Law, over the course of all of history, had been corrupted, twisted, ignored, despised, disobey, dishonored, etc.. (Genesis 6:5; 2 Samuel 12:9-10; Amos 2:4; Numbers 11:20; Malachi 1:6-7)
- POINT: How many today can recite the TEN COMMANDMENTS?
- POINT: How many take God's name in vain and think nothing of what God said would happen to those who did?
- POINT: How many today ignore the fourth commandment today because they were taught that the Sabbath was only for the Jews?
- POINT: How many today ignore Exodus 20:6 and say, "I love God" and yet, continually ignore and disobey His commandments?
- (Matthew 5:17-18) "I did not come to destroy (put away; annul) the Law, but to fulfill it." - to MAGNIFY it again as the Law of God.
 - Example Romans 8:7-8.
 - Examples from the Sermon on the Mount - i.e. murder/hate
 - Contrasting verbs "to destroy" and "to fulfill"
- (v. 18) "For assuredly, I say to you . . ." - Christ speaks with AUTHORITY.
- (v. 19) Seriousness of breaking even the least of these commandments.
 - Those who break the least of these commandments shall be least in the kingdom of heaven - not allowed it!
 - Those who DO and TEACH them, shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.
 - Read carefully Matthew 18:6.
- (Matthew 5:20) Exceeding the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees.
 - ① Their righteousness was only EXTERNAL.
 - ② Their righteousness was PARTIAL. (Malachi 2:7-9; James 2:1-6)
 - ③ Their righteousness was lived of their own glory (self-interest; self-centeredness; self-righteousness) rather than out of deep desire to love, please, and glorify God! (Colossians 1:10; 1 Thessalonians 4:1; 2 Tim 2:4; Heb 11:5; 13:16; 1 John 3:22)
- Imputed righteousness and imparted righteousness.
 - Imputed Righteousness: Romans 5:17; Romans 27-25; Isaiah 61:10
 - Imparted Righteousness: 1 John 2:28-3:10; Titus 2:11-14

- (Ezekiel 36:26-27) God puts His Spirit in us to **cause** us to obey God's commandments. God, Himself, works in us to will and do for His good pleasure. (Philippians 2:12-13)
- (Jeremiah 31:33; Hebrews 8:10) God gives a new heart with His Law written on it so that we will be mindful of His Law and love His Law. (Psalm 119:47, 48, 97, 113, 127, 140, 159, 163, 165, 167)

Promises and Precepts

- The GOSPEL has BOTH. Both the OT and NT have both GRACE and LAW.
- ★ God is GRACIOUS and He hold His people responsible. God's grace WORKS in His people. (See Titus 2:11-14)

The Glorious Gospel and the Glorious Law

- The glorious and gracious LAW of God leads me to see myself and my sins. (Romans 3:20)
 - (James 1:23) God's Word is a mirror to show me the sins that I must confess and repent of.
 - (2 Corinthians 13:5) Handout: HELP ME!
- God's Law leads us to Christ - not ONCE but continuously - daily. (Galatians 3:24; Romans 7:25)
- God's Law leads me to God's throne of grace and mercy daily. (Hebrews 4:16)
- God's Law leads us through life. (Ezekiel 11:19-20; 36:27; Jeremiah 11:4, 7; Isaiah 48:17-18; Psalm 119:105; Matt 22:36-30; Heb 8:10)
- God's Law leads us to pleasing God. (1 Samuel 15:22)
- Obedience to God's Law demonstrates my love for my Lord. (John 14:15, 21, 23-24; 15:10, 13-14; 1 John 5:3)
- Obedience to God's Law demonstrates my submission to my Lord. (Romans 10:9-10; Luke 6:46)
- Obedience to God's Law shows that I am one of Christ's sheep - one of God's special people. (John 10:27-30)
- Obedience to God's Laws demonstrates that I know God and am committed to growing as a disciple of Christ. (1 John 2:3-4)
- The GOOD NEWS is that we are "dead to the Law" (Romans 7:4, 6; Romans 6:14-22) because Christ DIED to FREE us (Matthew 1:21) from:
 - The **PENALTY** of the LAW (Hebrews 9:12; Matthew 26:28)
 - The **POLLUTION** of Sin (2 Peter 1:4)
 - The **POWER** of Sin (Romans 6:14; 8:2; 1 Cor 10:13; 1 John 3:4-10)
 - The **PLEASURE** of Sin (Hebrews 11:25; Psalm 119:104, 113, 128)
 - The **PRESENCE** of Sin (Rev 21:4; 22:3; 1 Cor 15:42-48)

BUT NOT THE LAW ITSELF!