

Theme: The moral law finds its focus and fulfillment in Christ, Who perfectly displayed the character of God, delivered us from the curse of the law, and enables us to fulfill the Law by His Spirit.

## I. The Law – Central to Israel’s Faith

- A. The Law/Torah was central to Israel’s faith
- B. We will look at law for next couple three weeks
- C. Not answer all questions – how Christ is f&f of law
- D. Cover three aspects: moral, ceremonial, sacrificial
- E. Today: moral law
  - 1. Center of law – all else flows from here
    - a. Sacrificial – atone for transgression of moral
    - b. Civil – apply moral law to Israel’s time in redemptive history
  - 2. How is Christ F&F of moral law?

## II. Three Purposes of the Moral Law

- A. Publish the standard of right and wrong (Rom 2:14-15)
  - 1. It is natural law published – Romans 2:14-15
  - 2. Makes clear in case of seared conscience
- B. To warn of punishments and rewards
  - 1. Way of blessing/cursing, life/death (Deut 30:19)

- 2. Cursed for disobedience – Deut 27:26
- 3. Wages of sin is death – Romans 6:23

- C. To display God’s character (Psalm 51:4)
  - 1. To break law is to sin against God (Ps 51:4)
  - 2. Because Law is reflection of God Himself

## III. Three Uses of Moral Law – PP Table

- A. Restrain sin (especially unbelievers) – right/wrong
- B. Show us our need for Christ - Warn
- C. Show believers how to live – God’s character

## IV. Christ: Focus & Fulfillment of Moral Law

- A. Moral Law showed us sin & pointed to Christ
  - 1. Points out our sin & guilt (Romans 3:19-20)
  - 2. Silenced & locked us up (Rom 3:19; Gal 3:23)
  - 3. Pointed us to Christ (Gal 3:24)
- B. Christ perfectly taught Moral Law (Sermon on Mount)
  - 1. Matthew 5:21, 27, 43
  - 2. Rebuttal of oral law, clarification of Moral Law
- C. Christ perfectly kept Moral Law (John 8:46; etc)

1. No one could accuse Him of sin (John 8:46)
  2. No sin – 1 Peter 1:22; 2 Cor 5:21; Heb 4:15
- D. Christ enables us to keep Moral Law (Rom 3:31; Ezek 36:25-27)
1. We can now uphold the law (Romans 3:31)
  2. He gives Spirit so we keep law (Ezek 36:25-27)

2. Are you becoming more Christ-like in character?

## Christ and the Moral Aspect of the Law

Matthew 5:17; Romans 3:31

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2 Corinthians 13:14

## V. Conclusion & Summary

- A. When you read the Law do you see Christ?
1. Is He the focus of law when you read it?
  2. Do you see He is not against Law?
  3. Do you see God has not changed?
- B. Do you see Christ as teaching the Law of God?
1. He did not abolish Law – He teaches it!
  2. We are not antinomians!
- C. Do you see as perfect example of Law of God?
1. To understand the Law – look at Christ!
  2. He is perfect revelation of what God is like!
- D. Are you following Spirit to keep Law of God?
1. Is the Decalogue being incarnated in you?

<sup>14</sup> (Indeed, when Gentiles, **who do not have the law**, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law, <sup>15</sup> since they show that **the requirements of the law are written on their hearts**, their **consciences** also bearing witness, and their thoughts now accusing, now even defending them.) Romans 2:14-15

<sup>19</sup> This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that **I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses**. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live Deuteronomy 30:19

<sup>26</sup> "**Cursed is the man who does not uphold the words of this law by carrying them out.**" Then all the people shall say, "Amen!" Deut 27:26

<sup>4</sup> **Against you, you only, have I sinned** and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge. Psalm 51:4

The Three Uses of the Moral Law	
Purpose of the Moral Law	Use of the Moral Law
Publish standard of right and wrong	Restrain sin, especially among unbelievers
To warn of punishments for disobedience and rewards for obedience	To cause us to despair of our own righteousness and show us our need for Christ
To display God's character	To show believers how to live

<sup>19</sup> Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup> Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, **through the law we become conscious of sin**. Romans 3:19-20

<sup>19</sup> Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, **so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God**. Romans 3:19

<sup>23</sup> Before this faith came, **we were held prisoners by the law, locked up until faith should be revealed**. Galatians 3:23

<sup>24</sup> So **the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ** that we might be justified by faith. Galatians 3:24

You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, '**Do not murder**, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.'

You have heard that it was said, '**Do not commit adultery**.'

You have heard that it was said, '**Love your neighbor** and **hate your enemy**.' Matthew 5:21, 27, 43

<sup>46</sup> **Can any of you prove me guilty of sin?** If I am telling the truth, why don't you believe me? John 8:46

<sup>22</sup> "He committed **no sin**, and no deceit was found in his mouth." 1 Pet 2:22

<sup>21</sup> God made **him who had no sin** to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. 2 Corinthians 5:21

<sup>15</sup> For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are-- yet **was without sin**. Hebrews 4:15

Do we, then, nullify the law by this faith? Not at all! Rather, **we uphold the law**. Romans 3:31

<sup>25</sup> I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your impurities and from all your idols. <sup>26</sup> I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. <sup>27</sup> **And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws**. Ezekiel 36:25-27