

Mount Pisgah Baptist Church
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Moments from the Mount
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TOPIC: “Let’s Talk About the Law”

Good evening!!! Again, we welcome you to our Thursday evening Bible study. We’re glad to have you with us on this evening. We’ll pray, and then we will get right into our lesson.

Last week we mentioned that God has “natural/physical laws”. And that He has established “moral” laws. The laws that *personally* affects us the *most* are the **moral laws**. So, notice the title of our lesson for this evening, “**Let’s Talk About the Law**”.

I want you to pause right now, and take a moment to “really” think about, “**Why did God give man The Law?**” (These are also referred to as The Ten Commandments).

And the *reasons* why we really need to ask this is because:

- 1) The men in the Bible didn’t *obey* them!
- 2) Neither did God give them out so that man *would* obey them!
- 3) Although man was given these Laws directly from God, they didn’t make man “**do**” better. He only “**knew**” better! (He “**knew**”.....but he didn’t “**do**”.)

So again, what was the use and purpose?

The Bible has a whole lot to say about God’s *moral Law!!!* God speaks almost 99% more about His “moral” law, than He does about His “natural” laws.

- **The Position of the Law**

- A. **Internal-** This is the “*invisible*” law. These are laws that you cannot *see*. Why? Because these laws God placed “**inside**” of every man and every woman. The internal law is also referred to as your *conscious*. God gave every person a conscious. BIG QUESTION: How does your conscious

operate? When you are about to make a decision, the *internal law*, your *conscious*, will start *speaking* to you. It will *nudge* you. It will give you *warning*. Listen to it.

1). **Jeremiah 31:33**- But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my **law** in their **inward** parts, and *write* it in their **hearts**; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.

2). **Hebrews 10:16**- This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, saith the Lord, I will put my **laws** into their **hearts**, and in their **minds** will I *write* them;

QUESTION TO CONTEMPLATE: Do you think that it is possible to make this little voice, your conscious, shut up (be quiet)? To make it STOP speaking? This is probably the most dangerous thing about the conscious.

1). **I Timothy 4:2b**- ...having their **conscience** *seared* with a hot iron;

2). **Romans 1:28 (KJV)**- And even as they did **not** like to retain God in their **knowledge**, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;

The biggest challenge with the “internal” law is that you do not have to obey it. And, if that is intentionally and consistently done, it will STOP speaking to you.

3). **Romans 1:28 (CEV)**- Since these people **refused** even to **think** about God, he let their useless minds rule over them. That’s why they do all sorts of indecent things.

If you insist, God will let you have your way. **There is only one thing worst than “not” getting what you want! “Getting” what you want!** Ask Sampson!!

4). **Judges 14:2**- And he came up, and told his father and his mother, and said, I have seen a woman in Timnath of the daughters of the Philistines: now therefore get her for me to wife.

B. **External**- These were/are God’s “visible” laws. They were written on stone in the Old Testament. You can find them in your Bible today.

1). **Exodus 31:18 (AMP)**- When He had finished speaking with him on Mount Sinai, He gave Moses the two **tablets** of the Testimony, **tablets of stone**, written with the finger of God.

2). **Exodus 34:1 (AMP)**- Then the LORD said to Moses, "Cut two **tablets of stone** like the first, and I will write on these **tablets** the words that were on the first tablets which you smashed [when you learned of Israel's idolatry].

POINT: A person doesn't have to read the Bible only, to know *right* from *wrong*.

Don't be fooled. That person, your co-worker, that family member, etc... they *know* they did you wrong. And be assured, God will handle it.

1). **Romans 2:14-15 (AMP)**- ¹⁴ When Gentiles, who do not have the Law [since it was given only to Jews], do ^{instinctively} the things the Law **requires** [**guided** only by their **conscience**], they are a law to themselves, though they do not have the Law. ¹⁵ They show that the ^{essential} requirements of the Law **are written** in their **hearts**; and their **conscience** [their sense of right and wrong, their moral **choices**] bearing witness and their thoughts alternately accusing or perhaps defending them

People "know" they did you wrong. But you can have a whole lot of peace, if you quit waiting on them to apologize. Some people are too stubborn and too proud to do that. You have to wait on God; and put it in his hands.

1). **Romans 12:19**- Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, **Vengeance is mine; I will repay**, saith the Lord.

- **The Purpose of the Law**

God did not give the Law, the 10 commandments, so that man could show God that he could **keep** them. God Himself, *knew* that it was "**impossible**" to keep ALL of these laws.

Man might have been fortunate enough to keep 4 out of 10. But God's requirements were that in order to be right with God, you had to keep "**every**" law.

1). **James 2:10**- For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in **one** point, he is **guilty of all**.

He wanted to show *arrogant*, and *self-righteous* men, that they were not as good, as they thought that they were.

1). **Exodus 19:7-8-** ⁷ And Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before their faces all these **words** which the LORD **commanded** him. ⁸ And **all** the people answered together, and said, **All** that the LORD hath spoken **we will do**. And Moses returned the words of the people unto the LORD.

What we have here is an arrogant and self-righteous statement. So, God had to **prove** to these people, that *law-keeping* couldn't **save** you, nor make you **righteous**. So, He had to give them some proof, which they could not deny.

A. External Law Keeping

1). **Exodus 20:14-** Thou shalt not *commit adultery*.

B. Internal Law Keeping

2). **Matthew 5:28-** But I say unto you, That whosoever **looketh** on a woman to **lust** after her hath *committed adultery* with her already in his heart.

- **2 Reasons Why the Law was Given**

1). It was given to show men how sinful they really are.

It revealed to men the “**right**” way; so that they would realize, when they were going the “**wrong**” way.

a). **Romans 7:7 (AMP)-** What shall we say then? Is the Law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, **if it had not been for the Law, I would not have recognized sin**. For I would **not** have known [for example] about coveting [what belongs to another, and would have had no sense of guilt] **if** the Law had not [repeatedly] said, “YOU SHALL NOT COVET.”

2). The main objective of the law, was to lead men to Christ.

a). **Romans 10:4-** For **Christ** is the **end** of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.

b). **Galatians 3:24-** Wherefore the **law** was our schoolmaster to bring us unto **Christ**, that we might be *justified* by **faith**.

***** **FIVE STAR SENTENCE:** God didn't give the Law so that man could "keep" it. He gave it so that man would realize that he "couldn't" keep it.

This would *force* man to turn away from **trying to "work"** (do enough good) to be saved. Or from trying to **"live good enough"** to be accepted by God. This is what God wanted man to realize.

He wanted the same response from every man, that he received from the Philippian jailer:

1). Acts 16:30b-31- ³⁰Sirs, **what must I do to be saved?** ³¹ And they said, **Believe** on the **Lord Jesus Christ**, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

