

GOD'S LOVING COMMANDMENTS • PART 2

The preamble of the Law is in Exodus 19:3-6 and the Commandments are found in Exodus 20:1-7 and in Deuteronomy 5:1-22.

- 1. The Ten Commandments, or the Law, illustrate the heart of God for us as His children. (from Exodus 19:3-6)
 - "I carried you on eagles' wings" (Deliverance from the bondage of slavery to sin)
 - "I brought you to myself" (Adoption into His family)
 - "You will be my treasured possession, a kingdom of priests, a holy nation" (Given us a great purpose)
- 2. **What is the purpose of the Law?** The Law was never intended to save us or cleanse us from our sin. It's purpose is to reveal our fallen nature and cause us to turn to Christ, whose life was given on the cross IN OUR PLACE.
 - Ephesians 2:8-10 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.
 - Galatians 3:19-25 ... Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith... (Romans 7:7)
 - Galatians 3:110-14 ... Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us ...
 - 2 Corinthians 5:21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

3. Obedience to God's Commands brings life. Disobedience brings death.

• Deuteronomy 30:15-20 "...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 and that you may love the LORD your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him..."

4. The Ten Commandments teach us to live in a right relationship with God and with people.

• Matthew 22:37-40 Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments." (Mark 12:28-31)

5. The Commandments bring wisdom and understanding when obeyed.

• Psalm 119:97-100 "Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long. Your commands make me wiser than my enemies, for they are ever with me. I have more insight than all my teachers, for I meditate on your statutes. I have more understanding than the elders, for I obey your precepts."

6. The Law is fulfilled when we live life in the Spirit.

- Matthew 5:17-20 (Jesus said) "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them."
- Romans 8:3-4 For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit.

Next week — The Law and the New Testament