**The Law of God. Foundational for all of scripture. NOTES**

**The revelation of God’s good pleasure, the foundation of the Gospel, and the standard for the Christian’s Walk.**

**I. the law: The revelation of God’s good pleasure.**

***A. Christ’s Assessment of the Law: Foundational to the Entire Body of Revealed Truth***

 **1. The Living Word, the Angel of the Covenant (!),**

* **Gave the Law verbally at Mt. Sinai**

***Act 7:38******This is He, that was in the church in the wilderness with the angel which spake to him in the mount Sina,***

* **Inscribed the Law with His own finger in tables of stone—doing so 2x!**

 **2. Bottom line: The entire body of revealed truth flows out of the Law!**

***Mat 22:40******On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets***

***B. Matt. 22:37–40: The Law in its Original Form!***

**1. This law was written upon Adam’s heart**

**2. The Law as given at Mt. Sinai: Consistent with man’s sinful nature (8 prohibitions — “Thou shalt not…”)**

***C. The Law: God Reveals the Purpose of Man’s Creation***

**1. Man: Created to function in a dual love relationship**

**2. Man: Created as a relational being by a relational God—by a Triune God!**

**2**

**3. Man: Created with unique faculties to know, love, and serve His Creator**

**4. Man’s sacred obligation: To respond in love to God’s revelation of love—toward Him & men**

***D. The Focus of the Two Tables of the Law: The Son of God***

**1. The requirement of the 1st table: To love God *as He has revealed Himself in His Son***

***John 1:18******No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, He hath declared Him.***

**2. The requirement of the 2nd table: To love our neighbor, *created in the image of God’s Son***

**3. Obedience to the Law: Rendering supreme honour to the Son of God’s love**

***E. The Law: The Eternal & Abiding Standard of Moral Conduct***

**1. The eternal transcript of the mind of an Eternal God—who loves His Son!**

**2. God’s holiness: His utter and infinite devotion to the glory and honor of His Son**

***Psalm 89:35******Once have I sworn by my holiness that I will not lie unto David.***

**3. The law: The eternal norm of conduct for the redeemed—who will honor God’s Son by honoring His law**

**3**

**II. the law: The foundation of the gospel**

***A. Fallen Man: Required to Obey God’s Law Perfectly (Non-negotiable!)***

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

***B. Sinful man, as a Law-breaker,***

**1. Inclined to hate God and his neighbour**

**2. Provokes God to infinite wrath by his transgression of the Law—the standard that defines all sin**

**3. The reason for the Father’s wrath: Transgression of His written Word dishonors His Living Word—His Son!**

**4. Sinners are, therefore, subject to the infinite curse of the Law**

***Gal 3:10******It is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them****.*

***C. An Astounding Truth: An Offended Lawgiver Provides Salvation for Law-breakers!***

**1. The Ceremonial & Civil Laws: God’s Exposition of the Moral Law!**

**2. The Ceremonial Law: God’s *gracious* revelation of His Law—a schoolmaster to Christ (Gal. 3:24)**

* **the divine solution for law-breakers**
* **the law of God immersed in blood—silencing the curse of the law!**
* **fulfilled by the Lamb of God in the fullness of time**

**4**

 ***D. The Wonder of the Incarnation—the Word Made Flesh***

 **1. The Lawgiver is the Law Keeper—the Holy One!**

***Psalm 40:7-8******Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume of the book it is written of Me, I delight to do Thy will, O my God: yea, Thy Law is within my heart.***

 **2. The Lawgiver willingly becomes the Substitute for Lawbreakers**

* **He willingly permits Himself to be treated as a law breaker**

***2 Cor 5:21 For He hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him.***

* **He willingly submits Himself to the curse of His own law**

***Gal 3:13******Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:***

 **3. The cross: The Lawgiver secures redemption for law breakers!**

***Col. 1:20 [Christ] having made peace through the blood of His cross, by Him to reconcile all things unto Himself;***

 ***E. The Gospel: Good News for Law Breakers!***

**1. Christ has obeyed the Law perfectly**

**2. Christ has paid the penalty of the Law exhaustively**

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**3. Christ has silenced the curse of the Law eternally**

**4. The cross: The vindication of the law!**

***Rom 3:31*** *Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law.*

**III. The norm for the Christian’s walk**

***A. The Blessed Fruit of the Cross: Justification and Sanctification***

**1. Justification: Complete pardon of law-breakers**

**2. Sanctification: Law-breakers transformed into law-keepers!**

**3. Christians: Sinners who come to Christ & become like Christ!**

***1 Cor 1:30******But of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:***

***B. Obedience to the Law: The Believer’s Expression of Love for their Savior***

**1. Christ’s emphasis on the connection between loving Him and obeying Him**

***John 14:15, 21, 23******If ye love Me keep My commandments…. He that hath My commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth Me…If a man love Me, he will keep My words.***

**2. We honour the Living Word by honoring His written Word!**

**6**

***Mat 7:21******Not every one that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of My Father which is in heaven.***

**3. Christians: Those who begin to answer to the purpose for which we were created**

***1 John 5:3******For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments: and His commandments are not grievous.***

***C. The Secret of a Christ-honoring Life: Abiding in Christ—the Incarnate Lawgiver***

**1. Christ urges us to stay with Him—to walk with Him**

***John 15:5******I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in Me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without Me ye can do nothing.***

**2. The crucial truth of John 15: Union to Christ results in likeness to Christ!**

***1 John 2:6******He that saith he abideth in Him ought himself also so to walk, even as He walked.***

***D. The Confession of the Genuine Believer: Oh, How Love I Thy Law!***

***1 Jn 2:3-5******And hereby we do know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He that saith, I know Him, and keepeth not His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth His word, in Him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in Him.***