

Two Laws

Monday, August 01, 2011

This is intended as a supplement to Isaiah 51:1-3. It continues looking at the law and how God would have us see it.

Not for the righteous

1 Timothy 1

3 As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightest charge some that they teach no other doctrine,

4 Neither give heed to fables and endless genealogies, which minister questions, rather than godly edifying which is in faith: so do.

Of the right use and purpose of the law

5 Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned:

6 From which some having swerved have turned aside unto vain jangling;

*7 Desiring to be teachers of the law; understanding (**considering**) neither what they say, nor whereof they affirm.*

8 But we know that the law is good, if a man use it lawfully;

*9 Knowing this, that **the law is not made for a righteous man**, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers,*

10 For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for menstealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine;

11 According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust.

Righteousness is the opposite of iniquity. We receive righteousness when through the faith of Christ:

Galatians 2

*16 Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by **the faith of Jesus Christ**, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.*

Christ's understanding of God and man was manifest at the cross. Receiving His understanding brings us righteousness.

Galatians 3

19 Wherefore then serveth the law? It was added because of transgressions (or violations against one another), till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; and it was ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator.

Once the faith of Christ is received we are no longer under the law.

Matthew 5

38 Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth: (Exodus 21:24)

*39 **But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil:** but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek,*

turn to him the other also.

43 Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy.

*44 **But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;***

Christ redefines the will of God for the believer. The law was given to people who were not righteous. They did not possess the love of the Father. The difference between the letter of the law and the spirit of the law is love.

Living in love fulfills the law but walking in the letter of the law does not fulfill love. Christ was giving the meaning of the new covenant to literal Israel.

Romans 8

1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

*2 For the **law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death** (2 Corinthians 3:7).*

3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:

4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

James 4

*17 Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, **to him it is sin.***

If we keep the old way of reading the law after coming into a knowledge of the truth then we sin by keeping the letter of the law and walking in the spirit of it.

Romans 14

*23 And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: **for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.** Compared with Galatians 3*

12 And the law is not of faith: but, The man that doeth them shall live in them.

1 John 3

*4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: **for sin is the transgression of the law.** Speaking of the law of the spirit of life in Christ.*

The fourth commandment of keeping the Sabbath is the only one of the ten commandments that is not naturally in the heart if the law is read literally.