

Purpose of the Law

Exodus 19-20

EXODUS–The birth of a nation

Describes how God brought them out of bondage and established them as His own people–Redemption

He redeemed them and thereby made them His own possession.

He gave them a covenant which would govern their relationship with him and with one another.

He provided them a place where they might enjoy fellowship with Him and worship Him.

Written so that Israel, aware of where she has come from might:

- 1) Realize her debt to God
- 2) Realize her dependence on God
- 3) Submit to God's authority

The law–Since Israel is now His possession, they need to learn what their new Master requires of them–How to live in His realm.

He had a right to ask *anything!*

The standards of conduct for His people

Abrahamic Covenant Gen. 12, 13, 15

Unilateral–based on Abraham's previous faith and God's Word

Eternal

Unconditional

Provides for Land–Seed–Blessing

Mosaic Covenant Ex. 19-20; Deut. 28-30

Demands obedience

Describes the conditions which must be met to enjoy the blessings promised.

Abrahamic covenant guarantees the ultimate obedience and fulfillment required.

The Law

Does not save—they were redeemed already.
Does not cancel or modify the Abrahamic covenant.
Does provide a rule of conduct by which God's people may live a holy life.
Does reveal the character of God—His holiness.
Does reveal man's sinfulness.
Does serve as a "pedagogue". The guide for an immature child.
Does serve as a basis for fellowship with a holy God.
Does separate God's people from the pagan lifestyle of other nations
 around them.
Does teach Israel how to worship God properly.

This was good. Accepting it was no mistake!

Summary of the law 20:1-17

In order to clarify, simplify and help them remember, it is summarized in 10 commands.

*** Relationship to God (4) 1-11 Dt. 6:5 LOVE GOD**

Name to be taken seriously
 Sabbath demonstrates God's ownership and right to rule
 -We give Him part to demonstrate His right to all

*** Relationship to man (6) 12-17 Lv. 19:18 LOVE NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF**

Don't miss the point because of the detail.

GOD HAS # 1 PRIORITY!

OTHERS ARE TO BE TREATED FAIRLY!

PRACTICAL LESSONS ON THE LAW

1. They were NEVER intended to save.

They were given to a people redeemed by blood through faith, to show them how to live in fellowship with a holy God.

The law was a national constitution.

2. God is still holy–He still demands holiness from His people.
3. Danger of Pharisaism
Don't get hung up on ritual and detail.
Don't get hung up on legalistic interpretations.
Keep the most important things in mind.
4. God is # 1
He is to receive top priority.
Love Him with all your being
Submit to Him
5. God's people are to be known for honest dealings with others.
6. It's dangerous to play games with God.
God is to be feared
God is to be taken seriously.
7. Covetousness is a sin
The danger of discontent.