



“Grace, Law, and Greater Grace” (Exodus 19-20)

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- We will be looking at **Ex 21-23:20**
- Important for us to take a look at what has happened
- Chronologically
 - 3rd month after Israelites left Egypt
 - They arrive at Mt Sinai where Moses had repeatedly told Pharaoh they were going to worship God
 - Between Chapters 19 -32, +/- 50 days pass
 - Camped in the desert in front of Sinai, God calls Moses
 - Moses goes up on the mountain (1X)
 - Most probably site of Mt Sinai was smaller of twins peaks in the Sinai range 6,700'
 - Mt Kahtahdin in Me. 5,280' / 4 hours

Read Ex19:3-6 *Moses went up to God and ...Lord called to him...*

God wants Moses to remind the Israelites:

1. You've seen what I did to Egypt
2. And how I carried you on Eagles wings & brought U 2 myself
3. Fully obey me & U will be my Treasured possession
4. Even though the whole earth is mine
5. U will be for me a kingdom of Priests and a holy nation

1 Peter 2:9 “You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, A holy Nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light.”

Rev 1:6 “Jesus has made us to be a kingdom of priests to serve God the father”

Before God lays down the Law, He wants to remind Israel that he has acted **graciously** towards them by,...**(Abe, Issac, Jacob, Joseph)**

- Redeeming them from the most powerful on earth

- Plundering that nation as they left with their goods

God is laying claim on them and calling them into relationship

- Moses goes back down Mt. to the people and people say
- “We will do everything the Lord commands us to do”
- Moses goes back up (2X) to bring God the peoples answer

I surrender All, my wife says she is uncomfortable with that song...

Read Ex 19:9 *“people will hear me speaking to you.....”*

Confirming Moses as mediator of the covenant,.....goes down (2X)

- 3 days from now gather at the foot of the mountain
- Don't touch or approach the Mt. in any way,
 - or be stoned or shot with arrows.....**Your choice!!!**
 - Wash clothes and consecrate yourselves.....
- 3rd Day,
 - Thunder and Lightning, and thick clouds on the Mt Sinai
 - **My experience with thunder**
 - A loud trumpet blast that got increasingly louder
 - Mt on fire billowing thick smoke, and trembled violently
 - As Trumpet blast is growing louder
 - Moses speaks and the voice of God answers him!!!!
 - **Lord descends to top of Mt, and calls Moses up to the top**
 - Go down and warn the people not to force their way through to see the Lord, or I will break out against them
 - Moses, they can't because U warned us to put up barricades
 - **Can't U hear Moses saying, down again!!**
 - Go get Aaron, and bring him up here,... no one else

Moses has been up and down 3X

Ex 20:1-17 God speaks the moral law to the Israelites

10 commandments,.....Literally (10 words) John1:1 / 1:14

- Law given to bring these 2 mil people into relational community
- Regulations as to how to live in relationship with God & 1 another

Read Ex 20:18-21

- Trembling with fear, Israelites want Moses to be mediator
- U speak to us, If God speaks to us we'll die

- Moses said don't be afraid, but people remained at a distance

Ex 20:24 They worship....

Read Ex 21:1-11 Read through and comment

V1-11 Goal in community, freedom

Foreshadowing Christ (Ps 40)

V12-36 Premeditation / unintentional / Act of God

Ex 22:1-15 Taking responsibility for actions that harm others

V16-31 Social responsibility

Ex 23:1-9 Justice and Mercy

V10-13 Sabbath Laws

V14-193 annual Festivals

- Unleavened Bread - Beginning of Barley harvest
 - 7 days Mid March or April
 - Culminates with Passover
 - Commemorates the Exodus
- Feast of Weeks
 - 50 days later / also called Pentecost / Winter wheat
 - Commemorates the giving of the Law
 - Interesting, law given, 3000 die, spirit / given 3000 saved
- Feast of Ingathering (Tabernacles or Booths)
 - Mid October / Fall harvest
 - Commemorate wandering w/o a permanent place

There R Seemingly conflicting statements in NT about Law

- **Gal 3:10** For all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse, as it is written: "Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law."^[e] ¹¹ Clearly no one who relies on the law is justified before God, because "the righteous will live by faith."^[f] ¹² The law is not based on faith; on the contrary, it says, "The person who does these things will live by them."^[g] ¹³ Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us,
- **Rom 7:12** So then, the law is holy, and the commandment is holy, righteous and good.

3 Grand Divisions:

1. The Moral Law
 - a. 10 Commandments Ex. 20
 - b. Defined God's claims upon Israel as His human creation
 - c. Depicts the governmental authority of God the Father
2. The Civil Law

- a. Exodus 21 – 23:20
- b. Societal regulation for the Hebrew community
- c. God the H.S. maintaining order among God's people

3. The Ceremonial Law

- a. Touched on here but mostly in Leviticus
- b. Laws governing Israel's religious life
- c. Portrayed a series of types of God the Son (or)
 - i. Pointed to the cross of Christ

The Civil & Ceremonial law were called the book of the Covenant

The Book of the Covenant provided a series of legal precedents that illustrated basic principles for living in community as the People of God

- It provided guidance on how the community needed to operate
- How it would treat servants
- Legislation concerning personal Injury
- Right of property
- How it would take care of the poor
- How it would take care of the land
- **It also included the ceremonial law**
- Regulations for festivals, feasts, and sacrifices

Only the ten commandments were written on tablets of stone by the finger of God.

- They will endure as long as time endures
- Christ does fulfill saying all the law & the prophets hang on this
 - Love God love each other
- The Civil & Ceremonial law were written with pen on parchment by Moses (**Ex 24:4**) Moses wrote down all the Lord had said
 - They were fulfilled in Christ and done away with

Ceremonial law required people to sacrifice to remain in right standing with God.....they pointed to Christ who fulfilled them by being the perfect sacrifice and are no longer necessary or applicable

Civil Laws were given for an era in which God took Israel under His wing as His chosen nation. The civil law expired because the People of God are no longer a single nation but instead are made up of people from every nation who put their trust in Christ and we have become the kingdom of Christ.

After Christ came the civil and ceremonial laws were set aside, which is why the NT sometimes seems dismissive of the Law

Jn. 14:21 ²¹ Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them."

Mt 22:34-40 Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. ³⁵ One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: ³⁶ "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" ³⁷ Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'^[c] ³⁸ This is the first and greatest commandment. ³⁹ And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'^[d] ⁴⁰ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

Our problem is we are so easily infected by the law

No one wants to hear that they are prone to works based theology

- **Our world trains us to achieve and perform**
- **We are in the courtroom every day**
- **All of life trains us performance drives the verdict**

Only in Christ does the verdict drive the performance

- Christ went into the courtroom for us and took our guilty verdict
- Gave us his right standing w God the Father
- Because we are in Christ and our sin is removed E to W
- 2 Cor 5:17, 21
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