

Sermon: Why Then the Law?

Series: *Exodus: From Slavery to Glory.*

Scripture: Exodus 20:12-26.

Date: March 12, 2023

OBSERVATION -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

INTERPRETATION -- Answer these questions together:

1. What does this passage teach us about God?

a) Think through the three main sections of this text (20:12-17; 18-21; 22-26). What does each one reveal about God?

2. What does this passage teach us about us?

a) What has been your relationship/attitude toward the Ten Commandments in the past? Have you tried to obey them? Have you ignored them?

b) How do each of the commandments 5-10 reveal the dignity, equality, and image of God in man? How do they each reveal the sinfulness of man?

3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?

a) What pictures or images of Christ do you see in this passage? How specifically can you see them pointing to Jesus?

b) Read Romans 6:15-19. Paul says that we are obedient from the heart. Why could the Ten Commandments NOT change our hearts? What does Paul say actually frees our hearts from sin?

c) Read John 13:34. What is Christ's New Covenant Law for us? How is it similar to the law at Sinai? How is it different? (Hint: think about how union with Christ internalizes the law).

APPLICATION

a) Re-read verse 20. Moses contrasts being afraid of God with fearing God. Would you say that your life demonstrates being afraid of God or a proper fear of God (or maybe neither)? What might need to change in your beliefs for you to have a proper fear of God?

b) How would you explain the role of the Ten Commandments in a Christian's life? Use Romans 13:8-10 to help you.

FIGHTER VERSES: Romans 13:8-10.

PRAYER

- Praise God for his holy law of love.
- Confess ways that you have failed to fear God.
- Thank Jesus for being your final altar of sacrifice for sin.
- Ask God to help you honor the image of God in others by loving them.