

EXODUS

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GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF THE LAW

1. The Law consists of 613 commandments, given to Israel by a covenant, which only function as an indivisible unit.
2. The Law is not a means to obtaining righteousness (salvation).
3. Keeping the Law did not, by itself, yield greater holiness in the OT saint (sanctification).

PURPOSES OF THE LAW

Three General Purposes:

Theological

National

Personal

PURPOSES OF THE LAW

Theological

Reveals the holiness of God

Lev. 11:44 'For I am the LORD your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy. And you shall not make yourselves unclean with any of the swarming things that swarm on the earth.

Lev. 11:45 'For I am the LORD who brought you up from the land of Egypt to be your God; thus you shall be holy, for I am holy.'"

PURPOSES OF THE LAW

Theological

Reveals & condemns the sinfulness of man

Rom. 3:20 because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin.

Rom. 4:15 for the Law brings about wrath, but where there is no law, there also is no violation.

PURPOSES OF THE LAW

Theological

Sets the standard for fellowship with God

Psa. 24:3 Who may ascend into the hill of the LORD?
And who may stand in His holy place?

Psa. 24:4 He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
Who has not lifted up his soul to falsehood
And has not sworn deceitfully.

Psa. 24:5 He shall receive a blessing from the LORD
And righteousness from the God of his salvation.

PURPOSES OF THE LAW

Theological

Leads men to recognize our need for Christ

Gal. 3:24 Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith.

PURPOSES OF THE LAW

National

Established Israel as the Lord's chosen nation

Ex. 19:5 'Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine;

PURPOSES OF THE LAW

National

Set Israel apart from other nations

Lev. 20:24 'Hence I have said to you, "You are to possess their land, and I Myself will give it to you to possess it, a land flowing with milk and honey." I am the LORD your God, who has separated you from the peoples.

Lev. 20:26 'Thus you are to be holy to Me, for I the LORD am holy; and I have set you apart from the peoples to be Mine.

PURPOSES OF THE LAW

National

Instituted Israel's worship observance

Lev. 23:4 'These are the appointed times of the LORD, holy convocations which you shall proclaim at the times appointed for them.

PURPOSES OF THE LAW

Personal

Regulate individual conduct to yield blessing

Psa. 1:1 How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked,

Nor stand in the path of sinners,

Nor sit in the seat of scoffers!

Psa. 1:2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD,

And in His law he meditates day and night.

Psa. 1:3 He will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water,

Which yields its fruit in its season

And its leaf does not wither;

And in whatever he does, he prospers

PURPOSES OF THE LAW

Personal

Test for citizenship in the theocracy

Num. 15:30 'But the person who does anything defiantly, whether he is native or an alien, that one is blaspheming the LORD; and that person shall be cut off from among his people.

Num. 15:31 'Because he has despised the word of the LORD and has broken His commandment, that person shall be completely cut off; his guilt will be on him.'"

PURPOSES OF THE LAW

Personal

Forgiveness of sin and restoration

Lev. 5:17 “Now if a person sins and does any of the things which the LORD has commanded not to be done, though he was unaware, still he is guilty and shall bear his punishment.

Lev. 5:18 “He is then to bring to the priest a ram without defect from the flock, according to your valuation, for a guilt offering. So the priest shall make atonement for him concerning his error in which he sinned unintentionally and did not know it, and it will be forgiven him.

PURPOSES OF THE LAW

Personal

Forgiveness of sin and restoration

Gal. 3:19 Why the Law then? It was added because of transgressions, having been ordained through angels by the agency of a mediator, until the seed would come to whom the promise had been made.

PURPOSES OF THE LAW

Personal

Forgiveness of sin and restoration

Heb. 9:13 For if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkling those who have been defiled sanctify for the cleansing of the flesh,

Heb. 9:14 how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

HOW DOES A CHRISTIAN RELATE TO THE LAW?

1. Christ fulfilled the Law's requirements on our behalf
2. Even the Ten Commandments no longer apply to Christians
3. Christians are bound by a new law, the Law of Christ, which brings liberty