

# Deuteronomy: God's Covenant People

[#16] *How Do Christians Understand OT Law?* – Deuteronomy 4:41–49

## Sermon Outline – November 19, 2017

### Children's Sermon: Does it matter if you obey Jesus?

Who knows the ten commandments? (2 memorization tips)  
Did Jesus obey perfectly for his people?  
Did Jesus die for the sins of his people?  
Does it matter if we obey Jesus commands? Why or Why not?



#### **Matthew 7:21–23**

<sup>21</sup> “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, *but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.* <sup>22</sup> On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ <sup>23</sup> And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you *workers of lawlessness.*’

**God requires two related responses from us: Repent & Believe**  
**Which is better indicator of saving faith: fruit or gifts?**

**Cities of Refuge (4:41–43; Cf. 19)**

**Moses' second address (4:44–28:68)**

Introduction to Moses' 2<sup>nd</sup> Address (4:44–49)

**Notes:**

### **Deuteronomy 1:1**

These are the words that Moses spoke to all Israel beyond the Jordan in the wilderness, in the Arabah opposite Suph, between Paran and Tophel, Laban, Hazereth, and Dizahab. (see also vs. 2-5)

<sup>44</sup> **This is the law that Moses set before the people of Israel.** <sup>45</sup> These are the testimonies, the statutes, and the rules, which Moses spoke to the people of Israel when they came out of Egypt, <sup>46</sup> beyond the Jordan *in the valley opposite Beth-peor*, in the land of Sihon the king of the Amorites, who lived at Heshbon, whom Moses and the people of Israel defeated when they came out of Egypt. <sup>47</sup> And they took possession of his land and the land of Og, the king of Bashan, the two kings of the Amorites, who lived to the east beyond the Jordan; <sup>48</sup> from... <sup>49</sup> together with... (specific land details).

<sup>1</sup> **And Moses** summoned all Israel and **said to them...**

### *Today's Clear Biblical Bullet...*

How are we to understand OT law as Christians?  
Answer: Christologically (*i.e. with our Jesus glasses*)



## **We Have to Keep Jesus in View**

### **Jesus Fulfilled the Law**

#### **Matthew 5:17–20**

<sup>17</sup> “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to **fulfill them**. <sup>18</sup> For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup> Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called *least in the kingdom of heaven*, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup> For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

- Jesus “accomplished” the Law
- It is possible to be wrong about the Law and be in the Kingdom
- It is better, through faith, to value and keep the Law
  - Jesus for us
  - Jesus in us

### *...Fired at our Life & Heart*

We first apply the Law to Jesus and then put our faith into practice through obedience to the Law.



### **Ceremonial, Civil & Moral**

- We get these categories by looking at the Law with Jesus in view

### **Augustine: Four States of Man**

(Omnibus I Primary Self Paced; Lesson 7–Exodus Session 2) <sup>i</sup>

1. **Pre-Fall Man** (Able to Sin, Abel not to Sin)
2. **Post-Fall Man** (Able to Sin, Unable not to Sin)
3. **Reborn Man** (Able to Sin, Abel not to Sin)
4. **Glorified Man** (Able not to Sin, Unable to Sin)

### The Three Uses of the Moral Law:

1. **To Restrain Evil** (Common Grace)
2. **To Reveal Our Sin** (Leading us to Faith in Jesus)
3. **To Reveal God's Righteous Character**  
(To Guide Our Pursuit of Holiness)

### Matthew 28:19–20

<sup>19</sup> Go therefore and **make disciples** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> *teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you*. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

### James 1:19–25

<sup>19</sup> Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; <sup>20</sup> for *the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God*.

<sup>21</sup> Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and **receive with meekness the implanted word**, which is able to save your souls.

<sup>22</sup> But *be doers of the word*, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. <sup>23</sup> For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. <sup>24</sup> For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. <sup>25</sup> But the one who looks into *the perfect law, the law of liberty*, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but *a doer who acts*, he will be blessed in his doing.

- Obedience to the commands of Jesus is how we practically live for him and not for our own selfish desires.

See Question 8 of the New City Catechism ([newcitycatechism.com](http://newcitycatechism.com))

## What is the law of God stated in the Ten Commandments?

1. You shall have no other gods before me.
2. You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below—you shall not bow down to them or worship them.
3. You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God.
4. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.
5. Honor your father and your mother.
6. You shall not murder.
7. You shall not commit adultery.
8. You shall not steal.
9. You shall not give false testimony.
10. You shall not covet.