

## Lesson 9: *The Immutability of God's Law*

Monday, May 27, 2024

Ryan Day

Read Matthew 5:17, 18; Psalm 111:7, 8; Ecclesiastes 12:13, 14; 1 John 5:3; and Proverbs 28:9. What do these Bible passages teach regarding the Christian's relationship to the law?

<sup>17</sup> “Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup> For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled. <sup>19</sup> Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches *them*, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup> For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds *the righteousness* of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven.—**Matthew 5:17-20**

<sup>7</sup> The works of His hands *are* verity and justice;  
All His precepts *are* sure.

<sup>8</sup> They stand fast forever and ever,  
*And are* done in truth and uprightness.—**Psalms 111:7, 8**

<sup>13</sup> Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. <sup>14</sup> For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.—**Ecclesiastes 12:13, 14**

<sup>3</sup> For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments.  
And His commandments are not burdensome.—**1 John 5:3**

<sup>9</sup> One who turns away his ear from hearing the law,  
Even his prayer *is* an abomination.—**Proverbs 28:9**

“The ritual or ceremonial law delivered by Moses to the children of Israel, containing all the injunctions and ordinances which related to the old sacrifices and service of the temple, our Lord indeed did come to destroy, to dissolve and utterly abolish. . . . But the moral law, contained in the Ten Commandments, and enforced by the prophets, he did not take away. It was not the design of his coming to revoke any part of this. This is a law which never can be broken, which ‘stands fast as the faithful witness in heaven’. . . . Every part of this law must remain in force, upon all mankind, and in all ages; as not depending either on time or place, or any other circumstances liable to change, but on the nature of God and the nature of man, and their unchangeable relation to each other.” — *Upon Our Lord’s Sermon on the Mount, Discourse V, John Wesley’s Sermons: An Anthology (Nashville, TN: Abington Press, 1991), pp. 208, 209.*

**Compare Exodus 34:5–7 with Romans 7:11, 12; Psalm 19:7–11; Psalm 89:14; and Psalm 119:142, 172. What do these verses tell us about the relationship between God’s law and God’s character?**

<sup>5</sup> Now the Lord descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the Lord. <sup>6</sup> And the Lord passed before him and proclaimed, “The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, <sup>7</sup> keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing *the guilty*, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children’s children to the third and the fourth generation.” — *Exodus 24:5-7*

<sup>11</sup> For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it killed *me*. <sup>12</sup> Therefore the law *is* holy, and the commandment holy and just and good.— *Romans 7:11, 12*

<sup>7</sup> The law of the Lord *is* perfect, converting the soul;  
The testimony of the Lord *is* sure, making wise the simple;  
<sup>8</sup> The statutes of the Lord *are* right, rejoicing the heart;  
The commandment of the Lord *is* pure, enlightening the eyes;  
<sup>9</sup> The fear of the Lord *is* clean, enduring forever;  
The judgments of the Lord *are* true *and* righteous altogether.

<sup>10</sup> More to be desired *are they* than gold,  
Yea, than much fine gold;  
Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb.

<sup>11</sup> Moreover by them Your servant is warned,  
And in keeping them *there is* great reward.—***Psalms 19:7-11***

<sup>14</sup> Righteousness and justice *are* the foundation of Your throne;  
Mercy and truth go before Your face.—***Psalms 89:14***

<sup>142</sup> Your righteousness *is* an everlasting righteousness,  
And Your law *is* truth... <sup>172</sup> My tongue shall speak of Your word,  
For all Your commandments *are* righteousness.

—***Psalms 119:142, 172***

	<b>GOD IS</b>	<b>THE LAW IS</b>
Good	Luke 18:19	1 Timothy 1:8
Holy	Isaiah 5:16	Romans 7:12
Perfect	Matthew 5:48	Psalms 19:7
Pure	1 John 3:2,3	Psalms 19:8
Just	Deuteronomy 32:4	Romans 7:12
True	John 3:33	Psalms 19:9
Spiritual	1 Corinthians 10:4	Romans 7:14
Righteousness	Jeremiah 23:6	Psalms 119:172
Faithful	1 Corinthians 1:9	Psalms 119:86
Love	1 John 4:8	Romans 13:10
Unchangeable	James 1:17	Matthew 5:18
Eternal	Genesis 21:33	Psalms 111:7,8