

The Gospel of Matthew #39

Sermon on the Mount: Jesus and the Law and you: 1

- I. The Law and Jesus: v17-18
 - A. Not abolish but fulfill: v17
 - B. Not disappear but accomplished: v18
- II. The Law and you: v19-20
 - A. Fidelity to the Law means greatness IN the Kingdom: v19
 - B. Righteousness more than Pharisees to ENTER the Kingdom: v20

HOW JESUS VIEWS THE LAW

Matthew 5:17, 19

- I. He does **not** _____ it
(Note: "Law or Prophets" refers to whole OT)

Why Jews were suspicious of this

- His lack of training at the rabbinic schools
- He hung around notorious lawbreakers (11:18-19)
- He seemed to ignore Sabbath keeping (12:2)

He emphatic: I have **not** come to abolish Law or Prophets

- II. Rather He _____ it

- He perfectly obeys the commands
- He fulfills the sacrificial system by His once-for-all death for sin
- He fulfills the prophecies (eg 4:13-17) and pictures (eg. prophet, priest, king)

III. So how does He view the _____ in the life of the **Christian**?

Three significant views:

- We have NO obligation to the Law. That was for Israel. Only what is commanded in the NT is to be obeyed (Dispensationalism).
- The OT Law in its details is still binding today, both commands and penalties, and should be the basis of civil legal codes, unless explicitly altered or rescinded in the NT (Theonomy)
- The OT Law is still binding on Christians, but care must be taken to understand what it means since Christ has come and brought it to fulfillment in the New Age of the Spirit and freedom. The whole OT still has force and meaning for us, but only as the shadows are seen in the fullness of Christ (CPC).

The fact that we still obey God's Word, but not for justification, but as a result of justification is most clearly seen in the third view alone.

So (note gradations in the Kingdom):

- Ignoring even minor commands and influencing others likewise makes you least in the Kingdom
- Obedience and influencing others likewise makes you great in the Kingdom

So what

1. How much time do you spend getting more acquainted with the OT?

This fall read an OT Book:

2. Grace is not anti-nomian (anti-law). The Gospel motivates us to want to please our Father and be like Him. What He is like is revealed in the Law. Ephesians 5:8-10.

Are you doing this?

3. Obedience is never in your own strength. Christ alone fulfilled the Law's demands. Rest always in Him. Seek to please Him from love, not guilt.