

“O How Love I Thy Law!”
The Seventh Commandment
“The Bridegroom”
Part 2
Exodus 20:14

Introduction:

1. 2 Timothy 3:16-17:
 - Is The Lens Through Which:
 - We Have Been Exploring The Ten Commandments:
 - On Sunday Nights This Year:
 - Which Reminds Us That:
 - “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: / That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works!”
2. This Especially Applies:
 - To The Seventh Commandment:
 - Where We Are Told:
 - From Exodus 20:14 - That:
 - “Thou Shalt Not Commit Adultery!”
 - So:
 - As Doctrine:
 - This Commandment Teaches Us:
 - About The Faithfulness Of God!
 - As Reproof:
 - This Commandment Reveals To Us:
 - Our Great Moral Failures:
 - As Sinners In Need Of A Savior!
 - But - As Correction:
 - This Commandment Points Us To:
 - The Lord Jesus Christ:
 - Who Offers His Own Faithfulness:
 - As The Remedy:
 - To Our Failures!
 - **IE:** Like A Doctor Prescribing Medicine That He Knows Will Help! Like An Antibiotic When You Have An Infection!
 - Well, For A Moral Disease - Such As Sin:
 - We Need A Moral Medicine - And That Is Jesus Christ!
3. Last Week:
 - We Looked At Two Ways In Which We Have Failed:
 - To Keep The Seventh Commandment!
 - First - We Have Failed:
 - In Our Respect Of Marriage!
 - Either By Rejecting Or Even Redefining:
 - The Institution Of Marriage:
 - Created And Designed By God For The Good Of Mankind!
 - Well - Where We Failed:
 - Jesus Proved Himself Faithful!
 - He Revealed His Own Great Respect:
 - For The Marriage Union:
 - By Attending Weddings When He Was On Earth:
 - And Offering His Blessing!
 - Jesus Is The One:
 - We Must Turn To:
 - To Correct Our Own Failures:
 - In Our Respect For Marriage!
 - Then - We Also Saw That - We Have Failed:
 - In Our Relationships:
 - Because - All Too Often:
 - We Have Thought About & Have Treated Others:

- Merely As Objects:
 - To Satisfy Our Own Needs, Desires, And Lusts!
 - But - Once Again - Whenever We Fail:
 - Jesus Proves Himself Faithful!
 - He Demonstrated This In His Own Great Relationships:
 - With Others - And Especially With Women!
 - No Doubt, He Lived:
 - As Paul Told Timothy To Live In 1 Timothy 5:2:
 - He Treated “Elder Women As Mothers, The Younger As Sisters, With All Purity!”
 - So - Jesus Remains The One:
 - We Must Turn To:
 - To Correct Our Own Failures:
 - In Our Relationships With Others!
4. Tonight - We Are Going To Look At:
- Two More Ways:
 - In Which We Have Failed:
 - That Are Addressed In The Seventh Commandment:
 - And How Jesus Is Still Faithful!
 - So:
- * Third - Jesus Is Also Faithful:
3. ***In His Own Great Response:***
- To The Temptations He Faced:
 - As A Man - When He Lived In This World!
 - And - His Faithfulness Is Necessary:
 - Because Of Just How Often We Fail:
 - In Our Own Responses:
 - To Temptation To Sin!
 - And - Especially:
 - When We Are Tempted:
 - To Lust After Others:
 - In A Sexual Way!
 - And - We Need To Remember:
 - That Jesus Was, In Fact:
 - Tempted To Sin!
 - So - Even Though Jesus:
 - As The Son Of God - In His Divine Nature:
 - Could **Not** Be “Tempted With Evil” - As We Are Told In James 1:13!
 - Yet - As The Son Of Man - In His Human Nature:
 - He **Could** Be Tempted!
 - And He Really Was!
 - And So - When It Comes To His Response To Temptation - We Need To Remember That:
 - Jesus Underwent Temptation!
 - And The Only Difference:
 - Between Jesus’ Temptation:
 - And Our Own:
 - Is That:
 - The Source & Pull Of ***His*** Temptations:
 - Was Always ***External!***
 - While:
 - The Source & Pull Of ***Our*** Temptations:
 - Are All Too Often ***Internal!***
 - Even As James 1:14 Tells Us - “But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed!”
 - But - Do Not Think:
 - That Just Because The Source Of Jesus’ Temptations Was Different:
 - Than Yours & Mine:
 - His Temptations Were Any Weaker!

- They Weren't!
- Because - Even Though:
 - Our Lusts Seem So Strong:
 - When In The Throws Of Temptation:
 - The Temptations Of The Devil Himself:
 - Would Have Been Even Stronger!
- And So - Let's Turn In Our Bibles To:
 - Matthew 4 - Where We Will Read About:
 - The Three Temptations Of Jesus:
 - By The Devil Himself:
 - There In The Wilderness!
 - Matthew 4 - When After Jesus Was Baptized By John The Baptist At The Jordan River:
 - 4:1-11 - "Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. / 2 And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred. / 3 And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. / 4 But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. / 5 Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, / 6 And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. / 7 Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. / 8 Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them; / 9 And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me. / 10 Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve. / 11 Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him!"
 - Jesus Really & Truly Underwent Temptation!
 - Now - Even Though We Only Have Three:
 - Temptations Recorded For Us:
 - The Devil Likely Tempted Jesus All Throughout The Forty Days He Was In The Wilderness!
 - And - When The Temptations:
 - That Are Recorded For Us Took Place:
 - They Did Not Happen:
 - When Jesus Was In His Strongest Condition:
 - But In His Weakest!
 - He Was Weak Physically:
 - Because He Had Fasted:
 - "Forty Days And Forty Nights!"
 - This Was Near The Most Extreme Point Of Starvation - And He Was Likely All "Skin And Bones!"
 - He Was Weak Mentally:
 - Because The Effects Of Starvation:
 - Include Impaired:
 - Comprehension!
 - Concentration!
 - Conclusions!
 - And - He May Have Even Been:
 - Weak In A Spiritual Way:
 - Wondering, Perhaps, Whether Or Not His Father Had Already Forsaken Him!
 - So - When You Hear These Words:
 - From Hebrews 4:15 - Think About The Condition Jesus Was In:
 - When He Was Tempted By His Strongest Foe - The Devil!
 - "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are!" - Stop There!
 - As I Was Thinking About:
 - The Temptations Of Jesus:
 - The Question To Me Became No Longer:
 - Was Jesus Ever Tempted:
 - Like I've Been Tempted?

- But Rather:
 - Have I Ever Been Tempted:
 - Like Jesus Was Tempted?
- And - Honestly - I Don't Think I Have Been!
 - And Yet - Jesus:
 - Was - Hebrews 4:15 - "In All Points Tempted Like As We Are" – Now Finish The Verse – "Yet Without Sin!"
 - So - Unlike Me & Unlike You:
- Jesus Usurped Temptation!
 - That Is - He Resisted Temptation:
 - Even The Temptation Of The Devil:
 - And Overcame It:
 - And Became Victorious Over It!
 - Three Times:
 - Jesus Was Tempted!
 - And Three Times:
 - Jesus Parried Away The Darts Of The Devil:
 - With The Sword Of The Spirit - Which Is The Written Word Of God!
 - In Matthew 4:4:
 - Jesus Responded To The Devil's First Temptation:
 - When - "He answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God!"
 - In Matthew 4:7:
 - Jesus Responded To The Devil's Second Temptation In The Same Way:
 - "Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God!"
 - And - In Matthew 4:10:
 - Jesus Responded To The Devil's Third Temptation:
 - "Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve!"
 - In Each Case:
 - The Scripture Jesus Used:
 - Was From The Book Of Deuteronomy:
 - Which He Had Hidden Deep Within His Human Heart!
 - By The Power Of God:
 - And His Word:
 - He Resisted The Devil:
 - And The Devil Had No Choice:
 - But To Flee From Him:
 - Though - He Would Return To Try Once Again!
 - But - What Happened After The Devil Left?
 - 4:11 - "Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him!"
 - Jesus Needed Some TLC!
 - To Nurse Him Back To Health:
 - Physically, Mentally, Emotionally, And Spiritually!
 - And Those Angels:
 - Were The Ministers & Servants:
 - Of His Father In Heaven:
 - Sent On A Mission To Restore Him To Health!
 - But - This Experience Of Temptation:
 - Further Qualified Jesus:
 - To Be Our High Priest:
 - Since He Was "Touched With The Feeling Of Our Infirmities!"
 - And That Is Why Now:
 - We Can Also Know That:
- Jesus Understands Temptation!
 - Even Temptation To Sin:
 - In Ways That Are Contrary To:
 - The Seventh Commandment!
 - Temptations To Lust And Immoral Desires!
 - Now - I Don't Believe:

- Jesus Was Ever Tempted:
 - With Immoral Desires:
 - As We So Often Are!
- Because:
 - Even Though - As Truly Man:
 - He Could Be Tempted!
 - Yet - As Truly God:
 - He Remained - Hebrews 7:26 - "Holy, Harmless, undefiled!"
- So - There Was No Moral Weakness:
 - Within Jesus:
 - That Would Draw Him Away:
 - From Righteousness:
 - As Our Lusts So Often Do!
 - But - That Doesn't Mean:
 - He Doesn't Know Or Understand:
 - What Those Temptations Are Like!
- If You Go Back To:
 - Jesus' Sermon On The Mount:
 - In Matthew 5 - Not Only Does He Expound The Sixth Commandment:
 - "Thou Shalt Not Kill!"
 - He Also Expands Upon:
 - The Seventh Commandment:
 - In 5:27-28 - "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: / But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart!"
- We See From This That:
 - Jesus Understands The Intricate Connection:
 - Between A Look:
 - And Our Lusts!
 - Between Our Senses:
 - And Our Sin!
 - And Even Though:
 - He Was Never Drawn Away:
 - By Sinful & Inordinate Lusts:
 - To Be Enticed!
 - Yet - In His Own Way:
 - He Knows & Understands It:
 - When You Are!
- And That Is Why:
 - Now - We Are Told:
 - In Hebrews 2:18 - "For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour – Help & Bring Aid To – them that are tempted!"
 - But Even More:
 - Now We Can Remember What Paul Tells Us:
 - In 1 Corinthians 10:13 - "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it!"
- He Can Do This For You - Because Jesus' Response:
 - To Temptations:
 - Was Always Right!
 - Have You Failed:
 - In How You Respond To The Temptations You Face?
 - Whether The Source Of Those Temptations:
 - Are External Or Even Internal To You?
 - Have You "Yielded To Temptation" - When:
 - You Have Been Drawn Away:
 - By Your Own Lusts & Enticed?
- If You Have - Remember Tonight:
 - That Jesus Remains Faithful!
 - Remember Hebrews 4:15 - "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the

feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin!"
- And Keep Your Trust In Him!

* But Then Also - As Our Fourth Point - Jesus Is Faithful:

4. In His Own Great Responsibility!

- His Role & Responsibility:

- As The Bridegroom Of His Own Bride:

- The Church!

- Go With Me Now To:

- Ephesians 5:21-33 - Where The Apostle Paul:

- Ties Closely Together:

- Your Relationships Within The Family To:

- Christ's Own Relationship With The Church!

- 5:21-33 - "Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God. / 22 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. / 23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body. / 24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. / 25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; / 26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, / 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish. / 28 So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself. / 29 For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church: / 30 For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones. / 31 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. / 32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church. / 33 Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband!"

- Now - When You Focus On The Roles & Responsibilities Of Husbands & Wives:

- As We Often Do - When We Come To This Passage And Others Like It:

- You Will Notice Right Away Just How Dreadfully We Fail!

- But - When You Focus On:

- The Responsibility Of Christ:

- As The Heavenly Husband:

- We See His Great Faithfulness & Fulfilment In His Love!

- So - Let's Look At The Great Love:

- That Jesus Has:

- For The Church - For **You** Today:

- As The True Bridegroom Of His People!

- Christ's Love Is A Selfless Love!

- Even As Husbands Are Called:

- The Head Of Their Wives & Their Families!

- 5:23 - "For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body!"

- Husbands Are Called To Be Selfless:

- In Their Relationships:

- With Their Wives!

- But How Often Do We Fail?

- All The Time!

- But What About Christ?

- Not Only Is He The Head - But Also:

- "He Is The Savior Of The Body!"

- And What Did Jesus Have To Do:

- To Save Us?

- Philippians 2:6-8 - "Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: / But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: / And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross!"

- Where We Fail:

- Christ Is Faithful:

- With A Selfless Love:

- For Us!

- Christ's Love Is A Sacrificial Love!
 - Even As Husbands Are Called:
 - To Love Their Wives!
 - 5:25 - "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it!"
 - Husbands Are Called To Be Sacrificial:
 - In Their Relationships:
 - With Their Wives!
 - But How Often Do We Fail?
 - All The Time!
 - But What About Christ?
 - Not Only Did He Love The Church:
 - As His Bride - He:
 - "Gave Himself For It!"
 - **IE:** Christ's Sacrifice:
 - Was Like The Price That Was Often Paid:
 - By A Groom - To A Father - As A Dowry:
 - And As A Pledge For:
 - The Woman He Desired To Become His Wife!
 - And - It Was The Greatest Price:
 - Of All!
 - He Gave His Very Life!
 - And When We Continue To Fail:
 - Christ Remains Faithful:
 - With A Sacrificial Love:
 - For Us!
- Christ's Love Is A Sanctifying Love!
 - In 5:26 - The Reason For Christ's Sacrifice Is Given:
 - "That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word!"
 - **IE:** In Jewish Marriages - There Was Often A Period Of Betrothal - Which Was Much More Serious & Significant Than Engagements - And It Was A Time Of Preparation For The Actual Wedding - But The Commitment To One Another Was Secured!
 - And So It Is With Christ:
 - As The Bridegroom Of His Church!
 - The Marriage Hasn't Taken Place Yet - We Are Still In The Betrothal Period!
 - Jesus Is Still Preparing His Home:
 - For The Arrival Of His Bride!
 - See This In John 14:2-3 - "In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. / And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also!"
 - But - Jesus Betrothed Himself To Us:
 - So That - Until Then:
 - "He Might Sanctify Us!"
 - He Might Continue To Separate Us From Those Unclean Things That Remain In Us!
 - And - He Does So:
 - Continuously - Through His Word!
 - And So - Whenever We Fall & Whenever We Fail:
 - By Forgetting **Who** We Are & **Whose** We Are:
 - Remember That:
 - Christ - Our Bridegroom - Continues To Faithfully Cleanse Us Until We Are Made Ready:
 - To Enter His House Forever!
 - And Even More:
- Christ's Love Is A Satisfying Love!
 - The Consummation Of The Relationship:
 - Between Christ & His Church:
 - Will Take Place In Heaven:
 - At The "Marriage Supper Of The Lamb!"

- And That Is When:
 - All Of The Preparations Will Be Complete!
 - So That - 5:27 - "He might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish!"
- Christ Will Be Satisfied:
 - With His Bride - And:
 - His Bride Will Be Satisfied:
 - *We* Will Be Satisfied:
 - With Him!
- In Revelation 19:6-7:
 - The Scene Of The Marriage Is Set:
 - Between Jesus – The Bridegroom:
 - And His Bride – The Church!
 - As John Wrote:
 - "And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunders, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. / Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. / And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. / And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God!"
- Remember Tonight:
 - That Even When You Fail:
 - In Your Roles & Responsibilities:
 - As A Husband Or As A Wife!
 - As A Child Or As A Church-Member!
 - Jesus Remains Faithful:
 - As The Great Husband:
 - To His Bride:
 - The Church!

Conclusion:

1. And So - Once Again:
 - We See Jesus:
 - As The One Who Is:
 - The Only One:
 - Who Can Correct Our Failures:
 - To The Moral Law Of God!
2. Whenever - Wherever - However:
 - You Fail:
 - Remember That - Jesus Is Faithful!
 - So - Keep Your Trust In Him!

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