



GOD'S LAW WRITTEN IN YOUR HEART

Class Two

Answering the Age Old Question

What God is, and more importantly what He wants from us.

• Exodus 20:1-17

- 1) And God spake all these words, saying,
- 2) I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.
- 3) Thou shalt have no other gods before me.
- 4) Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.
- 5) Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;
- 6) And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.
- 7) Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.
- 8) Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.
- 9) Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:
- 10) But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:
- 11) For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.
- 12) Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.
- 13) Thou shalt not kill.
- 14) Thou shalt not commit adultery.
- 15) Thou shalt not steal.
- 16) Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.
- 17) Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

- In the Second Commandment we would like to look at who God is...

- Or, rather, who God isn't...

- What is the Second Commandment?

- Exodus 20:3-6

- 3) Thou shalt have no other gods before me.
- 4) Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.
- 5) Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;
- 6) And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

- Why the fixation on no other gods, images or idols?

- Exodus 34:14-17

- 14) For thou shalt worship no other god: for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God:
- 15) Lest thou make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land, and they go a whoring after their gods, and do sacrifice unto their gods, and one call thee, and thou eat of his sacrifice;
- 16) And thou take of their daughters unto thy sons, and their daughters go a whoring after their gods, and make thy sons go a whoring after their gods.
- 17) Thou shalt make thee no molten gods.

- What does it mean to be a Jealous God?

- Isn't Jealousy Bad?

- God desires to be All In All with his Children, and demands exclusive rights to us...

- He doesn't want to share us

- Like a Husband that doesn't want to share his wife...

- 2nd Corinthians 11:2-3

- 2) For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.
- 3) But I fear, lest by any means, as the serpent beguiled Eve through his subtilty, so your minds should be corrupted from the simplicity that is in Christ.

- So, God wants us to worship Him alone...

- That seems reasonable..

- But, why the insistence on not having any Physical Forms to represent him?

- *God is a Spirit...*

- John 4:21-24

- 21) Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father.

- 22) Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews.

- 23) But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.

- 24) **God is a Spirit:** and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

- God is a Spirit

- He is not a physical being

- God is not concerned about material things...

- He abhors materialism

- He doesn't want us to be concerned about material things either

- Jesus taught this same thing...

- Matthew 6:25-33

- 25) Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

- 26) Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

- 27) Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?

- 28) And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:

- 29) And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

- 30) Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith?

- 31) Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?
- 32) (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.
- 33) But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

- And Jesus stated the same principle also during his temptation...

- Matthew 4:8-10

- 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.

- Jesus clearly stated that we should only Serve God

- We should set nothing above Him in our lives.

- Don't worship any other God

- Don't worship the likeness of "any living thing"

- What do we mean when we say "Worship"?

- No one has an Idol of Dagon the Fish God in their house...

- What does it mean today to say, "*Thou shalt have no other gods before me?*"

- What is God trying to get at?

- God is trying to protect us from

- Gods

- Images

- "Gods" are spiritual items

- Things that you Think, and Feel...

- Emotional Items...

- Ideas

- Philosophies

- “Images” are material items
 - Things that you touch, taste, handle, use...
 - Physical things that bring us pleasure...
 - Toys
 - Objects
 - Even People
- Both are wrong
 - Both are enticing and deceiving
- We are warned to:
 - Not have them before God
 - Not bow down to them - (Give them authority over you)
 - Not serve them
- Let’s list some of the “Gods” and “Images” that are in our lives...

| Gods | Images |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>Spiritual Things</u> | <u>Physical Things</u> |
| Power | Money |
| Fame | Rock Stars & Sports Stars |
| Friends | Car |
| School | T.V. |
| Sports | Clothes |

- Look at each one of the things on your list
 - See if you do:
 - Have them before God
 - Bow down to them
 - Serve them

- There's an interesting set of verses in 1st Corinthians 10...

- 1st Corinthians 10:7-15

- 7) Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.
- 8) Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand.
- 9) Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents.
- 10) Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer.
- 11) Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.
- 12) Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.
- 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.
- 14) Wherefore, my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry.
- 15) I speak as to wise men; judge ye what I say.

- What is it talking about here?

- Sex...

- There is a whole culture within our Society that worships the Body

- Nothing is more important to them than Sex

- The majority of the Pagan Idols were Sex Related

- Asherah Poles, etc.

- Temple Prostitutes...

- They didn't lure the people away from God with boring Church services..

- They were worshipping the Creature, more than the Creator...

- Romans 1:24-25

- 24) Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:
- 25) Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

- What does God do with people who get to this point...

- Romans 1:26-32

- 26) For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature:
- 27) And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.
- 28) And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;
- 29) Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers,
- 30) Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,
- 31) Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:
- 32) Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

- God gave up on them...

- Let's avoid that ending...

- Let's not have any other Gods or Images before our Lord

- ***Write it in your own words...***

- Next, we are NOT going to talk about SWEARING...

- Exodus 20:7

7) Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

- What does it mean to “*take the name of the LORD in vain?*”

- It doesn't mean using God's (or Jesus') name in a swear...

- This is wrong!

- Colossians 3:8

7) But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth.

- Swearing is filthy, wrong and a sin...

- But, that is not what the Third Commandment is talking about...

- To understand what it means to “*take the name of the LORD in vain*”, we need to spend a few minutes talking about what God's name is...

- God is revealed to us in His Memorial Name...

- What's the significance of God's Divine Name?

- The Name of God contains His Promise to us, and His entire plan for the World

- The plan of God is to fill the Earth with His glory

- Numbers 14:21

21) But as truly as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD.

- To “fill the Earth with the Glory of the Lord” is not just the Shekinah Glory

- We are not just talking about some great shining “GLORY”

- We know from God's Word that his plan is to call out a “people” and to “fill the Earth with His Glory” through THEM

- To fill the Earth with a People who are righteous and holy and who reflect the Glory of God

- A world full of people praising and giving glory to God through their actions

- He wants to be manifested in us
 - He wants to DWELL in us
- God hinted at this in his Memorial Name
- God's Name is introduced to Moses
- Exodus 3:13-14
 - 13) And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them?
 - 14) And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.
- I AM THAT I AM is a Hebrewism, and is best translated in the future tense...
 - I WILL BE WHOM I WILL BE
- This is the attitude of God...
 - This is how God describes Himself to Moses and to us...
- I WILL BE WHOM I WILL BE
 - I am going to be represented on this Earth by a People who are righteous and holy, and I am going to decide who that people is going to be...
- I WILL BE MANIFESTED IN WHOM I WILL BE MANIFESTED
- I didn't chose to create something whose soul purpose is to give me Glory
- I didn't even chose the strong of this World to Manifest me...
- I decided that I would be Manifested in weak, mortal, frail humans
 - Humans with "Free Will" to do whatever their carnal, sinful minds want
- So that when they actually do chose to follow me...
 - It will really mean something
- God wants us to remember...
 - He is in control...
 - He is God...

- He can chose whoever He wants to serve Him...
- That is what He was getting at in Malachi...
- Let's take a look at Malachi 1...
- Understanding the Name of God, helps to explain verse 2...
- Malachi 1:1-2
 - 1) The burden of the word of the LORD to Israel by Malachi.
 - 2) I have loved you, saith the LORD. Yet ye say, Wherein hast thou loved us? Was not Esau Jacob's brother? saith the LORD: yet I loved Jacob
- *"How have you loved us?"*
 - Sounds just like us doesn't it?
 - *"How have you loved me... LATELY?"*
 - I'm having a bad day
 - I don't have enough money
 - I'm unhappy in my current situation
 - My life is a wreck...
 - *"How can you say that you love me, God?"*
- How does God respond?
 - I brought you up out of Egypt, and rescued you from Pharaoh?
 - I gave you a fertile land to live in, and delivered you from your enemies?
 - I make it rain so the plants grow, and give you sunlight to warm yourselves?
- No...
 - He says... "Was not Esau Jacob's brother? saith the LORD: yet I loved Jacob"
 - ***What? What kind of an answer is that?***
- Think about who is saying this... "saith the LORD"... Jehovah... Here's the key...
 - I WILL BE MANIFESTED IN WHOM I WILL BE MANIFESTED
- Wasn't Esau the oldest?

- Isn't the inheritance, and heritage, and all the blessings supposed to go to the oldest?
- *"yet I loved Jacob"...*
- That's how I loved you...
 - I chose you...
 - You are my chosen people...
 - You are the people of promise...
- In all justness and fairness it should have gone to the oldest...
 - But, I WILL BE MANIFESTED IN WHOM I WILL BE MANIFESTED
 - I make up the rules here, and I chose Jacob
- Because of that you are in a very privileged position....
 - That is how I loved you...
- Same thing for us...
 - By all of the rules and plans...
 - The promise should have remained with the Jews...
 - But God will be manifested in whom he will be manifested
- He chose us as his people...
 - We are in a very privileged position...
- Don't think of God's Love as what he gives you...
 - Because one day the rain will dry up...
 - The crops will die...
 - The spouse will leave...
 - The house will burn down...
 - The baby will get sick...
 - The faith will get weak...

- Does that mean that God doesn't love you, because he's not giving you things, and making everything nice for you?
- NO!
 - He chose you didn't he?
 - That's how he loves you...
 - You have a promise and a hope...
 - A chance in something that you had no right to...
- But, He gave it to you because he loves you...
- God looks at the big picture, not the little "material" things...
- Malachi 3:6
 - 6) For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.
- I am the LORD...
 - I AM THAT I AM...
 - And I never change...
- Therefore you are not consumed...
 - God wants us to be in His kingdom...
 - He wants us to fill the Earth with His Glory...
- Luke 12:32
 - 32) Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.
- That is His plan...
 - And He NEVER changes...
 - He will realize his plan...
- One of the most powerful things that John Thomas ever said was written in the book, Phanerosis...

- *“Men were not ushered into being for the purpose of being saved or lost! God Manifestation NOT Human Salvation was the great purpose of the Eternal Spirit. The salvation of a multitude is incidental to the manifestation, but was not the end proposed. The Eternal Spirit intended to enthrone Himself on the earth, and in so doing, to develop a Divine family from among men, every one of whom shall be Spirit, because born of the Spirit, and that this family shall be large enough to fill the earth, when perfected, to the entire exclusion of flesh and blood”.*

Phanerosis, Foreword

- EXPLAIN

- Jesus was already like God...
- That is why he said... *“I and my Father are one”*
- John 10:30-34

- 30) I and my Father are one.
- 31) Then the Jews took up stones again to stone him.
- 32) Jesus answered them, Many good works have I shewed you from my Father; for which of those works do ye stone me?
- 33) The Jews answered him, saying, For a good work we stone thee not; but for blasphemy; and because that thou, being a man, makest thyself God.
- 34) Jesus answered them, Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are gods?

- WE must be like our Lord Jesus and Our God also...
- This promise of being IN GOD and IN CHRIST, is developed further in John 17...
- John 17:20-26

- 20) Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;

- The promise is for those who believe on him through the Word

- 21) That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, **that they also may be one in us**: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

- You see...

- It really isn't a Trinity after all...
- It's something MUCH BIGGER than that...

- It's not Three that are One

- It's a multitude that is ONE with God and ONE with Jesus

- We are to be like our God and our Saviour Jesus...

- We are all to be ONE

22) And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:

- Jesus did his best to pass on to us this understanding and desire

23) I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.

- We are only made perfect when we are made One with God...

- We are incomplete without the Face of God

24) Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world.

- Beholding the Face of Jesus helps us to be One with God

25) O righteous Father, the world hath not known thee: but I have known thee, and these have known that thou hast sent me.

26) And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them.

- God promises a day when He will fill the earth with His Glory

- We will no longer be our sinful, carnal, mortal selves

- But, God will be IN us, even as he was IN Jesus...

- And we, shall be God

- 1st Corinthians 15:25-28

25) For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet.

26) The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.

27) For he hath put all things under his feet. But when he saith all things are put under him, it is manifest that he is excepted, which did put all things under him.

28) And when all things shall be subdued unto him, then shall the Son also himself be subject unto him that put all things under him, that God may be **ALL IN ALL.**

- And how do we become part of this Promise?

- Galatians 3:26-29

- 26) For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.
- 27) For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.
- 28) There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.
- 29) And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

- By Baptism into Christ, we TAKE ON THE NAME OF GOD...

- Don't take the name of God in vain...

- Don't do it for silly reasons...

- Don't do it for the wrong reasons...
- Because you feel pressured to
- Because all of your friends are
- Because you want to impress someone
- Because you don't want to be left out...

- Jesus taught the same principle...

- Luke 9:59-62

- 59) And he said unto another, Follow me. But he said, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father.
- 60) Jesus said unto him, Let the dead bury their dead: but go thou and preach the kingdom of God.
- 61) And another also said, Lord, I will follow thee; but let me first go bid them farewell, which are at home at my house.
- 62) And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.

- Luke 14:26-33

- 26) If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.
- 27) And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.
- 28) For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?

- 29) Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him,
- 30) Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish.
- 31) Or what king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand?
- 32) Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sendeth an ambassage, and desireth conditions of peace.
- 33) So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.

- God wants us to serve Him

- Luke 12:32

- 32) Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

- But, we need to commit ourselves to serving Him and only Him

- We need to take on the saving name of Christ...

- But, we have to be serious about our commitment to Him

- We should not take it lightly

- We need to respect God's name and what it represents in our lives

- ***Write this in your own words...***