

## Episode #333 We Establish the Law 9: Misconceptions Concerning the Law

I. Paul said in Romans 3:31, “We Establish the Law.” We are not under the law, but with proper teaching, we establish the law in its rightful place. That is what we will be seeking to do through this current series.

II. The Ten Commandments were in fact the ten terms of a covenant God made with the people of Israel. Much is made of these Ten Commandments in religious circles today, and yet little is known of what the Bible actually teaches about them. This leads to many misconceptions.

III. Misconceptions Concerning the Law.

- A. The law is not a perfect transcript of the mind of God.
  - 1. The Ten Commandments were the ten terms of a covenant between God and Israel. Exodus 34:28, Deuteronomy 4:13, 5:2, 9:9, 15.
  - 2. The law only goes so far. John 1:17. Moses gave something, but Christ brought everything. The height of truth is found in the Son.
- B. There is no such thing as a “moral” and “ceremonial” law.
  - 1. There is a difference between the Ten Commandments and the judgments that follow. But it is wrong to say that the Ten were the “moral law” and the judgments were the “ceremonial law” (in order to bind the “moral law” on all men while leaving the “ceremonial law” for Israel.)
  - 2. The Law of Moses was a unit.
    - a. Romans 7:7. “Thou shalt not covet,” one of the Ten, is called “the law.”
    - b. I Corinthians 9:9. “Muzzle the ox,” not of the Ten, is called “the law.”
  - 3. The highest moral teaching is found in Leviticus 18-20, not in the Ten.
- C. You could not bring a sacrifice for breaking the Ten Commandments.
  - 1. Numbers 15:32-36. He was not allowed to bring a sacrifice for forgiveness.
  - 2. The death penalty was commanded for breaking 8 of the 10.
    - a. First commandment – Exodus 22:20.
    - b. Second commandment – Deuteronomy 17:2-5.
    - c. Third commandment – Leviticus 24:16.
    - d. Fourth commandment – Exodus 31:15.
    - e. Fifth commandment – Exodus 21:17.
    - f. Sixth commandment – Exodus 21:12.
    - g. Seventh commandment – Leviticus 20:10.
    - h. Ninth commandment – Deuteronomy 19:15-21.
  - 3. The death penalty shows that there was no sacrifice for breaking these!
- D. The law could be kept.
  - 1. It is constantly affirmed that the law could not be kept, and no one ever did. But which one of the Ten Commandments could not be kept?
  - 2. Luke 1:6. Zecharias and Elizabeth were keeping the law.
  - 3. Philippians 3:6. Paul was blameless regarding the law.

IV. Conclusion: Paul places importance upon teaching the law lawfully. The Ten Commandments were the ten terms of a covenant God was making with Israel. It is not a perfect transcript of the mind of God, there is no “moral” and “ceremonial” law, there was no sacrifice for breaking the Ten Commandments, and the law could be kept. Yet our job is not to please God through the law, but through our faith in Jesus Christ. Praise God for His inestimable gift of Christ, our righteousness!