

## EXPLORING GOD'S WORD LESSON 4b

[Read Exodus 19:1-6]

After delivering the Children of Israel from Egyptian bondage, the Lord brought them through the Red Sea and to Mt Sinai. At Mt. Sinai, God makes a covenant with Children of Israel and gives them the Law.

The best-known portion of the law is the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17)

However, there were 613 commandments in all.

The Law separated Israel from other nations.

The Law revealed to Israel the nature of God.

The Law was a school master intended to show Israel their need for a savior.

### I. THE LAW CAN BE DIVIDED UP INTO THREE CATEGORIES:

#### 1. The Moral Law:

These are laws dealing with basic right and wrong.

Includes: laws regarding murder, adultery, theft, lying, sexual sins, idolatry, etc.

These commandments are based on nature of God. E.g. God is just, therefore the unjust taking of a life would be wrong. God is true, therefore telling a lie or bearing false witness would violate the very nature of God.

These laws never change, because God's nature never changes.

#### 2. The Civil Law:

These laws pertained specifically to daily conduct within the civil society of Israel.

Includes: laws regarding business transactions, suits, & personal liability (See Deut. 24:10-11)

#### 3. The Ceremonial Law:

These were laws pertaining to the religion of Israel and their worship of Jehovah under the Old Covenant

Includes: dietary codes, circumcision, holidays, sacrifices, priesthood, tabernacle, etc.

The ceremonial law was in place to:

- a. Teach Israel about their own sinfulness and the means of redemption.
- b. Serve as a foreshadow of things to come and to provide a path of national relationship with God. Most of the ceremonial law pointed to Christ or an aspect of salvation.

[Read Hebrews 10:1-4 & Colossians 2:16-17]

Jesus fulfilled the ceremonial Law. One great example of this is Passover commandment (Exodus 12:14) and its fulfillment in Communion (1 Cor 5:7-8).

### II. THE TABERNACLE PLAN:

#### **Exodus 25:8-9 (KJV 1900)**

**8** And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them.

**9** According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so shall ye make it.

The tabernacle was a portable tent designed to be a place of communion with God. Eventually, when Israel settled in the promised land, they would be a permanent structure called the temple.

Three sections: Outer Court, Holy Place, and Holiest of Holies.

The tabernacle was a pattern given by God and represented Israel's approach to God. If they were going to have a relationship with God, as a nation, it would center around and run through the tabernacle.

[Read Hebrews 8:3-5]

God designated one tribe to be a tribe of priests – the tribe of Levi (the entire book of Leviticus is written to provide them with instructions on how to keep the tabernacle, perform sacrifices, and atone for sins).

1. One Door – Jesus is the door (John 10:9).
2. The Brazen Altar – A place of sacrifice, death and shed blood.  
**Leviticus 17:11 (KJV 1900)**  
11 For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.  
Fulfilled: Hebrews 9:28 The Brazen Altar foreshadowed our repentance.
3. The Brazen Laver – A place of washing and cleansing by water.  
**Exodus 30:20 (KJV 1900)**  
20 When they go into the tabernacle of the congregation, they shall wash with water, that they die not...  
Fulfilled: Acts 22:16 The Brazen Laver foreshadowed our baptism.
4. The Holy Place – A place of Worship.
  - a. (Table of Shew Bread, Golden Candle, Altar of Incense)
5. The Holiest of Holies – A place of communion and the Spirit of God. The Holiest of Holies foreshadowed us becoming the temple of the Holy Ghost
  - a. It housed the Ark of the Covenant – [Read Exodus 25:10-11, 19-22]
    - i. Inside the ark was; Aaron's rod that budded, the Ten Commandments and a pot of manna.
  - b. Only the High Priest could enter this part of the Tabernacle, once per year.
  - c. He could never enter without blood.
  - d. This was separated from the rest of the tabernacle with a vail or a curtain.

That veil was torn into when Christ died. Showing that the way to God was now open to everyone.

**Luke 23:45 (KJV 1900)**

45 And the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was rent in the midst.

[Conclude by reading Hebrews 10:19-22]