

God First Loved Us...In His Law

Introduction:

1. We started our series of with looking at, "God first loved us...In His Creation", now we are going to be looking at the next lesson in God first loved us...In His Law".
2. Continuing with the Illustration from last week, parents taking care of their children in preparing the way for them before the come into the world. Well now let's look at a parents love in giving their children rules. A law or rules is not given to be mean or just to get the parents way, but most rules are for the child's best interest.
3. God, since the beginning of time has given a law or rules for our best interest.
4. We need to see God's law as love from God because He knows what is best not only for our physical well-being but also in our spiritual well-being.

Body:

- A. What is law? (What the parents says goes...as long as they live under your house)
 1. It is any command from God, that is still applicable to the here and now
 - a. There are commands given in the Bible that are no longer applicable and are no longer God's law today
 - b. No more a law of God: sacrifice animals, no altar, no temple, not the building of an ark, etc...
 2. Without law there would be no sin
 3. Law gives us insight into the mind of God and His nature
 - a. He does not want us to lie, God can't lie
 - b. He wants us to love, God is love
 - c. He wants us to have what's best in mind of the people around us, God has our best interest in mind and the list goes on...
- B. God has never left man without Law (The more we know about God, the more we are responsible for, these stages of man and law remind of the stages of rules for children. Children get more or less rules as they grow older and mature...Kids at the age of 7, don't have a rule about how to treat the car..)
 1. In the Garden (They knew not of sin or shame)
 - a. Genesis 1:28
 - b. Genesis 2:15-17
 - c. Once they learned of sin. There came new laws...which takes us to the next set of laws
 2. Patriarchal age (They now knew of sin and now had greater responsibilities, this continued even during the Law of Moses, for those who were not Jews)
 - a. Genesis 4:3-8
 - b. Genesis 5:13- no punishment where there is no law, so therefore they had a law
 - c. Genesis 9:6-7
 - d. Genesis 12:7-9- we know Abraham continued this everywhere he went
 - e. Job 1:1, 5
 3. Mosaic age (God had a special people, with a special law)
 - a. Exodus 20:1-17
 - b. Exodus 22 (Laws of property)
 - c. Exodus 23 (Administration of Justice)
 - d. Exodus 25 (Instructions for a place of worship)

- e. Exodus 28 (Priesthood)
- f. Temple worship
 - i Building of the temple 1 Kings 6
 - ii 1 Kings 8:6
 - iii The furnishing of the temple- 2 Chronicles 4
- 4. Christian Age (Now all men had the Messiah and are required to follow the Law of Christ)
 - a. Hebrews 7:12, 22
 - b. Hebrews 8:6-13- This was looked forward too
 - c. Galatians 6:2; 1 Cor. 9:21- "Law of Christ"
- C. God has always given law for our best interest
 - 1. In the Garden- God, wanted them to be free from the burden of sin
 - 2. Patriarchal Age- They now, knew of sin and God gave them rules governing their sin problem
 - 3. Mosaic Age- God, wanted to keep His people clean and to bring forth the Messiah
 - 4. Christian Age- Now that the Messiah has come and saved the world, God wants all men to desire to be like Christ and receive their eternal reward.

Conclusion:

1. Just as a parent does not make rule, to be mean or to be in charge, God wants us all to receive the gift of righteousness and therefore He has given us His law.
2. Now the question is, what are we going to do with His Law?
3. Invitation