

## *Lesson 31: The Law of God*

**Memory Verse:** Romans 7:12 "Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good."

### **I. The Law is a Transcript of God's Character**

1. 1 John 4:8 "God is \_\_\_\_\_."  
Romans 13:10 "\_\_\_\_\_ is the fulfilling of the \_\_\_\_\_."  
Therefore His Law is \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Leviticus 11:44 God says "I am \_\_\_\_\_."  
Romans 7:12 "Wherefore the Law is \_\_\_\_\_."
3. Psalm 18:30 "As for God, His way is \_\_\_\_\_", so God is \_\_\_\_\_.  
Psalm 19:7 "The Law of the Lord is \_\_\_\_\_."
4. Psalm 34:8 "The Lord is \_\_\_\_\_."  
1 Timothy 1:8 "We know that the Law is \_\_\_\_\_."
5. John 14:6 Jesus said "I am the way, the \_\_\_\_\_ and the life."  
Psalm 119:142 "Thy Law is the \_\_\_\_\_."
6. Jeremiah 23:6 "This is the name whereby He shall be called:  
The Lord Our \_\_\_\_\_", so God is \_\_\_\_\_.  
Psalm 119:172 "All Thy commandments are \_\_\_\_\_."
7. 1 John 1:5 "God is \_\_\_\_\_."  
Proverbs 6:23 "The Law is \_\_\_\_\_."
8. 1 Corinthians 10:4 "And did all drink the same \_\_\_\_\_ drink: for they  
drank of that \_\_\_\_\_ Rock that followed them: and that \_\_\_\_\_  
was \_\_\_\_\_." So Christ [God] is S\_\_\_\_\_  
Romans 7:14 "For we know that the Law is \_\_\_\_\_."
9. 1 Corinthians 1:9 "God is \_\_\_\_\_."  
Psalm 119:86 "All Thy Commandments are \_\_\_\_\_."
10. 1 John 3:2,3 "He [God] is \_\_\_\_\_."  
Psalm 19:8 "The Commandment of the Lord is \_\_\_\_\_."
11. Deuteronomy 32:4 "\_\_\_\_\_ and right is He [God]."  
Romans 7:12 "The Commandment is holy, \_\_\_\_\_, and good."

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12. Malachi 3:6 God says, "I am the Lord, I \_\_\_\_\_ not."  
 Matthew 5:18 "For verily I say unto you, Till \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
 pass, one \_\_\_\_\_ or one \_\_\_\_\_ shall in \_\_\_\_\_ wise \_\_\_\_\_ from the  
 \_\_\_\_\_, till all be fulfilled." Is any part of the Law to be changed? YES NO  
 His Law does not \_\_\_\_\_.

13. Isaiah 40:28 God is "the \_\_\_\_\_ God."  
 Psalm 111:7,8 "The works of his hands are \_\_\_\_\_ and judgment; all his  
 \_\_\_\_\_ are \_\_\_\_\_. They stand fast for \_\_\_\_\_ and  
 \_\_\_\_\_, and are done in truth and uprightness." His Law is \_\_\_\_\_.

14. So we have learned that the C \_\_\_\_\_ of God and the L \_\_\_\_\_ of  
 God are the same things. What are they:

L _____	T _____	P _____
H _____	R _____	J _____
P _____	L _____	Does not C _____
G _____	S _____	E _____
	F _____	

**Note:** "It is essential to our eternal well-being to know more of God; for love to God depends on a conception of His **goodness**, His **excellence**, and a knowledge of His **will**. It requires an appreciation of His **character**. His law is the transcript of His character, and this law He calls upon us to obey. **God calls for an entire surrender of the entire being**. 'Thou shalt have no other gods before Me,' is the first great command, and **upon this command depends all the rest**. This is the substance of all obedience. Let those who profess to be Christians remember that profession will not save them. The life which Christ alone can give is given upon **condition** of obedience, an obedience which takes in the whole man, – mind, heart, soul, and strength. This is true sanctification. 'This do, and thou shalt live,' is the only genuine definition of sanctification." ST, August 2, 1899 par. 2

### **II. Can the Law be Changed?**

15. As we learned above, the Law of God is a transcript of God's C \_\_\_\_\_.  
 That means that it describes His character. The only way to change His Law would be to  
 change His C \_\_\_\_\_. Is that possible? YES NO

**Note:** "The law of God, from its very nature, is **unchangeable**. It is a revelation of the will and the character of its Author. **God is love**, and His law is love. Its two great principles are love to God and love to man. 'Love is the fulfilling of the law.' Romans 13:10. The character of God is righteousness and truth; such is the nature of His law. ... **Such a law, being an expression of the mind and will of God, must be as enduring as its Author.**" GC 467.1

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16. God Himself says in Malachi 3:6: "I am the Lord, I \_\_\_\_\_ not."  
Hebrews 13:8 says that "Jesus Christ [is] the \_\_\_\_\_ yesterday, and to day, and \_\_\_\_\_." God does not C\_\_\_\_\_.

17. Jesus said in Matthew 5:17-18: "Think \_\_\_\_\_ that I am come to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_, or the prophets: I am \_\_\_\_\_ come to \_\_\_\_\_, but to \_\_\_\_\_.  
For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth \_\_\_\_\_, one \_\_\_\_\_ or one \_\_\_\_\_ shall in \_\_\_\_\_ wise pass from the \_\_\_\_\_, till all be fulfilled."

**Note:** "Fulfill" means "to cause God's will (as made known in the Law) to be obeyed as it should be." [Thayer's Bible Dictionary] So Jesus did not come to C\_\_\_\_\_ or to destroy the Law, but to perfectly obey it. In Strong's Concordance some of the meanings given for "fulfill" are "to make replete, to cram, to level up" it gives the idea of filling up as full as it can be. This is what Jesus did with the law. He obeyed it as fully as it could be obeyed.

"Jesus came to **represent the character of God in living out the holy law** of Jehovah. In every lesson He gave to His disciples and to the people He sought to define clearly its principles. **By personal obedience to the law** He invested the common duties of life with a holy significance. He lived a man among men. ... He lived among the people, He shared their poverty and their griefs. He dignified life in all its details by keeping before men the glory of God, and by subordinating everything to the will of His Father. **His life was characterized by supreme love to God, and fervent love to His fellow men.**

"**His life from its beginning to its close, was one of self-denial and self-sacrifice.** Upon the cross of Calvary He made the great sacrifice of Himself in behalf of all men, that the whole world might have salvation if they would. Christ was hid in God, and **God stood revealed to the world in the character of His Son.**

"**Love for a lost world was manifested every day, in every act of His life.** Those who are imbued by His Spirit **will work in the same lines** as those in which Christ worked. In Christ the light and love of God were manifested in human nature. No human being has ever possessed so sensitive a nature as did the sinless, holy One of God, who stood as head and representative of **what humanity may become** through the imparting of the divine nature. To those who believe in Christ as their personal Saviour, He imputes His merit and imparts His power. To those who come to Him with their burden of grief, disappointments, and trials, He will give rest and peace. It is through the grace of Christ that the soul sees his need of repentance toward God ... and is led to look to Christ by faith, realizing that His merit is efficacious to save to the uttermost all who come unto God by Him. ... **Let us open our hearts to receive the love which it is so essential that we should cultivate in order that we may fulfill the commandments of God.**" TMK 288.2-4

18. In Romans 8:3 it says that God sent His Son to live in human flesh. The reason He did this is given in Romans 8:4: "That the righteousness of the \_\_\_\_\_ might be \_\_\_\_\_ in us, who walk not after the \_\_\_\_\_, but after the \_\_\_\_\_." The word "fulfilled" used here is the same Greek word used in Matt. 5:17. Jesus fully obeyed the law so that He could make it possible for us to "fulfill", or fully obey, the law. "Fulfill" cannot mean "abolish". It means the exact opposite.

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19. Isaiah 42:21 prophesies: "The Lord is well pleased for his righteousness' sake; he will \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_, and make it \_\_\_\_\_."

Instead of doing away with the Law, Jesus M\_\_\_\_\_ it and made it \_\_\_\_\_.

**Note:** "In the precepts of His holy law, God has given a **perfect rule of life**; and He has declared that until the close of time this law, unchanged in a single jot or tittle, is to maintain its claim upon human beings. Christ came to magnify the law and make it honorable. **He showed that it is based upon the broad foundation of love to God and love to man**, and that obedience to its precepts comprises the whole duty of man. **In His own life He gave an example of obedience to the law of God**. In the Sermon on the Mount He showed how its requirements extend beyond the outward acts and take cognizance of the thoughts and intents of the heart." AA 505.1

20. Jesus showed how the law condemns every possible sin because sin is selfishness, not love. He explained two of the commandments and showed that they go deeper than most people think.

a. Matthew 5:21,22: Wrongful anger breaks the \_\_\_\_\_ commandment which says, "Thou shalt not \_\_\_\_\_." (Exodus 20:13)

**Note:** "All **acts of injustice** that tend to shorten life; the **spirit of hatred and revenge**, or the indulgence of any passion that leads to injurious acts toward others, or causes us **even to wish them harm** (for 'whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer'); a **selfish neglect** of caring for the needy or suffering; all self-indulgence or unnecessary deprivation or excessive labor **that tends to injure health** – all these are, to a greater or less degree, violations of the sixth commandment." PP 308.5

b. Matthew 5:27,28: Lust breaks the \_\_\_\_\_ commandment which says "Thou shalt not commit \_\_\_\_\_." (Exodus 20:14)

**Note:** "This commandment forbids **not only acts** of impurity, but sensual **thoughts** and **desires**, or any practice that tends to excite them. Purity is demanded not only in the outward life but **in the secret intents and emotions of the heart**. Christ, who taught the far-reaching obligation of the law of God, declared the evil thought or look to be as truly sin as is the unlawful deed." PP 308.7

21. God tells us in Psalm 89:34: "My covenant will I not break, nor \_\_\_\_\_ the thing that is gone out of my \_\_\_\_\_." God will not alter what He has said.

22. How long will God's law stand? Psalm 111:7,8 "The works of his hands are verity and judgment; \_\_\_\_\_ his \_\_\_\_\_ are \_\_\_\_\_. They stand fast for \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, and are done in truth and uprightness."

God's Law stands for ever and ever.

**Note:** Since the Law is a description of God's character, it has to last as long as God does. Since God is eternal, His law will never be abolished.

"When man, beguiled by Satan's power, disobeyed the divine law, God could not, even to save the lost race, change that law. **God is love, and to change the law would be to deny Himself, to overthrow those principles with which are bound up the good of the universe.**"

Bible Echo, July 15, 1893 par. 4

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23. Jesus tells us in John 14:15: "If ye \_\_\_\_\_ me, keep my \_\_\_\_\_."

**Note:** "He who has the love of God shed abroad in his heart, will reflect the purity and love which exist in Jehovah, and which Christ represented in our world. **He who has the love of God in his heart has no enmity against the law of God, but renders willing obedience to all His commandments, and this constitutes Christianity.** He who has supreme love to God will reveal love to his fellow-men, who belong to God both by creation and redemption. Love is the fulfilling of the law; and it is the duty of every child of God to render obedience to His commandments." SD 51.2

"The law of God, which is perfect holiness, is the **only true standard** of character. **Love is expressed in obedience**, and perfect love casteth out all fear. **Those who love God, have the seal of God in their foreheads, and work the works of God.** Would that all who profess Christianity knew what it means to love God practically. ... They would have some realization of the infinite holiness of God, knowing that He is high and lifted up, and the train of His glory fills the temple. They would have a **powerful influence** upon the life and character of those around them, which would work as leaven amid the mass of humanity, transforming others through the power of Jesus Christ. **Connected with the Source of power, they would never lose their vital influence, but would ever increase in efficiency.**" SD 51.3