

Discipleship:
An
Introduction to
Systematic Theology and
Apologetics

The Doctrines of Redemption: The Law

The Heights Church February 26, 2017

Why are we meeting? (review)

For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are **without excuse**. For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. **Claiming to be wise, they became fools**, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things. (Romans 1:19-23)

For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. (2 Timothy 4:3-2)

Why are we meeting? (review)

“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and **make disciples** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, **teaching** them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, **I am with you always, to the end of the age.**” Matthew 28:18-20

- **disciples = believing learners or learning believers**

For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those who do evil.” Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil. (1 Peter 1: 12-17)

The Law – The Ten Commandments: numbering differences (Review)

Septuagint & Calvin's Institutes	Luther's Large Catechism	Roman Catholic Catechism	Paraphrased passage Exodus 20: (verse)
NA	NA	1	I am the LORD your God (2)
1	1	1	No other gods before me (3)
2	NA	1	No carved image (4-6)
3	2	2	Don't take LORD's name in vain (7)
4	3	3	Keep the Sabbath day Holy (8-11)
5	4	4	Honor your father and mother (12)
6	5	5	Do not murder (13)
7	6	6	Do not commit adultery (14)
8	7	7	Do not steal (15)
9	8	8	Do not lie (16)
10	9	10	Do not covet neighbor's house (17a)
10	10	9	Do not covet neighbor's wife (17b)
10	10	10	Do not covet anything else (17c)

The Law – The Ten Commandments

- **The Ten Commandments follows the structure of a royal treaty.**

1. Preamble identifying the king and

2. A historical prologue sketching previous gracious acts towards the people.

I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. (Exodus 20:2)

I am the LORD who brought you out from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to possess." (Genesis 15:7)

3. The treaty (covenant) stipulations

- **Israel's King is the LORD and Israel is his subjects.**
- **Therefore, Israel is to be in complete submission, allegiance and obedience out of gratitude for his mercies, revere his sovereignty, and trust in his continuing care.**

The Law – The Ten Commandments # 1

You shall have **no other gods *before*** me. (Exodus 20:3)

- The pagan nations had many gods.
- ***before*** The Hebrew word is translated as *over against* in Genesis 16:12. In other words no deity is to rival God in Israel's heart and life.
- The foundation of the entire law is to adore God with humble reverence and set our affections entirely on him.

Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets." (Matthew 22:36-40)

The Law – The Ten Commandments # 1

You shall have **no other gods before** me. (Exodus 20:3)

"Now this is the commandment, the statutes and the rules that the LORD your God commanded me to teach you, that you may do them in the land to which you are going over, to possess it, that you may fear the LORD your God, you and your son and your son's son, by keeping all his statutes and his commandments, which I command you, all the days of your life, and that your days may be long. Hear therefore, O Israel, and be careful to do them, that it may go well with you, and that you may multiply greatly, as the LORD, the God of your fathers, has promised you, in a land flowing with milk and honey. "Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. (Deuteronomy 6:1-7)

The Law – The Ten Commandments # 1

You shall have **no other gods *before*** me. (Exodus 20:3)

- **Whatever is loved, feared, delighted in, or depended on, more than God, that we make a god of.**
- **God will know if we break this or any other commandment and he cannot and will not overlook it.**