

## THE CONTENTS OF THE LAW

Read Exodus 20; Deuteronomy 5

1. Many people think and say that a person may be saved by keeping the Ten Commandments. Comment on this in light of the facts that
  - a. Jesus came and died to save people from their sins
  - b. "Cursed is everyone who does not abide by all things written in the book of the law, to perform them" (Galatians 3:10).
  - c. There are many instructions and condemnations in the Bible that are not included in the Ten Commandments (drunkenness, parent's responsibilities toward their children, a husband's attitude toward his wife, doing good to our enemies, etc.).
  - d. Galatians 3:6-29 says [Yes, read it!] we are descendants of Abraham (people of covenant, heirs of promise) not on the basis of law but of faith. Note verses 19-29 especially.
2. What does the New Testament say about the duration of the Ten Commandments? See 2 Corinthians 3:3-11 and Colossians 2:14, 16-17.
3. Characterize the following categories of laws in the Old Testament. In other words, to what do they pertain? Then cite one example from each category.
  - a. Civil Law (Ex. 21:6, 26-27, 28-29, 33-34; 22:1, 6, 14)
  - b. Moral Law (Lev. 19:16, 17, 32; 20:10; Ex. 21:15; 22:19; Deut. 21:18-21)
  - c. Religious Law (Ex. 22:20; 23:24, 25; Lev. 24:15, 16)
  - d. Ceremonial Law (Lev. 1:2-6; 11: 9, 10; Deut. 16:16, 17)
4. Outline Jesus' answer when He was asked what the greatest commandment is. See Matt. 22:37-40.
  - a. Love for \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Love for \_\_\_\_\_
5. In Romans 13:8-10 Paul says that love for our fellow man fulfills the whole law by addressing a host of specific sins, including \_\_\_\_\_.
6. The Pharisees prided themselves on law-keeping. What was Jesus' assessment of this prideful claim? See Matt. 23:23 and Lk. 11:42.
7. Which is more important, honoring the letter of the law or the spirit of the law? Explain.