

# A New Appreciation For OLD TESTAMENT LAW

Refresh your attitude for the law with these seven points

## EQUIPPING A NEW NATION

After being enslaved in Egypt for 400 years, Israel is to be an independent nation. This is a big task. God painstakingly tells them what they know about being an independent nation, God's chosen people.

Read:

- Exodus 19:1-7

## GOD'S HEART

Old Testament law reveals consistency in God's character and His heart for His creation.

- Overall the law shows God's desire for a relationship with His creation.
- God cares for the lowly (Lev 25:33-55)
- God knows mistakes will happen (Lev 4:27-28)
- God cares about our heart posture. (Num 15:30-31)
- God is faithful and consistent. (Deut 4:28-31)
- The law illustrates God's desire for the world to know what living for Him looks like. (Deut 4:5-6)

## ATONEMENT

Old Testament law illustrates the wide gap between man and God. It also teaches us about the need for atonement.

Atonement is messy, bloody, personal business. It's serious and desperately needed.

The law consistently points to our need for a more lasting solution. A true redeemer: Jesus

Read:

- Lev 4
- Note 4:15, 4:24, 4:29, 4:32
- Note: how personal to have hands on the animal's head while it is slaughtered for sin.

## GOD WILL PROVIDE A WAY TO LIVE HOLY IN ANY CULTURE

Biblical Law did not attempt to restructure society, but change the way people live within the society they find themselves.

The social structure of Biblical law would have looked familiar, but pioneers new moral ground.

God addressed their society as it was, but provided a way to live holy within that framework.

The law shows that God can teach us to live pleasing to Him no matter what society we find ourselves in.

## TYPES OF LAW

References to the law appear throughout Scripture. Many observing Jesus' earthly ministry would have been familiar with the law. Many in the early Church would have been familiar with the law.

There are three types of law:

- **Ceremonial law:** many fulfilled by Jesus; no longer observed because the Temple is no longer standing
- **Civil law:** specific law for Israel in that time and culture
- **Moral law:** still applicable today, seen in the teachings/letters of the New Testament

## JESUS VALUED THE LAW

Jesus understood the law and valued it.

Read:

- Matthew 5:17-18

## GOD IS SPEAKING

Most of the Law is spoken directly by God. These books are a direct record of things God Himself said.