



Kanawha Valley Church

KVC

Old Testament
Survey

Final Class



The Law



Uses of “Law”

- “laws” = 600+ commands
- “law” = refer to all of the commands
- “law” = Pentateuch (Book of Law)
- “law” in NT = OT Religious System
- “law” in NT = OT as interpreted by rabbis

Christians & The Law

1. The OT Law is a Covenant

Covenants 101

- All-powerful suzerain (overlord) and a weaker dependant vassal (servant)
- Guaranteed vassal benefits & protection
- Pledges vassal's loyalty to suzerain
- Vassal proved loyalty by keeping agreed upon stipulations
- Loyalty tested by adherence to stipulations

Christians & The Law

1. The OT Law is a Covenant
2. The Old Testament is not *our* Testament....unless they are renewed!
3. Two kinds of stipulations clearly *have not* been renewed
 1. Civil law
 2. Ritual law
4. Part of the OT has been renewed in the New Testament
5. The OT Law is God's Word *for* us even though it is not God's Word *to* us
6. Reminds us of our covenant!

*When you build a new house,
make a parapet around your roof
so that you may not bring the guilt
of bloodshed on your house if
someone falls from the roof.*

Deuteronomy 22:8

OT Law Benefit to Israel

- Superior Ethics – Ex. 20:13
- The Food Laws – Lev. 11:7
- Laws About Shedding of Blood – Lev. 4
- Unusual Prohibitions – Dt. 14:21
- Laws Giving Blessings to Those Who Keep Them – D. 14:28-29

The Prophets

Enforcing the Covenant in Israel



Function of Prophecy in Israel

- Prophets were covenant enforcement mediators
- Prophets' message was NOT their own
- Prophets were God's direct representatives
- The prophets' message is unoriginal (Lev. 26, Dt. 4 & 28)

Understanding Prophecy

- Need for outside help:
 - Bible Dictionaries
 - Bible Commentaries
 - Bible Handbooks

Example

*“Sound the trumpet in Gibeah,
the horn in Ramah.
Raise the battle cry in Beth Aven;
lead on, Benjamin.
Ephraim will be laid waste
on the day of reckoning.
Among the tribes of Israel
I proclaim what is certain.
Judah’s leaders are like those
who move boundary stones.
I will pour out my wrath on them
like a flood of water.*

Hosea 5:8-10

See II Kings 16:5-9

Understanding Prophecy

- Need for outside help:
 - Bible Dictionaries
 - Bible Commentaries
 - Bible Handbooks
- Prophets as poets
- Prophets as future tellers
- Prophecy and second meanings

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