

Jesus and the Law

Matt 5:17-20

Q: What is the law? It's the Old Testament truly. Specifically it tends to mean Exodus through Deuteronomy, the last 4 books of what people call the Pentateuch.

Q: What was the law? Where did it come from? What was it's purpose?

- a. God's directions for living for the Jewish people Exodus 20:1-17
- b. It was meant to separate them from the other nations, to call them as His own special people Exodus 19:4-6 (Titus 2:11-14)
- c. It was meant to show them sinful and wrong behavior and outline God's holy requirement Romans 7:7-11
- d. It was perfect, holy, good Romans 7:12
- e. It is a tutor for us to show us our need for Christ and how Christ fulfilled the law for us. Gal 3:10-14, 19-25

Q: What does Jesus mean by fulfill? Lk 24:27 All scripture speaks of Him, His nature, His character, and our need of Him as redeemer. As He fulfilled the law His sacrifice at the cross then was able to offer us perfect righteousness. Our failure at every level was replaced by His success at every level. 1 Cor 5:7, 2 Cor 5:21, Col 2:13-15, John 17:4, John 19:30

Q: What does Jesus mean by righteousness surpassing the Pharisees? Their righteousness was by the law but God says Romans 3:19-20, that none shall be justified. James 2:10 Perfection is called for and none have it. Isa 64:6 The just shall live by faith. Gal 3:11

Q: What does this mean for the remainder of the sermon on the mount? Jesus will open up the law to remind us about the heart of it all. No one could keep it yet it keeps us from even greater sin as the Spirit convicts us at the heart level. Apart from the Spirit, the rest of this sermon, just as all thus far, is impossible to keep.

Note: "least in the kingdom of heaven" does not mean they will be in the kingdom but rather, with a kingdom mindset, these will be recognized as the least of all men, justly condemned.