

# Study Guide #11 – The Immutable Law of God

XI. That God's moral requirements are the same upon all men in all dispensations; that these are summarily contained in the commandments spoken by Jehovah from Sinai, engraven on the tables of stone, and deposited in the ark, which was in consequence called the "ark of the covenant," or testament. Num. 10:33, Heb. 9:4, etc.; that this law is immutable and perpetual, being a transcript of the tables deposited in the ark in the true sanctuary on high, which is also, for the same reason, called the ark of God's testament; for under the sounding of the seventh trumpet we are told that "the temple of God was opened in Heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament." Rev. 11:19.

## 1. That God's moral requirements are the same upon all men in all dispensations

### • The Old Testament Dispensation:

**Genesis 26:5** "Because that Abraham obeyed my voice, and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws."

**Exodus 12:49** "One law shall be to him that is homeborn, and unto the stranger that sojourneth among you."

**Leviticus 24:22** "Ye shall have one manner of law, as well for the stranger, as for one of your own country: for I am the LORD your God."

**Numbers 15:15, 16, 29** "One ordinance shall be both for you of the congregation, and also for the stranger that sojourneth with you, an ordinance for ever in your generations: as ye are, so shall the stranger be before the LORD. <sup>16</sup> One law and one manner shall be for you, and for the stranger that sojourneth with you. . . . <sup>29</sup> Ye shall have one law for him that sinneth through ignorance, both for him that is born among the children of Israel, and for the stranger that sojourneth among them."

**Isaiah 56:2, 3, 6, 7** "Blessed is the man that doeth this, and the son of man that layeth hold on it; that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it, and keepeth his hand from doing any evil. <sup>3</sup> Neither let the son of the stranger, that hath joined himself to the LORD, speak, saying, The LORD hath utterly separated me from his people: neither let the eunuch say, Behold, I am a dry tree. . . . <sup>6</sup> Also the sons of the stranger, that join themselves to the LORD, to serve him, and to love the name of the LORD, to be his servants, every one that keepeth the sabbath from polluting it, and taketh hold of my covenant; <sup>7</sup> Even them will I bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer: their burnt offerings and their sacrifices [shall be] accepted upon mine altar; for mine house shall be called an house of prayer for all people." (see the entire chapter)

### • The New Testament Dispensation:

**Acts 10:34** "Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons."

**Romans 3:19-23** "Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God. <sup>20</sup> Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the

law is the knowledge of sin. <sup>21</sup> But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; <sup>22</sup> Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference: <sup>23</sup> For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.”

**1 John 3:4** “Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.”

**Revelation 14:12** “Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.”

**Revelation 22:14** “Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.”

### **Thought Question(s):**

- 1. Is there is one commandment more than any other that has become the special object of attack against the Law of God? If so, which one?
- 2. Why do you think this is?

2. That these are summarily contained in the commandments spoken by Jehovah from Sinai, engraven on the tables of stone, and deposited in the ark, which was in consequence called the “ark of the covenant,” or testament. Num. 10:33, Heb. 9:4, etc. Heb. 8:1-5, etc.

### • **The commandments were written by very the finger of God on tables of stone:**

**Exodus 31:18** “And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God.”

**Exodus 32:15, 16** “And Moses turned, and went down from the mount, and the two tables of the testimony were in his hand: the tables were written on both their sides; on the one side and on the other were they written. <sup>16</sup> And the tables were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, graven upon the tables.”

### • **The law or the ten commandments were the words of God’s covenant and his testimony:**

**Exodus 31:18** “And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, *two tables of testimony*, tables of stone, written with the finger of God.”

**Exodus 34:28** “And he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he did neither eat bread, nor drink water. And he wrote upon the tables *the words of the covenant*, the ten commandments.”

**Deuteronomy 9:11** “And it came to pass at the end of forty days and forty nights, that the LORD gave me the two tables of stone, even the tables of the covenant.”

- **The ark contained the ten commandments, therefore it was called the ark of the covenant and the ark of the testimony:**

**Exodus 40:20** “And he took and put *the testimony into the ark*, and set the staves on the ark, and put the mercy seat above upon the ark.”

**Numbers 10:33** “And they departed from the mount of the LORD three days' journey: and *the ark of the covenant of the LORD* went before them in the three days' journey, to search out a resting place for them.”

**Hebrews 9:4** “Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and *the tables of the covenant*.”

### **Thought Question(s)**

- 1. Why do you think the Law of God is called his “Testimony” or “Testament”?

3. That this law is immutable and perpetual, being a transcript of the tables deposited in the ark in the true sanctuary on high, which is also, for the same reason, called the ark of God's testament; for under the sounding of the seventh trumpet we are told that “the temple of God was opened in Heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament.” Rev. 11:19.

### **This law is immutable & perpetual:**

**Matthew 5:17, 18** “Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. <sup>18</sup> For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.”

**Psalms 19:7** “The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.”

### **It is a transcript of the tables deposited in the ark in the true sanctuary on high**

**Hebrews 8:5** “Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, [that] thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount.”

### **The Ark was seen in the temple in heaven**

**Revelation 11:19** “And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.”

### **Thought Question(s):**

- What makes the Law of God immutable & perpetual?
- What significance does it hold that the law in the earthly tabernacle, was patterned after an original which is in an ark in heaven?