

God and Man

The Old is Taken Away-The New is Established (Slide 1)

The first Covenant was established by God and given to Israel through God's spokesman Moses. The Moral code, the Ten Commandments, was written in tablets of stone by the "finger of God."

The first tablet was broken by Moses as a reaction to the rebellion and unbelief of Israelites.

It was God who told Moses what the Israelites were doing and that Moses needed to return to them:

Exodus 32:7 (Slide 2)

And the LORD said to Moses, "Go, get down! For your people whom you brought out of the land of Egypt have corrupted themselves.

The Lord God was extremely angry with the people and would have likely destroyed them had Moses not interceded on their behalf.

Exodus 32:11-14 (Slide 3)

¹¹ Then Moses pleaded with the LORD his God, and said: "LORD, why does Your wrath burn hot against Your people whom You have brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? ¹² Why should the Egyptians speak, and say, (Slide 4) 'He brought them out to harm them, to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from Your fierce wrath, and relent from this harm to Your people. ¹³ Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, Your servants, to whom You swore by Your own self, and said to them,

(Slide 5) *'I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven; and all this land that I have spoken of I give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.'* " ¹⁴ So the LORD relented from the harm which He said He would do to His people.

I think it is interesting that Moses' anger seemed under control until he saw first hand the celebration, the dancing and rebellion, then he lost control.

Exodus 32:15-20 (Slide 6)

¹⁵ *And Moses turned and went down from the mountain, and the two tablets of the Testimony were in his hand. The tablets were written on both sides; on the one side and on the other they were written.* ¹⁶ *Now the tablets were the work of God, (Slide 7) and the writing was the writing of God engraved on the tablets.*

¹⁷ *And when Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, "There is a noise of war in the camp."*

(Slide 8) ¹⁸ *But he said:*

*"It is not the noise of the shout of victory,
Nor the noise of the cry of defeat,
But the sound of singing I hear."*

¹⁹ *So it was, as soon as he came near the camp, that he saw the calf and the dancing. So Moses' anger became hot, (Slide 9) and he cast the tablets out of his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain.* ²⁰ *Then he took the calf which they had made, burned it in the fire, and ground it to powder; and he scattered it on the water and made the children of Israel drink it.*

Because of disappointment and anger Moses confronted Aaron and said to him, "How does something like this happen? How did they convince you to take part in such a rebellious act? Did they force you by threatening to harm you or to kill you?"

Exodus 32:21 (Slide 10)

And Moses said to Aaron, "What did this people do to you that you have brought so great a sin upon them?"

When you read where the people approached Aaron to get him to build the golden calf-this idol, it doesn't appear it took much convincing. He said bring me the material and I'll build it. When it was finished he even built an altar before it.

His excuse was, Moses you know what kind of people they are he responds to Moses question in:

Exodus 32:22 (Slide 11)

So Aaron said, "Do not let the anger of my lord become hot. You know the people, that they are set on evil."

Seems Aaron is saying, you know the kind of people they are. Their heart is evil and they would have continued to hound me until I gave in. It was inevitable. It's their nature.

I have included more of this circumstance between God and the people than I originally intended. However, as I considered this situation I thought just how relatable this type of human nature is and how it exists yet today perhaps a hundredfold.

I also thought as I prepared this lesson and re-read these events that isn't it a wonder that God would make a covenant with any man in the first place. He

even called these people "stiff-necked" as He sent Moses down the mountain.

But God's ways are not our ways, nor His thoughts our thoughts.

In Exodus 34 God re-establishes His covenant with the people.

One of the most incredible characteristics of God is His patience and forgiveness. Listen to this exchange between Moses

Exodus 34:27-28 (Slide 12)

²⁷ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Write these words, for according to the tenor of these words I have made a covenant with you and with Israel." ²⁸ So he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he neither ate bread nor drank water. And He wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the Ten Commandments.

The Law of Moses was then established, the covenant between God and Man. A moral code that included commands toward God, relationships between mankind.

In all there were 600 plus laws created for man to observe and to administer.

Much of what we read in the Old Testament concerning moral law is also found in the New Testament. Jesus Himself refers to these timeless laws as a staple in serving God faithfully.

Deuteronomy 6:5 (Slide 13)

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength.

Where faithful service begins. The Love for God!

Leviticus 19:18 (Slide 14)

You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.

Jesus said in:

Matthew 22:40 (Slide 15)

"On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

Because these are the greatest commandments! They are found in more places in the New Testament!

Galatians 5:14 (Slide 16)

For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

James 2:8 (Slide 17)

If you really fulfill the royal law (kingly, Laws given from the King of Heaven) according to the Scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself," you do well

All because we love God! These laws of morality exist even under the New Covenant through Christ.

The Psalmist writes:

Psalm 119:89 (Slide 18)

*Forever, O LORD,
Your word is settled in heaven.*

God knew from the foundation of the world that what the Old Covenant could not do, a New Covenant must.

Jeremiah speaks of the New Covenant to come:

Jeremiah 31:31-34 (Slide 19)

³¹ "Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah— ³² not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the (Slide 20) land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; (Slide 21) and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. ³⁴ No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."

The Hebrew writer virtually records the very same thing.

The New Covenant did away with the method of which man could come before God, having in the Old his sins rolled back until the coming of Christ

and afterward, now sanctified in the atonement freely given from the blood of Christ.

Hebrews 10:9-10 (Slide 22)

⁹ then He said, "Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God." He takes away the first that He may establish the second. ¹⁰ By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

2 Corinthians 3:4-6 (Slide 23)

⁴ And we have such trust through Christ toward God. ⁵ Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God, ⁶ who also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

Today, we are thankfully under the Law of Christ. It isn't about rule keeping, adhering to a strict rigid ritualist way to worship but worship in spirit and truth because the spirit gives life through the blood of Christ.

Invitation

We serve God by faith, contending that the Love of God saves us by the washing and regeneration of man into the new creature set apart for good works.

Galatians 3:23-26 (Slide 24)

²³ Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. ²⁴ So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified

by faith. (Slide 25) ²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith.

God has given man free will to choose to follow His law under Christ and to be saved by grace through faith. Has your faith moved you to be obedient to God's command of baptism, knowing that He loved us so much that He gave His only begotten Son to take our place on the cross.

If you have not been baptized, arise and become a child of God today.

If you are in Christ but need prayer from your Brethren for any reason please let us know.....

Let your wish be known.....

Reading

Hebrews 8:7-13

⁷ For if that first covenant had been faultless, then no place would have been sought for a second. ⁸ Because finding fault with them, He says: "Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah— ⁹ not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they did not continue in My covenant, and I disregarded them, says the LORD. ¹⁰ For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My laws in their mind and write them on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. ¹¹ None of them shall teach his neighbor, and none his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for all shall know Me,

from the least of them to the greatest of them. ¹² For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more."

¹³ In that He says, "A new covenant," He has made the first obsolete. Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away

Please visit our website for the full audio of this study:

*Shelbyvillechurch.com
Shelbyville Church of Christ*