

COVENANT OF LOVE

See With New Eyes, Session 5

THE LAW OF GOD is not a restrictive list of arbitrary rules intended to constrict our freedom. Rather, it is a transcript of God's character. As such, it is a practical explanation of what love looks like in action.

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LAW OF LIBERTY

The Ten Commandments are not a cage to pace within, but a vast horizon to run free upon. So far from restricting our freedom, living in harmony with God's Law actually preserves and expands our freedom.

Exodus 20:1-17, Summary—The Ten Commandments start with declaring God's power to liberate, not with the human duty to obey.

Psalm 119:32, NIV—I run in the path of your commands, for you have set my heart free.

James 1:25— . . . the perfect law of liberty . . .

Deuteronomy 5:29—Oh, that they had such a heart in them that they would fear Me and always keep all My commandments, that it might be well with them and with their children forever!

A DECEPTIVE SPIN ON LAW

The Fall of humanity was premised on a lie regarding the character of God. Satan misrepresented God as restrictive, arbitrary and self-serving.

Genesis 2:16—Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.

Genesis 3:1-5, Summary—Map out the conversation between Satan and Eve, noting the points of deception and the effect upon her.

LAW OF LOVE, NOT CONTROL

The whole point of the Bible is love. God is love, therefore His only law is love, and we are all God's wants us to be when we live in love like God does.

Matthew 22:36-40, Summary—Jesus defines God's law as love.

Romans 13:10—Love does no harm to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

1 John 4:16—We have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.

WRITEN ON THE HEART

God's law is not intended to be externally imposed, but rather internally embedded in our very hearts and minds and lives.

Exodus 20:19—Then they said to Moses, “You speak with us, and we will hear; but let not God speak with us, lest we die.”

Exodus 24:7—And they said, “All that the LORD has said we will do, and be obedient.”

Ezekiel 36:26-27—²⁶I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

Hebrews 8:10-12—¹⁰For 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. ¹¹None 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. ¹²For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their lawless deeds I will remember no more.”

Ezekiel 16:8, TEV—“As I passed by again, I saw that the time had come for you to fall in love. I promised to love you. Yes, I made a marriage covenant with you, and you became mine.” This is what the Sovereign Lord says.

Hosea 2:13-16—¹³“She. . . went after her lovers; but Me she forgot,” says the LORD. ¹⁴“Therefore, behold, I will allure her, will bring her into the wilderness, and speak comfort to her. ¹⁶“And it shall be, in that day,” says the LORD, “That you will call Me *My Husband*, and no longer call Me *My Master*.”

John 15:15—No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you.

Psalms 119:34—Give me understanding, and I shall keep Your law; Indeed, I shall observe it with my whole heart.

1 John 5:3—For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.

Psalms 40:8—I delight to do Your will, O my God, and Your law *is* within my heart.

John 14:15—If you love Me, keep My commandments.

John 8:29—I always do those things that please Him.