

## The Law, It's Not Optional

### Galatians 3:17-21

Where we are in our country, culturally, is indicative of a society that is \_\_\_\_\_. Laws, though present, are being ignored. Romans 1 clearly reveals to us that God eventually gives people up to a reprobate mind as that society progresses in its decline.

Remember a few weeks ago we talked about the doctrine of \_\_\_\_\_ depravity or radical corruption. It's been on full display since Adam and Eve but the internet allows us to see it even more clearly.

#### I. Why the Law of God?

Paul, although some think overstates the doctrine of grace, actually has a very high view of the law. In fact, the apostle praises the law so greatly because he understood the \_\_\_\_\_ due to grace.

Why give the law if it was/is unable to redeem us? To understand this is to understand its purpose. Was it given as a \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_? Maybe God gave it to help people \_\_\_\_\_. Martin Luther wrote that the "true function and the chief and proper use

of the Law is to reveal to man his sin, blindness, misery, wickedness, ignorance, hate and contempt of God, death, hell, judgment and the well deserved wrath of God." The truth is: "the more we understand and see the \_\_\_\_\_, the more we know we need a \_\_\_\_\_. (Ryken)

There are numerous words for sin in the Greek language. Romans 3:23 "the wages of SIN..." The word sin is "hamartia" and has the idea of "missing the \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_." That's not our word today. Our word is "parabasis." It is commonly translated "transgress." To transgress is to intentionally step over a boundary. So, in effect, the law is a large \_\_\_\_\_. That instrument doesn't increase the number of dirty spots but it does make them more easily seen.