

## **Romans 13:8-14 Do We Need Laws Like the Ten Commandments**

Do you need commandments to keep you in line? Does only the threat of a big fine keep you going straight or driving the speed limit? Laws save lives on roads, especially when we drive them for the first time. I'm thankful for signs on mountain curves that tell me I shouldn't exceed 25 miles per hour. At other times, laws are insulting. My wife and I once visited a campground that had so many posted signs saying "Don't do" such and such, we didn't know if anything was permissible. We were so convinced a grouch owned the place that we left.

Do we need laws? Children need instruction. Class rooms require them. Beginners in sports need them, too. Competing in most sports that have no comprehensive, fair rules would be frustrating and dangerous.

As we mature and live for Jesus, we need fewer laws. We don't even need the **Ten Commandments**. *Exodus* chapter 20 makes the point clear. God gave the Decalogue to the sons and daughters of Israel (Jacob) when he led them out of Egyptian slavery. The Lord meant those commandments to be the new nation Israel's primary principles. Jesus fulfilled the **Ten Commandments** requirements for all Jews. If we really love people, we won't want to harm them. Laws can be summed up in this, said Paul: "Love your neighbor as yourself."

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