“RULES AND REGULATIONS”

OBJECTIVE: WE WILL STUDY SCRIPTURE CONCERNING GOD’S COMMANDMENTS, GOD’S LAWS, AND GOD’S STATUATES.

KEY SCRIPTURES: DEUTERONOMY 6:1-9/JOSHUA 1:8/ LUKE 6:45

JAMES 1:19/ MATTHEW 12:34/EXODUS 20:1-24/MATTHEW 5:1-48

DEUTERONOMY 31:1-13/ PSALM 1:-1-4/ MATTHEW 22:37-40

DO YOU EVER FEEL OVERWHELMED BY THE RULES AND COMMANDS FOUND IN THE BIBLE? THE BOOK OF THE LAW HELPS CLARIFY GOD’S EXPECTATIONS FOR HIS PEOPLE. UNDERSTANDING THIS BOOK BRINGS US CLOSER TO HIS HEART AND HELPS US NAVIGATE OUR LIVES IN ALIGNMENT WITH HIS WILL.

WE ARE NEW TESTAMENT BELIEVERS WHO LIVE IN THIS DISPENSATION OF TIME THROUGH FAITH BY GRACE THAT IS IN CHRIST JESUS. OLD TESTAMENT BELIEVERS LIVED IN THE DISPENSATION OF TIME UNDER THE LAW.

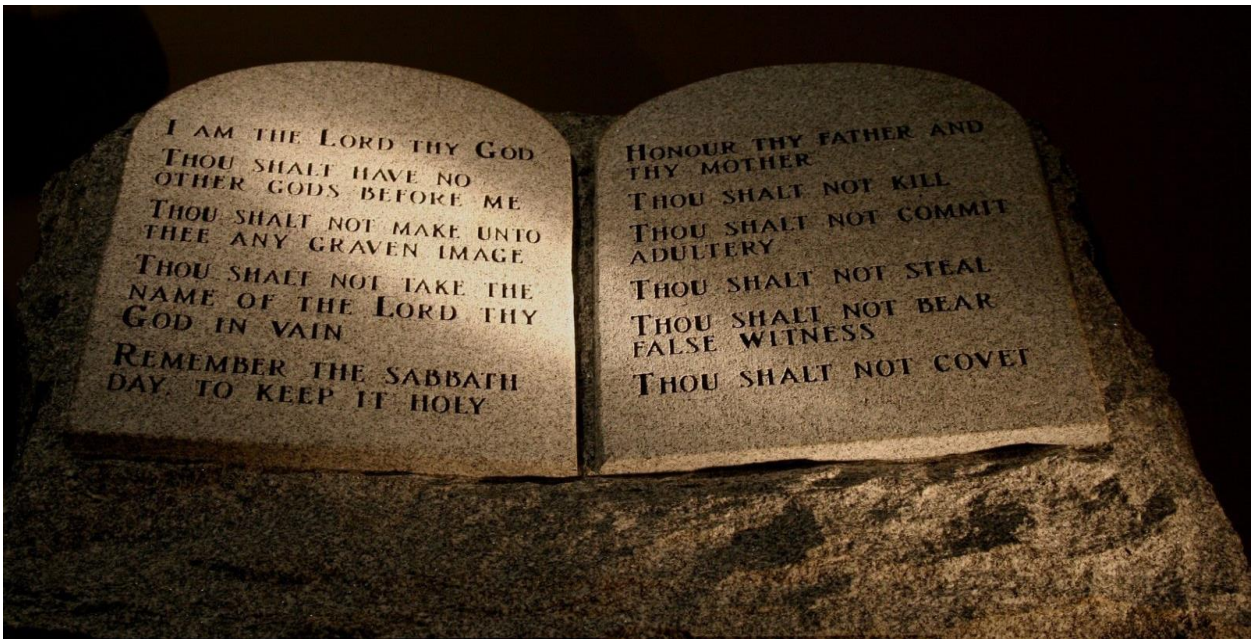
THAT WAS THE BIGGEST CONTRADICTION AND CHALLENGE THE PHARISEES AND THE SADDUCEES HAD WITH JESUS AND THE NEW PRINCIPLES AND TEACHINGS HE REPRESENTED TO THE PEOPLE WHO BELIEVED IN GOD.

MATTHEW 5:17-20

JESUS GIVES CLEAR DIRECTIVES ABOUT THE LAW AND IT’S RELATION WITH HIS PURPOSE. MANY BELIEVERS STILL TODAY ARE MISGUIDED THINKING THAT THEY CAN FULFILL THE LAW.

JAMES 2:8-10

OUR CONDITIONS AND REASONING IS WHY WE TO CAN BECOME RELIGIOUS AND HYPOCRITICAL AS THE PHARISEES AND THE SADUCEES. GRACE IS THE UNMERRITED FAVOR OF GOD. WHEN WE MAKE IT ABOUT KEEPING RULES AND FOLLOWING REGULATIONS THAT NO ONE BUT JESUS WAS ABLE TO KEEP, WE BECOME JUDGEMENTAL AND CONDEMING ALL THE TIME WE ARE CALLED TO BE LIKE JESUS.



IT TAKES THE WISDOM OF GOD IN LEADERSHIP TO DISCERN WHAT IS GOOD AND WHAT IS GOD. WE WANT THINGS TO ALWAYS MAKE SENSE EVEN WHEN GOD USES THE FOOLISH THINGS OF THIS WORLD TO CONFOUND THE WISE. (1 CORINTHIANS 1:26-31)

THE 10 COMMANDMENTS, GIVEN THROUGH MOSES IN EXODUS 20 AND DEUTERONOMY 5, ARE NOT OBSOLETE RULES BUT TIMELESS PRINCIPLES ROOTED IN GOD'S CHARACTER. JESUS AFFIRMED THAT HE CAME "NOT TO ABOLISH THE LAW OR THE PROPHETS" BUT TO FULFILL THEM (MATTHEW 5:17), SUMMARIZING THEM IN

TWO GREAT COMMANDMENTS: LOVE FOR GOD AND LOVE FOR NEIGHBOR (MATTHEW 22:37–40). THE HOLY SPIRIT ENABLES BELIEVERS TODAY TO LIVE OUT THESE COMMANDMENTS BY TRANSFORMING THEM FROM MERE RULES INTO A LIFE OF LOVE AND OBEDIENCE.

HOW GOD USES THE 10 COMMANDMENTS STILL TODAY

1. ***GUIDING WORSHIP AND RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD***
   THE FIRST FOUR COMMANDMENTS FOCUS ON DEVOTION TO GOD—REJECTING IDOLS, HONORING HIS NAME, KEEPING THE SABBATH, AND PRIORITIZING HIM ABOVE ALL. IN TODAY'S WORLD, THIS MEANS SETTING ASIDE TIME FOR PRAYER, WORSHIP, AND SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINES, AND ENSURING NOTHING TAKES PRECEDENCE OVER A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD.

2. ***SHAPING ETHICAL LIVING***
   THE REMAINING SIX COMMANDMENTS ADDRESS HUMAN RELATIONSHIPS: HONORING PARENTS, RESPECTING LIFE, MAINTAINING PURITY, TELLING THE TRUTH, AND RESISTING GREED. THESE PRINCIPLES GUIDE BELIEVERS IN FAMILY LIFE, WORK, AND COMMUNITY, PROMOTING INTEGRITY, JUSTICE, AND RESPECT.

3. ENCOURAGING SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

THE COMMANDMENTS CALL FOR CARE FOR OTHERS, INCLUDING THE MARGINALIZED, AND STEWARDSHIP OF CREATION. THIS ALIGNS WITH THE BIBLICAL MANDATE TO "ACT JUSTLY, LOVE MERCY, AND WALK HUMBLY WITH YOUR GOD" (MICAH 6:8).

4. PROVIDING A MORAL COMPASS IN A RELATIVISTIC AGE

IN A CULTURE WHERE MORAL STANDARDS OFTEN SHIFT, THE 10 COMMANDMENTS OFFER A STEADFAST ETHICAL FRAMEWORK, HELPING BELIEVERS RESIST COMPROMISE AND LIVE WITH CONSISTENCY AND CONVICTION