

The Sanctuary –Laws of Jehovah & The Covenant Ratified through Blood

MORAL LAW (Ex.20:2-17)

"The law of God [had] existed before the creation of man or else Adam could not have sinned. After the transgression of Adam the principles of the law were not changed, but were definitely arranged and expressed to meet man in his fallen condition." {ST May 14, 1878}

"Christ in counsel with His Father, instituted the system of sacrificial offerings; that death, instead of being immediately visited upon the transgressor should be transferred to a victim which should prefigure the great and perfect offering of the Son of God." - ibid

In the centuries that followed, selfishness became the dominant principle of all conduct.

When **love** weakens or fails to grow, then rules and regulations are necessary to define conduct which **love** should have sensed.

At Sinai, "the minds of the people, blinded and debased by slavery and heathenism, were not prepared to appreciate fully the far-reaching principles of God's Ten Precepts."

As a result... God gave additional precepts. And why?

"That the obligations of the decalogue might be more fully understood and enforced, the judgments were given, illustrating and applying the principles of the Ten Commandments." {PP 310, 311}

They were known as Judgments because:

- 1 –They were framed in infinite wisdom and equity
- 2 –Because the magistrates were to give judgment according to them.

In essence, the _____ and _____ were given or designed to guard the TEN COMMANDMENTS.

CEREMONIAL LAW

This body of divine legislation is as old as the **plan of salvation**. It was made known to Adam and Eve as an object lesson to illustrate the _____.

- This "remedial system" was established to bring man back to obedience. The promise of a Saviour was given and _____ pointing forward to the death of Christ. {PP 363.1}
- Like the Moral Law, the "sacrificial system" was also perverted by Adam's descendants. Superstition, idolatry, cruelty, and licentiousness corrupted the simple and significant service God had appointed.

Two-Fold System of Legislation

- Should be kept separate
- The distinction is broad and clear

A. The Moral Law

- Pointed back to creation to keep in remembrance the Living God
- Claims binding upon all men
- Will exist through all time and eternity

B. The Ceremonial System of Law

- Was made up of symbols pointing to Christ, to His sacrifice and to His priesthood.
- Was "given because of man's transgression"
- Was to answer a particular purpose in Christ's plan for the salvation of the race.
- That the sinner might discern the Great Offering.
- The law of types reached forward to Christ. All hope and faith centered in Christ until type reached its antitype in His death.

The Spirit of Prophecy says that

"If we are indeed Christians, [we will be] prepared to acknowledge the sacredness and importance of the shadowy types, as they see the accomplishment of the events which they represent. The death of Christ gives the Christian a correct knowledge of the system of ceremonies and explains prophecies which still remain obscure to the Jews." {RH May 6, 1875, par.12}

Though the Ceremonial Law is known as the Law of Moses, [placed in the side of the ark]; yet he only wrote it down! Moses himself framed no law.

Christ, the Angel Whom God had appointed...gave to Moses statutes and requirements necessary to a living religion and to govern the people of God. *"Christians commit a terrible mistake in calling this law severe and arbitrary, and then contrasting it with the gospel and mission of Christ in His ministry on earth, as though He were in opposition to the just precepts which they call the law of Moses"* (RH 6 May 1875). "One [was] changeless and eternal, the other provisional and temporary" (PP 370).

The Judgments (Ex.21-23)

The first of these laws related to servants. In ancient times criminals were sometimes sold into slavery by the judges; in some cases, debtors were sold by their creditors; and poverty even led persons to sell themselves or their children. But a Hebrew could not be sold as a slave for life. His term of service was limited to six years; on the seventh he was to be set at liberty. Manstealing, deliberate murder, and rebellion against parental authority were to be punished with death. The holding of slaves not of Israelitish birth was permitted, but their life and person were strictly guarded. The murderer of a slave was to be punished; an injury inflicted upon one by his master, though no more than the loss of a tooth, entitled him to his freedom. {PP 310.2}

The rights of widows and orphans were especially guarded, and a tender regard for their helpless condition was enjoined. "If thou afflict them in any wise," the Lord declared, "and they cry at all unto Me, I will surely hear their cry; and My wrath shall wax hot, and I will kill you with the sword; and your wives shall be widows, and your children fatherless." {PP 310.2}

The taking of usury from the poor was forbidden. A poor man's raiment or blanket taken as a pledge, must be restored to him at nightfall. Respect for magistrates and rulers was enjoined, and judges were warned against perverting judgment, aiding a false cause, or receiving bribes. Calumny and slander were prohibited, and acts of kindness enjoined, even toward personal enemies. {PP 311.1}

The Covenant and its Ratification Through Blood (Ex.24)

The Lord called Moses, Aaron, his sons and the seventy elders into the mount. But before they went up, Moses came and told the people all the words of the Lord (vs.3) and all the judgments and all the people answered with one voice, "ALL THE WORDS WHICH THE LORD HATH SAID WILL WE DO."

Israel as a newly formed nation now, enters into –THE OLD COVENANT—promise.

In vs. 4, Moses writes down all the words of the Lord and then early next morning, builds an altar with twelve pillars according to the 12 tribes. Burnt offerings & peace offerings were sacrificed unto the Lord.

Moses takes half the blood and _____ . (vs.6)

And he took half the blood and _____ . "

He then took the book of the covenant, and read it in the audience of the people and *Israel repeated their old covenant pledge. {"Your promises and resolutions are like ropes of sand."-SC 47.1}*. And yet God took them at their word.

Vs. 8 tells us that Moses took the blood and sprinkled it on _____, and said, Behold the blood of the covenant, which the Lord hath made with you concernin all these words."

The last half of chapter 24 of Exodus reveals the "God of the Covenant". Moses, Aaron and the 70 elders ascend the mount and the pople "saw the God of Israel" and "under his feet" a sapphire stone as the pavement of heaven. From vs. 12-20, God calls Moses and Joshua up to the mount of God and Moses after six days, is called by God into the cloud on the 7th Day to behold His glory. During that 40 days God writes the Ten Commandments on stone—tables of the testimony (Ex.31:18).

Next Week we will finish this segment in the study of the Shekinah Glory.