

ARE GOD'S TEN COMMANDMENTS OUT OF DATE?

Notes for the Instructor

Purpose of lesson 19: The basic purpose is to show that the ten commandments are eternal as God is eternal, that they are a revelation of what He is, each commandment being a facet of His character, made clear to man in his fallen condition so that man can know what He is like, and by the indwelling grace of God, become like Him. This is what it means to be restored to God's image.

In following up a study of the judgment, it is vital to demonstrate the nature of the law which is the basis of judgment. This helps to establish the fact that the critical point of judgment is our relation to Christ, without Whom we could be neither obedient nor righteous. To determine the nature of the saved or lost as the result of judgment even more clearly, the only question that Christ, the appointed Judge, needs to ask is, Do you love Me? If we truly love Him, we are daily at the foot of the cross, we are thus in a position to learn to love, and we reflect His love to us in returning love to Him and to others, which is the basis of all the commandments. And the ability to love is the image of God. We must point out that the believing sinner, who reflects God's love, becomes an exhibit in the judgment, revealing to unfallen angels and unfallen worlds, that God can make of man all that He says He can. Thus, the reborn Christian, the grace-filled obedient Christian, is the one who delights to do God's will, with God's law written in his heart. (Psalm 40:8.)

During the study itself: In connection with question 5(e), re-study Mount of Blessing, 45-51. In 5(f), show that Jesus' love emphasis to law was a quotation of Deut. 6:5 and Lev. 19:18. Also in connection with question 5(f), see note under section E, Unto a Perfect Man, page 121.

Appeal: Question 7(d) and the statement of purpose above, form a clear point of appeal. Help the student to see the law as a revelation of what God is like, so that to the degree we know God can we become like Him.

Illustration: The visual aid forms an easy memory device in looking at the commandments in four time periods, beginning with the common ground from Sinai to Christ, then pre-Sinai, then Christ's day, and last, after Christ's resurrection.

