

HOMEWORK REVIEW

1. Have you ever broken a promise that you intended to keep? How did it make you feel? Were you offered forgiveness or condemnation?
2. How does Adam's role in the garden relate to the work of Christ?
3. If we cannot obey God's law perfectly, why is our obedience necessary? What are the benefits of obeying God's law, even if imperfectly?
4. What does the resurrection of Christ demonstrate about Christ's obedience to the law? How does the resurrection of Christ benefit the people of God?
5. What do you look forward to the most when you think about the new heavens and the new earth?

BIBLICAL THEOLOGY

- Refers to "the overall theological message of the whole Bible."
- "helps us see the big picture, appreciate the themes that hold the Bible together, understand how the story develops, see how the promises of the Old Testament, sometimes expressed through covenants, are fulfilled in Jesus Christ, as witnessed in the New Testament, and appreciate how the Old Testament provides patterns or types that explain later developments in the story."
 - T.D. Alexander, Biblical Theology, TGC Concise Theology Series

SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY

"the attempt to put Christian doctrine in a logical order, often starting from one fundamental principle"

- Gerald Bray, Systematic Theology, TGC Concise Theology Series

WHY IS THEOLOGY IMPORTANT?

The claim of Bishop Robert Barron – "if you're following your conscience sincerely, or in your case, you're following the commandments of the law sincerely, yeah you can be saved."

BUT JESUS SAID...YOU MUST BE BORN AGAIN

John 3:1-3

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. 2 This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs

that you do unless God is with him.”³ Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

DISCUSSION

1. Being born again or regenerated can look different for everyone. If you feel comfortable sharing, what's your story? How were you born again?
2. In John 3, Jesus tells Nicodemus “unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” Compare this to the quote of Bishop Robert Barron earlier. Why do so many Christians seem to have a problem with Christ being the only way to heaven? The only way to God?
3. In John 1 we read, “¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.”
 - a. How is this different from being created in the image of God?
4. The New Testament closely connects baptism to union with Christ and indicates that people can be saved and receive the Holy Spirit before baptism. It teaches that baptism is a sign and seal of regeneration...a sign and seal of being born again.
 - a. With this in mind, what would stop or prevent a born again believer from being baptized? Have you been baptized?
 - b. If not, would you consider attending this Sunday's class on baptism?