

Introduction

- The Mosaic Law is divided into:
 - Moral Law Reflects God's unchanging character; still binding.
 - Ceremonial Law Fulfilled in Christ; no longer binding.
 - o Civil Law Applied to Israel; some reflect moral principles, others do not.
- Three Uses of the Law:
 - Reveals sin and leads to Christ.
 - Restrains evil in society.
 - o Guides believers in holy living.

The Christian's Relationship to the Law

- 1. Not Under the Law Believers are not judged by the law for righteousness (Rom. 3:19–20).
- 2. **Law Fulfilled by Christ** Jesus fulfilled the law on our behalf (Matt. 5:17; Gal. 4:4–5).
- 3. Law Written on Our Hearts Through the Spirit, we desire and are empowered to obey (Jer. 31:33).
- 4. **Dead to the Law, Alive to Christ** Freed from condemnation; alive in the Spirit (Rom. 7:4–6).

New Testament Descriptions of the Law

- 1. Law of Christ Moral law lived out in union with Christ (1 Cor. 9:19–23; John 14:15).
- 2. Law of Love Love for God and others summarizes the moral law (Matt. 22:37–40; Rom. 13:8–10).
- 3. Law of Liberty Obeying God from the heart brings freedom (James 1:25; 2:10–13).

The Role of the Spirit in Obeying the Law

- Ongoing Conflict Believers experience tension between flesh and Spirit (Rom. 7; Gal. 5:17).
- Victory Through Christ No condemnation for those in Christ (Rom. 8:1–2).
- Law of the Spirit of Life Believers are empowered by the Spirit to walk in righteousness (Rom. 8:4–6; Ezek. 36:26–27).



Delighting in the Law

- Obedience and meditation on God's law are signs of a righteous life (Ps. 1; Ps. 119).
- The Spirit causes us to love and obey God's law.

Using the Law as a Guide

- The third use of the law is key for believers.
- Not all OT laws apply directly, but they remain instructive:
 - o Consider the moral principles behind each law.
 - Ask guiding questions:
 - What was the original purpose of the law?
 - How does this law demonstrate love for God and neighbor?
 - What is the lasting significance of the law?
 - How is this law fulfilled in Christ?
 - How should I live in response to this law?

Case Study: The Tithe

- OT tithe showed reverence, gratitude, and care for others (Lev. 27; Deut. 14).
- NT application:
 - o Not a requirement, but a principle of generous, joyful giving (2 Cor. 9).
 - Christ, as our High Priest, receives our gifts (Heb. 7).
 - Giving reflects the lordship of Christ over all things.

Conclusion

- The OT law is no longer our judge, but our guide.
- Believers are called to holiness, enabled by grace, and guided by the moral law.
- Salvation is from God, through Christ, and by the Spirit, from beginning to end.