

Sunday, July 16, 2023

Ben Thompson

Law, what is it good for?

Exodus 20: 1-21

*Welcome to the story of Israel! The story of Israel is (true) history, it is sacred history, and it is our family history. We are telling this story in ten episodes: Promise, Salvation, **Law**, Land, Covenant, Temple, Division, Prophets, Exile, and Restoration. Today is episode #3, as God gives His law to Moses and the Israelites on Mt Sinai.*

1. What good was the law when it was given at Sinai?

2. What the law is not good for...

3. What is the law good for in the Christian life?

Questions for Reflection and Application:

- 1) Feel free to share what you are comfortable (might be helpful to break into groups of men and women but this is up to individual discussion leaders); what ways have you fallen short of God's law recently? Know that whatever sins you have confessed are forgiven by God and that you are cleansed completely from them and considered pure and righteous in God's sight (Read 1 John 1:9)!
- 2) Do you feel like it is impossible to get into better disciplines of reading Scripture or praying and then struggle feeling guilty about how you've been neglectful?
- 3) Do you feel like it is easy to establish disciplines like reading Scripture and praying but that you feel like you go through the motions without your heart really being in it? What does Jesus say about both of these cycles?
- 4) If you were to counsel someone struggling with guilt over breaking God's law, how would you comfort them? What Scriptures would you point them to? Practice speaking these truths to yourself.
- 5) What would you say to someone you caught blatantly sinning without any guilt or remorse? Would you yourself be ready and willing to hear and receive those words?