

SERMON NOTES

Week 3 November 24, 2024

"The Heart of the Law"

Exodus 20:2–4; Luke 22:19–20; Romans 3:10, 23, 5:8, 10; 2 Corinthians 5:20-21; 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12; John 3:17

I.	Review	
	A. When it comes to people's belief of they're convinced of two things:	
	1. Good people go to heaven.	
	2. I'm a good person.	
	B. There are a few things that undermine this whole idea that people go to)
	heaven and I am a good person.	
	1. "Good" is a moving target.	
	2. How good is good enough to earn a spot in heaven?	
	3. If only good people go to heaven, then Jesus was mistaken and Jesus was	
	misleading.	
	C. According to Jesus, people go to heaven.	
II.	The Role of Rules	
	A. When God gave the to Moses, The Israelites had no civil law and no	
	constitution because they had never functioned independently.	
	B. When it comes to God, precedes the rules.	
	C. The Israelites did not their way into a relationship with God and they we	re
	not able to misbehave their way out of a relationship with God.	
III.	A New Covenant	
	A. Jesus came to establish a covenant, a new relationship with all humanking	ıd.
	B. While we were still, God did something for us, and he did not require	
	something from us to make things even.	
	C. We are reconciled to God by grace; we choose to obey out of	
	Things I Would Like to Remember About This Message	



ASBURY DAILY STUDY GUIDE November 25-30, 2024

INTRODUCTION

Many people believe that good people go to heaven. However, according to Jesus, *good* people don't go to heaven, *forgiven* people go to heaven. A question that arises in response to the idea that forgiven people go to heaven is this: "If rule keeping won't get you into heaven, then why all the rules? Why 613 commandments?" In another words, what is the role of rules in Christianity?

Monday: Exodus 20:1-17

According to the Book of Exodus, the Ten Commandments were revealed to Moses at Mount Sinai. These were 10 of the 613 commandments given to the Israelites. What role, if any, did rule-keeping play in your religious experience? Were you left with the impression that the rules were more important than the people expected to keep the rules?

Tuesday: Mark 1:3-6, Mark 2:27

Jesus makes it clear throughout his ministry, that people take precedent over the law. Is there an area of your life where you are emphasizing rules over people? How would your spouse, friends, or kids answer that about you?

Wednesday: John 3:1-17

In this passage, Jesus is speaking to Nicodemus, a Pharisee - someone who had a passion for keeping all of God's laws. What keywords stand out to you and why? Why would Jesus feel Nicodemus needed to hear this? Have you ever wondered if God's love for you was contingent upon your obedience to his rules? If not, why not? If so, why?

Thursday: Mark 2:21-22

Jesus' point was that this new teaching, this unique teaching, this brand new unique worldview was like the new wine and the new cloth. Jesus was saying that "you can't take what I'm teaching and put it in your old context, because with my new teaching, I'm creating a brand new movement." What stands out to you in this passage?

Friday: 1 Thessalonians 4:11-12

In this passage, the apostle Paul is telling Christians not to impose Christian rules on people who are not Christians. Do you have a tendency to judge non-Christians by Christian ethics, values, and rules? Why do you think Paul makes this statement? Why is it important for Christians not to impose their rules on people outside the faith?

MOVING FORWARD

God through Moses provides for the nation of Israel a constitution and civil laws, including punishment and rules of how to conduct their lives because they never functioned independently. But these rules did not establish the relationship, when it comes to God, relationship precedes the rules. If your view of religion emphasized rules over a relationship with God and others, you're not alone. But Jesus came to introduce a new way of thinking. God loves you more than he loves rules. We are reconciled to God by grace; we choose to obey out of gratitude.

Answers to the sermon notes: IA) heaven, B) good, C) forgiven. IIA) law, B) relationship, IIC) behave. IIIA) new, B) sinners, C) gratitude.