**April 28, 2019 “Christ and the Law, Pt 1” Matthew 5:17-20**

When Jesus comes on the scene with His public ministry, it was a life changing event in the lives the Jewish people living in Israel. For 400 years, there has been a deafening silence from God. Malachi, who closed out the O.T., promised that God was going to send Elijah the prophet “before the great and terrible day of the Lord”. John the Baptist shows up saying that there is One coming after him who sandals he is not worthy to tie and now Jesus shows up with this supposedly new teaching which really was not new at all. In essence what Jesus is telling the people throughout the Sermon on the Mount is exactly what the O.T. told concerning the Messiah. Unfortunately, that message had been so corrupted by the Pharisees and Sadducees, that it was hardly recognizable any longer.

I fear this is happening in much of Christianity today, where compromise of the Gospel through a nonchalant approach to many of the most important doctrines found in God’s Word are either ignored or dispelled in an effort to be accepted by society. Many co-called ministers of the Gospel aren’t really sure that Satan is an entity but rather is a metaphor for evil. Many of those individuals feel that “coming out from among them and living such good lives among the pagans” is an antiquated idea of yesteryear and on and on it goes. Others try to adhere to a strict outward appearance but care little about the inward aspects of the condition of one’s heart toward God.

All of these issues really revolve around one main aspect of how we view the Word of God. Is this Bible the authority for my life? Or is it something over which we can pick and choose about what we want to believe? Or discard various Scriptures if they upset me?

Jesus is confronting many of those same issues when He sat down on the Mount and began to teach His disciple and those surrounding Him with the truth of who He is and what the Gospel intends to do which is to reveal the God of the entire universe and beyond to a lost and dying world.

If there is one issue that Jesus reminds us of over and over again, it is this one: The Law of God never changes… never. They are God’s standard… not man’s.

Matthew 5:17-20

1. Do not think
	1. I have come to abolish the Law
		1. We have to ask the question
			1. Which law?
	2. Three aspects of the Law for the Jewish people
		1. Moral Law
			1. 10 Commandments
				1. No other gods before me
				2. Not make unto thee any graven images
				3. Not take the name of the Lord in vain
				4. Keep the Sabbath day holy
				5. Honor your father and mother
				6. Do not murder
				7. Do not commit adultery
				8. Do not steal
				9. Do not bear false witness
				10. Do not covet
		2. Judicial Law
			1. How the nation of Israel is to be governed
				1. Laws governing penalties against your neighbor or society

Bull gores your neighbor… example

Treating foreigners etc….

* + 1. Ceremonial Law
			1. Laws governing feasts
				1. Tabernacles
				2. First Fruits
				3. Passover
				4. Feast of unleavened bread
1. So what Law is Jesus speaking about?
	1. One jot or tittle shall not pass from the Law until all is accomplished
		1. Does that statement give us an insight into the regard Jesus had for the Word of God?
		2. Did He hold the Word as an authoritative entity for His life?
	2. Why is Jesus addressing the Law issue in His sermon?
		1. The teachers of the Law had so perverted it that it was hardly recognizable any more
			1. Exodus… fourth commandment
				1. Keep the Sabbath… in it thou shalt do no work
		2. Question… what is “work?”
			1. Not to carry a burden
				1. What is a burden?

Scribal law stated

Is food equal to the weight of a dried fig??

Enough wine for mixing in a goblet

Milk for one swallow

Honey to put on a wound

Could a mother carry her child on the Sabbath?

Could you move a lamp on the Sabbath?

Could you comb your hair on the Sabbath?

1. So what Law is Jesus speaking of?
	1. Which one of these?
		1. 10 Commandments?
		2. Judicial Law?
		3. Ceremonial Law?
	2. Key… verse 17
		1. Law and the Prophets
			1. He is speaking of the whole O.T.
	3. What Jesus is saying is this
		1. I did not come to destroy the O.T.
		2. But to fulfill it
2. Fulfill it?
	1. Look at the O.T.
		1. Genesis… see of the woman
		2. Exodus… Passover Lamb
		3. Leviticus… great High Priest
		4. Numbers… Pillar of fire by night and cloud by day
		5. Deuteronomy… Prophet like Moses
		6. Joshua… Captain of our salvation
		7. Judges… Judge and Lawgiver
		8. Ruth… the Kinsman redeemer
		9. I and II Samuel… trusted prophet
		10. Kings and Chronicles… reigning King
		11. Ezra… faithful scribe
		12. Nehemiah… rebuilder of walls
		13. Esther… He is Mordecai
		14. Job… the living redeemer
		15. Psalms… He is the shepherd
		16. Song of Solomon… true lover and bridegroom
		17. Isaiah… Prince of Peace
		18. Jeremiah and Lamentations… weeping prophet
		19. Ezekiel… four faced man
		20. Daniel… fourth man in the fire
		21. Hosea… eternal husband married to a backslider
		22. Joel… baptizer with the Holy Spirit
		23. Amos… the burden bearer
		24. Obadiah… the Savior
		25. Jonah… the Missionary
		26. Micah… messenger with beautiful feet
		27. Nahum… the avenger
		28. Habakkuk… Evangelist pleading for revival
		29. Zechariah… fountain for sin and cleansing
		30. Malachi… Son of Righteousness… with healing in its wings

No matter where you look in the O.T. and the Prophets you will see Jesus Christ… the promised Messiah. The One who is sitting at the right hand of God the Father making intercession for you and me.

Is He your Lord? Is He your Savior? God’s standard has never ever changed and it never ever will… “for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved” (Acts 4:12) Is He the only Name you trust for your salvation?