

Evangelistic Newspaper
“All Honour to God”
“Daar is Lig in die Wapad” 101
New Testament Orientation

Evangelistic Newsletter

Edition 4/2016

Dear all in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour

I get many requests as to what “The Law” is in the Bible.

Also, soon I shall be putting some short 5 minute conversations about small teachings.

Hope this helps. I am happy to try and answer emailed questions and to correct any mistakes.

Nag Ou Grote, Fluit-fluit, my storie is uit.

T v d Nest, Ph.D

Jesus fulfilled “The Law”

Most of us believe that the Ten Commandments form the core of God's Law (the "Torah" or "Instruction" given by God through Moses, in the first five books of the Bible) (Just, 2009, p.1). These are however not the only commandments given as the Rabbinic Jewish tradition maintains that the Torah contains a total of 613 commandments ("*mitzvot*"): 248 positive ones (injunctions, what one must do) and 365 negative ones (prohibitions, what one must avoid) (Just, 2009, p.1).

Moreover, in Jewish understanding, all 613 *mitzvot* are equally important, so the Decalogue is not really considered the "core"; ritual and dietary commandments are considered just as important as theological or ethical commands (Just, 2009). If you break any one of them, you've broken God's Law (Just, 2009). “When Jesus is asked which of the commandments is the first or most important, he does not quote the Decalogue directly, but rather combines quotations from Deuteronomy 6:4-5 (love God) and Leviticus 19:18 (love your neighbour) (Just, 2009, p.1). "The Law" (Gk *nomos*) appears some 14 times in John's Gospel but

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although Jesus urges his disciples to keep the Law, it could be said that Jesus sees the law as being unable to regulate human action (Just, 2003). The Law is the body of teaching revealed to Moses which served as a basis for the entire social and religious life of Israel (Just, 2003).

Take today and reflect on the mercy of the Almighty God, thanking that He send His Son to bring us the Apostle Ministry to us to lead us from darkness back to the light, through the Holy Ghost, so that we can fulfil the great command as recorded in Matthew 28. Knowing this that we can respond in thankfulness as we know that we are saved by grace and not by works (Ephesians 2). The Great Commandment, to love God above all and our neighbour as ourselves, is therefore the fulfilment of the Law of Moses (Matthew 23). The prophet Jeremiah (spoke of a new covenant for the people with the old covenant that had hearts of stone and rebelled against God) and Ezekiel and Hosea spoke that the Lord will send the Messiah to bring this to fulfilment and said that the Law can only be fulfilled if we have new hearts, and not hearts of stone. The Holy Spirit gave us new hearts where we can serve God in spirit, truth and joy as according to its fruits which are love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith (Galatians 5: 22).

According to Apostle Paul...Romans 13:8-13

Love Fulfils the Law

8 Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves others has fulfilled the law. 9 The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery,” “You shall not murder,” “You shall not steal,” “You shall not covet,” and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: “Love your neighbour as yourself.” 10 Love does no harm to a neighbour. Therefore love is the fulfilment of the law.

God is Love (1John 4:8) who created all free willingly and out of Love.

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(Staples, 2013)