

Law and Gospel

- I. What is common between Law and Gospel?
  - a. Both are from God's Word
  - b. Both apply to all men
  - c. Both will be taught in the church until Christ returns on the Last Day
  - d. BONUS: Antinomian = Against the Law
- II. How are they opposite?
  - a. Law
    - i. Makes demands
    - ii. Condemns/accuses
    - iii. Distinguishes sinners
    - iv. Creates an account
    - v. Conditional
    - vi. Known by the heart
  - b. Gospel
    - i. No demands
    - ii. Offers grace/acquits
    - iii. See no distinction
    - iv. Justifies
    - v. Unconditional
    - vi. Must be told
- III. Easy comparison
  - a. Law
    - i. What we are to do and not do
    - ii. Shows our Sins (SOS) and the wrath of God
    - iii. Law must be proclaimed, but especially to the sinner who refuses to repent
  - b. Gospel
    - i. Teaches what God has done and still does, in Jesus, for our salvation
    - ii. Shows our Savior (SOS) and brings God's grace and favor
    - iii. Must be proclaimed to sinners who are troubled by their sins.
- IV. How did God give the Law?
  - a. First on every human heart
  - b. Second on the tablets of stone
  - c. Third through other various instructions in the Bible
- V. How does God use the Law?
  - a. First, for the good of His creation, God uses the Law to limit or prevent coarse outbursts of sin, thereby helping to keep order in the world (a curb).
  - b. Second, He uses the Law to reveal and condemn our sin (a mirror).
  - c. Third, He uses the Law to guide and direct our thoughts, words and deeds as Christian in God-pleasing ways (a guide).
- VI. Second use: Mirror
  - a. Why is this important?
    - i. To know that we are sinners.
    - ii. Make known our need for Jesus.
- VII. What types of Law were there in the Old Testament?
  - a. Moral law – tells of people's duties toward God.
  - b. Ceremonial law – religious practices
  - c. Political law – state law of the Israelites.
  - d. FURTHER:
    - i. Moral law is the one on the hearts of man.
    - ii. Ceremonies are no longer required

- VIII. What is sin?
- a. Humanity's fallen condition.
  - b. Turned from God and unable to Him for security, meaning and righteousness.
  - c. This inner sinful condition results in actual sins of thought, desire, word or deed.
  - d. A total corruption of our human nature
- IX. How did sin enter God's good creation?
- a. The devil brought temptation to Adam and Eve, who willingly yielded to the temptation.
- X. How did Adams and Eve's disobedience affect us?
- a. The entire human race is now inheritors of this sin.
- XI. How are we affected by this sin?
- a. Spiritually blind and dead
  - b. Enemies of God
  - c. Deserving of God's temporal and eternal death sentence
  - d. Enslaved in a lifelong sinful condition
- XII. What are the two tables of the Law?
- a. There are the two divisions in the 10 Commandments.
    - i. Love toward God. 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> Commandments
    - ii. Love toward neighbor. 4<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Commandments
  - b. Jesus sums up the two tables.
    - i. *"But when the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together. And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.""* (Matthew 22:34-40, ESV)
- XIII. What is the Gospel?
- a. What God has done through Jesus to rescue from sin, death and the devil.
    - i. This work is called the Vicarious Satisfaction.
      1. God requires perfect fulfillment of the two tables of the Law. Jesus fulfilled both tables of the Law vicariously, in our place.
      2. God punishes all those who transgress His Law with temporal punishment and eternal death. Jesus suffered the punishment that we deserve vicariously, in our place.
  - a. It is only known through the revelation of God.
  - b. It is distributed by the Means of Grace.
    - i. Word of God
    - ii. Sacraments
      1. Baptism
      2. Absolution
      3. Lord's Supper
  - c. It is found in:
    - i. 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Articles of the Creed
    - ii. Lord's Prayer
    - iii. Baptism
    - iv. Absolution
    - v. Lord's Supper