



# THE STORY OF MOSES

PART 11: THE LAW

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# THE LAW

- Common questions:
  - Was there any Law before Moses?
  - Did the Law change God's covenant he spoke over Abraham?
  - Did the Law become irrelevant after Christ?
  - As Christians are we under the Law?
  - Do we still need to obey the Law?
  - Why was the Law given in the first place?

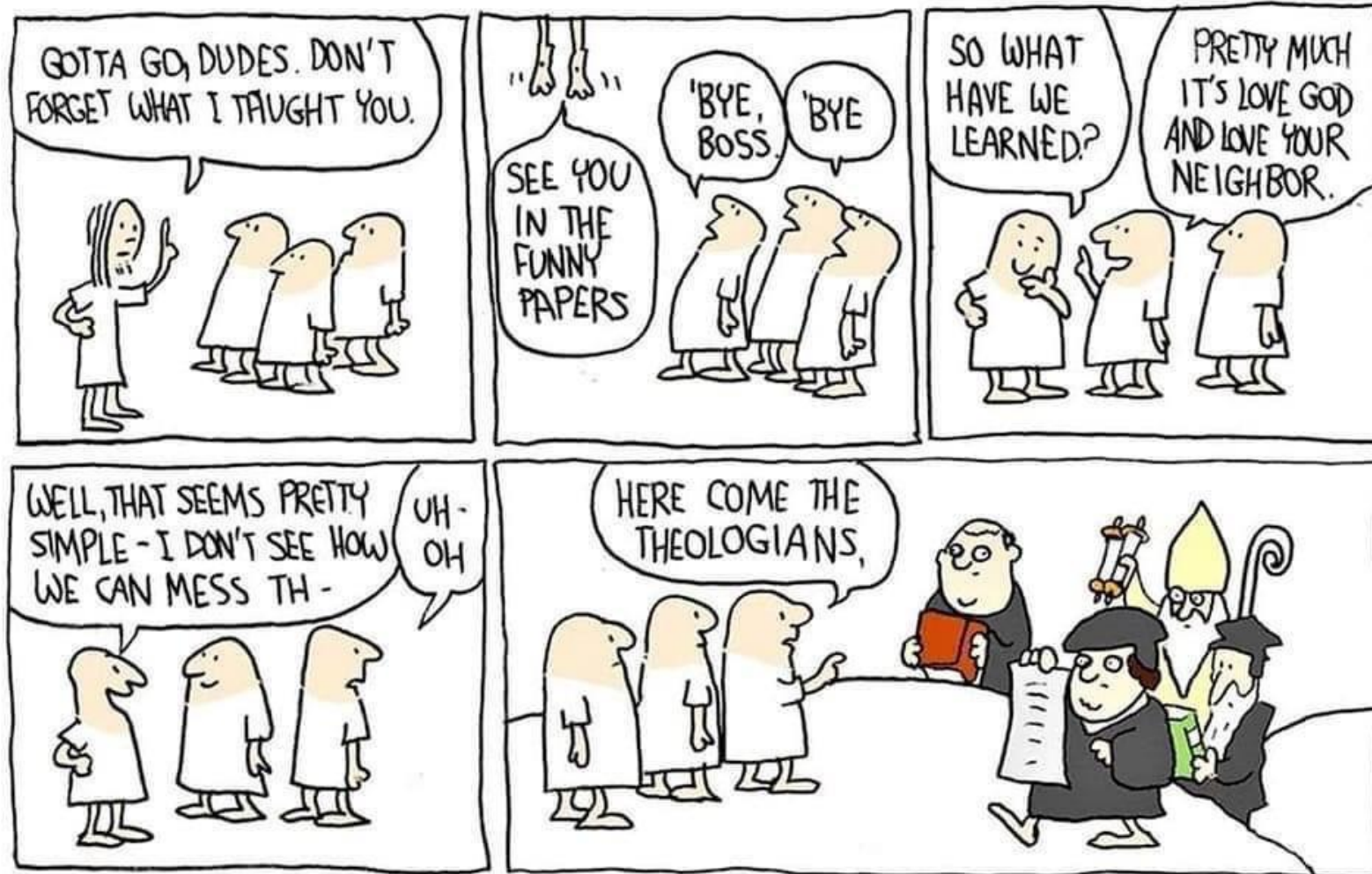


# THE LAW

- What is the Law?
- Why was the Law given?
- What does the Law mean to us today?



# I'M GOING TO TRY NOT TO DO THIS...



# WHAT IS THE LAW?

- The 10 Commandments
- And so much more...
  - how to build altars
  - how to treat slaves,
  - what happens if someone causes personal injury to another, or even worse causes someone's death
  - personal property, social responsibility, justice...
  - festivals, offerings and building the tabernacle
  - details about the clothes the priests had to wear





# WHAT IS THE LAW?

- The Law is essentially the do's and don'ts of how to live as God's people



# WHY WAS THE LAW GIVEN?

- To reveal sin
  - Galatians 3:19 it says: *Why, then, was the law given at all? It was added because of transgressions...*
- When you do wrong, you do wrong against God.
- Those who walked with God would know this.



# WHY WAS THE LAW GIVEN?

- The Israelites had been influenced by their life in Egypt for 400 years
- Now they needed to learn what it means to be the people of God.
- This would require discipline
- This was a big change in the way God had dealt with his people so far.





# WHY WAS THE LAW GIVEN?

- Before the Law we have God's covenant to Abraham
- Genesis 12:1-3 *<sup>1</sup>The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you (Canaan). <sup>2</sup> "I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."*

# WHY WAS THE LAW GIVEN?

- Later when Abraham is tested...
- Genesis 22:16-18 - <sup>16</sup> “I swear by myself, declares the Lord, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, <sup>17</sup> I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, <sup>18</sup> and through your offspring (seed) all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.”

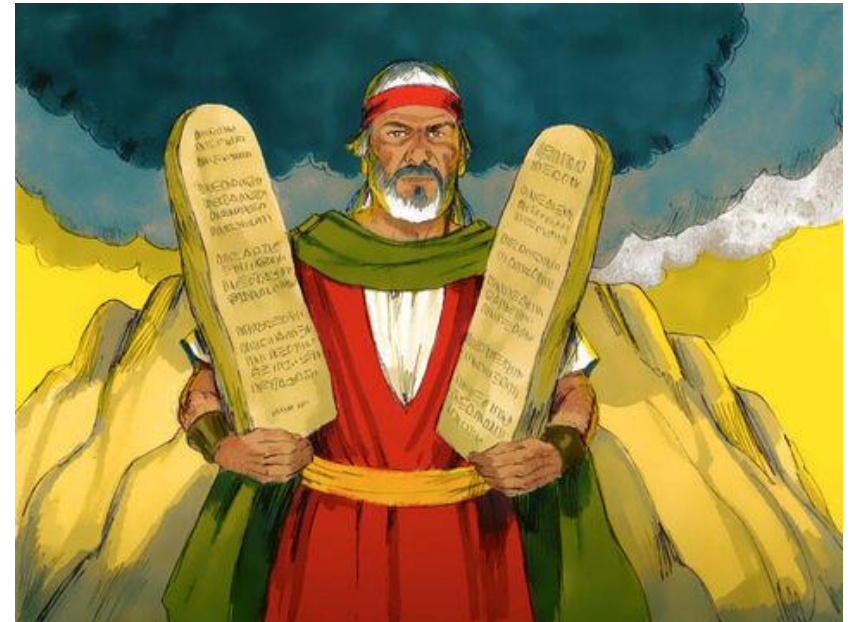
# WHY WAS THE LAW GIVEN?

- God unconditionally promises to bless Abraham and all his descendants and make them into a great nation that will bless all the surrounding nations.
- Despite all of their whinging and complaining, God fulfils his promise.



# WHY WAS THE LAW GIVEN?

- Did the giving of the Law do away with God's unconditional promise to Abraham?
- Galatians 3:19 (NLT) - *Why, then, was the law given? It was given alongside the promise to show people their sins.*



# WHY WAS THE LAW GIVEN?

- Romans 5:20 in TPT *So then, the law was introduced into God's plan to bring the reality of human sinfulness out of hiding. And yet, wherever sin increased, there was more than enough of God's grace to triumph all the more!*



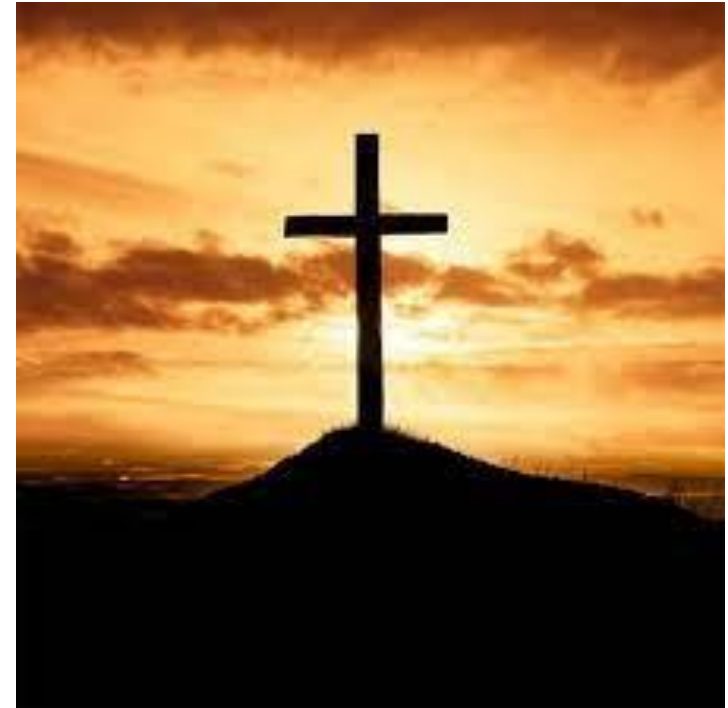


# WHY WAS THE LAW GIVEN?

- *Romans 7:7-8 <sup>7</sup> What shall we say, then? Is the law sinful? Certainly not! Nevertheless, I would not have known what sin was had it not been for the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, “You shall not covet.” <sup>8</sup> But sin, seizing the opportunity afforded by the commandment, produced in me every kind of coveting. Ouch!! Tell me not to do something, I want to do it all the more.*
- *Paul goes on to say: <sup>14</sup> We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin. <sup>15</sup> I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. <sup>16</sup> And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup> As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. <sup>18</sup> For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. <sup>19</sup> For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. <sup>20</sup> Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it. <sup>21</sup> So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. <sup>22</sup> For in my inner being I delight in God’s law; <sup>23</sup> but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. <sup>24</sup> What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? <sup>25</sup> Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!*
- **HALLELUJAH – THE ANSWER IS JESUS**

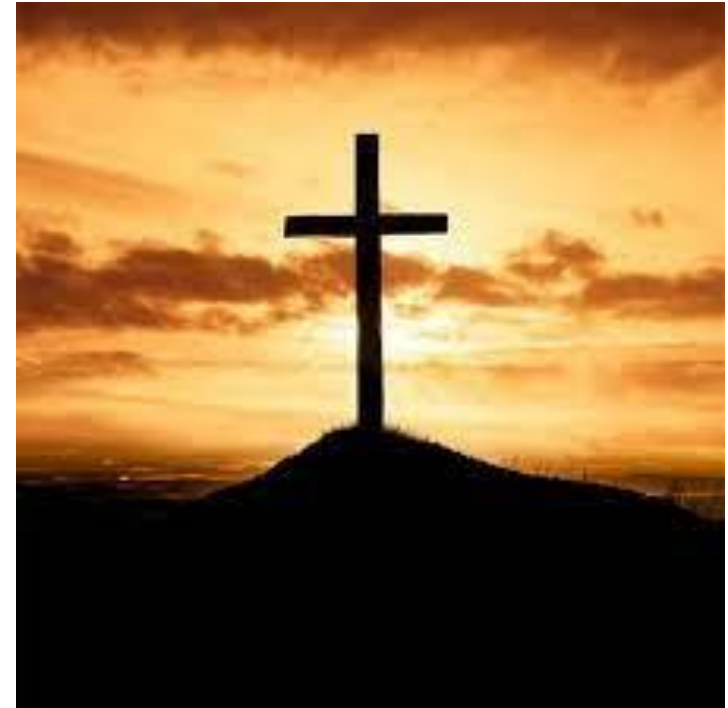
# WHAT DOES THE LAW MEAN TODAY?

- Galatians 3:19 note how it reads a little further on - *<sup>19</sup> Why, then, was the law given at all? It was added because of transgressions until the Seed to whom the promise referred had come.*
- The Law had an end in sight — Jesus.



# WHAT DOES THE LAW MEAN TODAY?

- Jeremiah 31:33 *“This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time,” declares the Lord. “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.”*
- It’s all about the heart



# WHAT DOES THE LAW MEAN TODAY?

- Galatians 3:23-25 (AMP) <sup>23</sup> Now before faith came, we were kept in custody under the Law, [perpetually] imprisoned [in preparation] for the faith that was destined to be revealed, <sup>24</sup> with the result that the Law has become our tutor and our disciplinarian to guide us to Christ, so that we may be justified [that is, declared free of the guilt of sin and its penalty, and placed in right standing with God] by faith. <sup>25</sup> But now that faith has come, we are no longer under [the control and authority of] a tutor and disciplinarian.

# WHAT DOES THE LAW MEAN TODAY?

- Only Jesus was able to fulfil the Law, and only he was qualified to pay the price for our sins.
- Now with Jesus in our hearts can we live a life that truly pleases God, i.e. Love God and Love People.
- Psalm 119:11 *I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.*



# WHAT DOES THE LAW MEAN TODAY?

- Does the Law have any relevance for us today?
  - 1 Peter 1:3 it says *His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.*
  - 2 Timothy 3:16-17 <sup>16</sup> *All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,* <sup>17</sup> *so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.*
  - The Law is still a mirror of what is right and wrong; it teaches generosity and love and justice. But we are free from the legality of the Law.

# SUMMARY

Galatians 3:26-27 (TPT) <sup>26</sup>You have all become true children of God by faith in Jesus Christ! <sup>27</sup>Faith immersed you into Christ, and now you are covered and clothed with his life. <sup>28</sup>And we no longer see each other in our former state—Jew or non-Jew, rich or poor, male or female—because we’re all one through our union with Jesus Christ. <sup>29</sup>And if you belong to Christ, then you are now Abraham’s “child” and a true heir of all his blessings because of the promise God made to Abraham!