

Knowing Our Sinfulness from the Law of God

Read: Exodus 19:10-25; 20:1-17; 31:18; 32:15-16; 34:1-4; Matthew 22:35-40

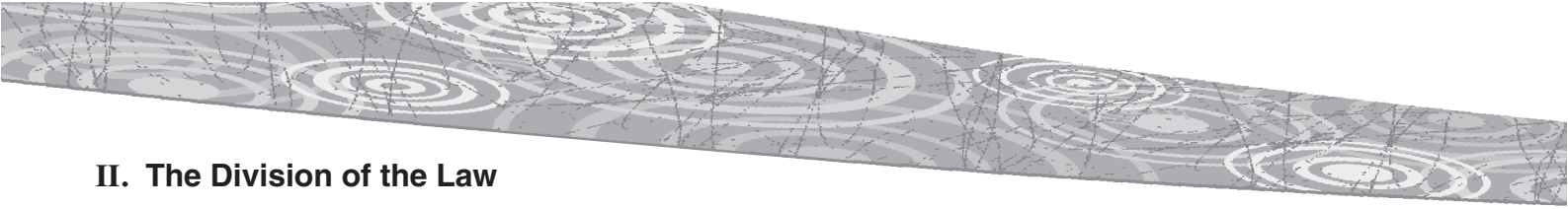
1. **Q.** Where do we learn to know our sinfulness?
A. From the Law of God. (Romans 7:7)
2. **Q.** What is the Law of God?
A. It is God's rule for our lives.
3. **Q.** What has God commanded in His Law?
A. All that is contained in the Ten Commandments and their summary.
4. **Q.** Can we keep God's Law perfectly?
A. No, for we are inclined to hate God and our neighbours, and to transgress His Law in thought, word, and deed.

In the Scripture passages selected from Exodus we learn of the Law which God gave to His people. We now shall study what the Bible says about this Law, and how we should regard it in our lives.

I. The Author of Law

1. **Q.** When God first gave His Law to His people, did He do so by
 - (a) speaking it directly to the people?
 - (b) telling Moses what to tell them?

Underline the correct answer; see Exodus 20:1 and Exodus 20:19, 22.
2. **Q.** Near which mountain was Israel gathered when the Law was given?
See Exodus 19:11b.
A. When the Law was given Israel was near Mount _ _ _ _ _.
3. **Q.** What is the Law called in Exodus 34:28d?
A. In Exodus 34:28d the Law is referred to as the _ _ _ _ _.
4. **Q.** Were the commandments written on slabs of wood, or on tables of stone? See Exodus 34:1.
A. They were written on _ _ _ _ _ of _ _ _ _ _.
5. **Q.** With what were they written? See Exodus 31:18d.
A. They were written with the _ _ _ _ _ of _ _ _ _ _.



II. The Division of the Law

The Ten Commandments are divided into two tables. The first table teaches us how we must behave towards God. The second teaches us what duties we owe to our neighbour. The division into two tables was made by God Himself. When the Law was given, He commanded Moses to make not one, but two stone tables, and wrote upon them the Ten Commandments. See Deuteronomy 4:13. Moses distinguished the two tables according to their contents, namely, love to God and love to our neighbour.

See Deuteronomy 6:5 and Leviticus 19:18.

The all-important principle that controls the entire Law is love to God.

Without love to God we cannot have true love for our neighbour.

1. Q. Name the four commandments given in Exodus 20:3-11 (in brief).

- A.** (1) Serve no idols, but worship only the one, true and living God.
(2) Make no images of God, but worship Him with your whole heart.
(3) Do not take God's name in vain, but worship God with reverence.
(4) Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

2. Q. Name the six commandments given in verses 12 to 17 (in brief).

- A.** (5) Obey and respect your parents and all whom God has placed in authority over you.
(6) Protect human life as much as you can and do not hurt or oppress others.
(7) God forbids adultery and requires purity in heart, speech and behaviour.
(8) Treat your neighbour, with respect to his property, as you wish to be treated by others.
(9) Love your neighbour's reputation or good name. Do not lie or slander.
(10) The desires of our hearts should be pure.

We should not desire what belongs to someone else.

III. The Summary of the Law

Jesus summarized the Law in the following words:

“Thou shalt _____ the Lord thy _____ with all thy _____ with all thy _____ with all thy _____ and with _____ thy _____. Thou shalt _____ thy _____ as _____” (Mark 12:30).

IV. What the Law Teaches

1. **Q.** The Law of God may be compared to a mirror. What does it reveal to us?

A. By the _____ is the _____ of _____ (Romans 3:20b).

2. **Q.** Why can the conscience of an unsaved person not be a safe guide by which to live?

A. The mind and _____ of the unbeliever is _____ (Titus 1: 15d).

3. **Q.** Has anyone ever kept the Law of God perfectly?

A. No. “For _____ have _____, and come _____ of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23).

4. **Q.** How did Paul confess his inability to perform all of God's commandments?

A. “For the _____ that I would I do not: but the _____ which I would not, that I do” (Romans 7:19).

5. **Q.** How guilty are we before the Law according to James 2:10?

A. “Whosoever shall _____ the _____ law, and yet _____ in _____ point, He is _____ of _____.”

6. **Q.** How do we all break the Law?

A. We all break the Law in our t _____ (Mathew 15:19), w _____ (Proverbs 10:19a), and d _____ (John 3:19c).

7. **Q.** What sentence is pronounced against those who do not do what the Law demands?

A. “C_____ is every one that continueth not in _____ which are written in the _____ of the _____ to do them” Galatians 3:10b).

8. **Q.** How has Christ redeemed His people from the curse of the Law?

A. “Christ has _____ us from the _____ of the law, being made a _____ for us” (Galatians 3:13b).

9. **Q.** How does a child of God react before the Law?

A. (a) He hates it.

(b) He loves and desires to obey each commandment.

Underline the correct answer.

A Penitential Prayer
(Psalm 51)

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| 1. <i>God be merciful to me,</i> | 2. <i>My transgressions I confess,</i> |
| <i>On Thy grace I rest my plea;</i> | <i>Grief and guilt my soul oppress;</i> |
| <i>Plenteous in compassion Thou;</i> | <i>I have sinned against Thy grace</i> |
| <i>Blot out my transgressions now;</i> | <i>And provoked Thee to Thy face</i> |
| <i>Wash me, make me pure within,</i> | <i>I confess Thy judgment just,</i> |
| <i>Cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.</i> | <i>Speechless, I Thy mercy trust.</i> |
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| 3. <i>I am evil born in sin,</i> | 4. <i>Broken, humbled to the dust</i> |
| <i>Thou desirest truth within.</i> | <i>By Thy wrath and judgement just,</i> |
| <i>Thou alone my Saviour art,</i> | <i>Let my contrite heart rejoice</i> |
| <i>Teach thy wisdom to my heart;</i> | <i>And in gladness hear Thy voice;</i> |
| <i>Make me pure Thy grace bestow,</i> | <i>From my sins O hide Thy face,</i> |
| <i>Wash me whiter than the snow.</i> | <i>Blot them out in boundless grace.</i> |