

Discussion Guide and Study Notes

April 21st, 2013

Please use this guide in your Life Group discussion to help glean the most from our Sunday morning teaching. These notes are also excellent for your personal study and growth.

Till [Get the soil ready]

"Boring!" So goes the expression when some think of the Old Testament Law. If this is you, ready to re-tool your thinking? Did you know that God has revealed himself through this Law? Did you know he paints the pathway for people to address their sin and death problem through this Law? Did you also know that this Law also describes Jesus and his work? A little more interesting, isn't it?

- The New Testament reveals so much about the Old Testament. In many ways, the NT serves as a commentary (or explanation) of the OT. In fact, here's a Bible study I wish I could have attended! Luke 24:25-27
- It's not as though God changed his plan in the NT, he is fulfilling it through Jesus. See also, Matt. 5:17-18.
- Look at it this way: The NT serves as God-inspired glasses to look at the OT.



Sow [What God wants us to hear]

Sunday's message mentioned three aspects of the Law (Commands, Offerings, Feasts), so how about a few examples of how they teach us about Jesus?

FEASTS

Passover	1 Cor. 5:7; 1 Pt. 1:18-19; Ex. 12:5,7	Lamb is w/o blemish, suffers innocently, releases from slavery, blood need to be applied (used)
Atonement	Rom. 8:1; Heb. 9:11-14; Exod. 30:10	Sin is removed once and for all with Jesus instead of just year to year. Tabernacle involved.
First Fruits	1Cor. 15:20 and Exod. 23:16	Jesus is the first fruits from among the dead.

OFFERINGS

Burnt	Heb. 9:14	Jesus is our guilt offering.
Sin	2 Cor. 5:21; Eph. 1:7; Lev. 4:21	The worshipper must put his hands on the offering and confirming that his sin costs the sacrifice his life.
Peace	Col. 1:20; Lev. 3:1-3	Jesus' offering gives us peace with God.

COMMANDS: there are too many to list, but Paul points out what about the Law? Is there any hope to be perfect and obey them all? See Romans 5:20-21.



Tend [Working the truth into our hearts]

- Overall, these three aspects of the Law (Offerings, Feasts, and Commands) taught that no one could be perfect.
- This is why we need the Gospel (Jesus)! See Rom. 3:23, Gal. 2:19-3:3.
 - So, how futile is it to be self-righteous?
 - So, how does this truth help us be humble before God?

Harvest [Where the fruit is seen]

- Spend some time this week remembering Jesus' sacrifice for you. You can simply quietly pray, worship, record your thanks in your journal, or even celebrate communion with him and/or with your family. Enjoy what he has done for you!
- Been self-righteous? Has God been lucky to have you in his family? Then there is some repentance needed here. Again, take the time. God has been teaching since the Law given to Moses (and before that!) that it's about Jesus' works and not ours.

Preview: What's the worse excuse you've ever heard? Aaron probably has it beat.
Can you find it in Exodus 32?

