

SANCTIFICATION: Lordship, Law and Obedience

Introduction

- Why is this subject important?
- How are to think of the law/obedience [There is a right way and a wrong way]
- What does a life of obedience to God's law look like
- How do we understand law in our cultural context?
 - o Are leaders above or under the Law?
 - o Is Law trans-cultural or culturally defined?
 - o Does Law apply when it is not enforced?
 - o Does every transgression of Law need to be punished?

Why this subject is important?

- The Law and Gospel divide!
- NT Scriptures that talk about the law?

How are we (Christians) to think about the law?

- Exodus 20:1-17
- Jeremiah 31:33
- Matthew 23:18-20
- Ephesians 2:8-10; 6:1-3

→ The right way = Redemption and then Sanctification

→ Never forget: "Only by grace" – the whole Christian life is of grace

- John 15:1-8
- 1 Corinthians 3:7
- 1 Corinthians 15:10
- 2 Corinthians 3:5

- Philippians 2:13

→ Grace is primary and grace is supreme

What does a life of obedience to God's law look like?

Jesus summary of discipleship (Matthew 22:36-37)

- Loving God
- Loving our neighbour

The Bible's claim (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

- All Scripture plays a part in our discipleship
- Every area of life is covered by the Bible!

→ What the Bible teaches we are to believe and what it commands we are to obey

2 C's to remember:

CONTEXT:

- Read the story carefully
- An example: the dietary laws in Leviticus

NB the problem with the 3-fold division of the Law (Moral, Civil, and Ceremonial)

→ Obedience is not always easy!

CHRIST:

- Fulfilled the law perfectly for our salvation; we're not obeying to earn our place in glory
- Failure does not mean you're finished
- Franticness means you are failing

New Testament Scriptures on Christians obeying the law:

The Gospels

Matthew 5:17-21; 7:12; 15:3-6; 22:35-40; 23:23; 28:20

John 1:17, 45; 12:50; 14:15,21-23; 15:10-14

Acts of Apostles

13:39; 15:5; 24:14; 28:23

Paul's letters, Epistles and Revelation

Romans 1:5 & 16:26 – the obedience of faith; 3:19-21 - conviction; chp. 7-8; 9:32 – pursue by faith; 10:4-8; 13:8-10

1 Corinthians 5:1, 13; 7:19; 9:9-14, 20-21; 15:56

2 Corinthians 6:14

Galatians 3:10-24; 5:13-14; 6:2

Philippians 3:9

1 Timothy 1:7-19; 5:18

Hebrews 7:19; 8:8-10; 10:16

James 1:25; 2:8-13; 4:11

1 John 2:3-4; 3:4, 22-24; 5:2-3

2 John 6

Revelation 12:17; 14:12; 22:14

Further reading:

BOOKS:

- *Antinomianism: Reformed Theology's Unwelcome Guest?* by Mark Jones
- *By This Standard* by Greg L. Bahnsen
- *Respectable Sins* by Jerry Bridges
- *The Doctrine of the Christian Life* by John M. Frame [\[excerpt\]](#)
- *The hole in our holiness* by Kevin DeYoung
- [The Institutes of Christian Religion Book II Chapter 7 & 8](#) by John Calvin

ONLINE ARTICLES

- [*Gospel-Driven Sanctification* by Jerry Bridges](#)
- [*Is Sanctification by faith alone?* by Kevin DeYoung](#)
- [*Justification and Sanctification: What is the difference?* by Matt Slick](#)
- [*Preaching Old Testament Law to New Testament Christians* by Daniel I. Block](#)
- [*The Shadow of Christ in the Law of Moses* by Vern Poythress](#)
- [*The threefold use of the law* by R. C. Sproul](#)