

KNOWING GOD

Exodus 20:22-23:33

- The Law & the Christian ¹

The Law is not how we get right with God

- the Law brings curse ²

- the Gospel brings blessing ³

'The effects of work-religion persist so stubbornly in the heart that Christians who believe the gospel at one level will continually revert to religion, operating at deeper levels as if they are saved by their works'.

'Only a fraction of the present body of professing Christians are solidly appropriating the justifying work of Christ in their lives. Many...have a theoretical commitment to this doctrine, but in their day-to-day existence they rely on their sanctification for their justification...drawing their assurance of acceptance with God from their sincerity...their recent religious performance or the relative infrequency of their conscious, willful disobedience. Few know enough to start each day with a thorough-going stand on Luther's platform: you are accepted, looking outward in faith and claiming the wholly alien r/ness of Christ as the only ground for acceptance'.

(Tim Keller: Center Church)

¹ Galatians 4:15

² Exodus 19:6; Deuteronomy 6:25; Jeremiah 9:13; Deuteronomy 31:16; Romans 5:20; 2 Corinthians 3:7

³ Galatians 3:23; 4:5; 3:10,13; Matthew 5:17; Philippians 3:9

The Law is not how we live life for God

- not under Law ⁴

- under grace

- o living by the Spirit ⁵

- o living for the King



Discussion questions

What place does the Law have in your relating to God? Do you enjoy the freedom of which Galatians speaks?

⁴ Galatians 3:19;26,24,25; Romans 6:14; 7:4,6

⁵ Romans 7:6; Ezekiel 36:26; Jeremiah 31:33; Galatians 5:18,22,25,1