



HIGHER GROUND
CALVARY CHAPEL

SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY

Class Five:

The Law of God

Let me lay some foundation from
our 120-miles out in space view of
the Genesis...

God created the earth

God created man

God had authority over man

Man and woman broke God's Law

God put together a Plan of Salvation

Satan created an alternative race to populate the earth

The Nephilim almost became the dominate species and would have made humans extinct

God destroyed all life on the earth – except for Noah and his family – to start the human race over again

God narrows His focus on one genetic line

He sets forces in motion to keep this genetic line pure and human

He calls Abraham to leave his home

God gives Abraham a visual picture of what He intends to do in order to save mankind

He orders Abraham to take Isaac and offer him as a sacrifice on Mount Moriah

Mount Moriah is the actual mountain where the Temple will one day be built

If you follow the slope of Mount Moriah it looks like Golgotha is at one end of this mountain

As Isaac and Abraham are climbing the mountain alone, Isaac notes that they have the wood and fire, but he asks where is the lamb for the sacrifice

Speaking prophetically, Abraham declares that God will provide Himself [as] a burnt offering

Abraham is set to plunge the knife into Isaac when God stops him

Abraham passed the test

He was willing to offer his son just as God is going to offer His

God selects three generations of Abraham's line to prepare to build a nation He can use

This brings us to Exodus.

Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers,
Deuteronomy and Joshua will
focus on God providing a nation
for His Chosen People

God also gives more details
concerning His Law

Which raises the question of how the Chosen People will recognize the Messiah when He appears

That is where this lesson is going to take us

God's Law will serve as a picture of who the Messiah will be, and what the Messiah will do

Exodus opens in Egypt four hundred years later...give or take a few decades

Where Joseph brought the Children of Israel to Egypt as welcomed guests, the current Pharaoh fears them, has made them slaves; and wants to keep them weak and under control

To that end, he orders the death
of all Hebrew males

This prompts Moses' mother to
hide him

This prompts Pharaoh's daughter
to adopt him

And Moses is raised by Pharaoh
in the palace

At 40 years old, Moses kills an Egyptian to protect a slave

His crime is discovered and he flees Egypt

His flight takes him among the Midianites where he lives for forty years

Enter the burning bush

God calls Moses to return to
Egypt and free his people

This leads to the Plagues of Egypt

Pharaoh continues to resist God
to the point the kingdom is broken

The final Plague kills all first born
in Egypt

This Plague will become the Feast of Passover once the Children of Israel are free

There is a massive exodus from Egypt with between two to three million men, women and children

They go into the desert by the Red Sea, and Pharaoh sends his chariot army to bring them back

God opens the Red Sea and creates a path of dry land through the midst of the Sea

The Children of Israel pass through safely, the Egyptians die

God makes a promise to them in
Exodus 19:5:

“Now therefore, if you will obey
my voice indeed and keep my
covenant, then you shall be a
peculiar treasure unto me above
all people; for all the earth is
mine.”

This mirrors a previous promise in Exodus 15:26:

“...If you will diligently pay attention to the voice of the Lord your God and will do that which is right in His sight and give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes...

“...I will put none of these diseases upon you which I brought upon the Egyptians; for I am the Lord who heals you.”

These were contracts of service to
God Exodus 19:6:

“And you shall be unto me a
kingdom of priests and a holy
nation...”

The remainder of Exodus,
Leviticus and Deuteronomy is
God revealing to them:

1. What is right in His sight
2. What His Commandments are
3. What His statutes are
4. What His covenant involves

I want to focus on one Law in particular as this becomes the foundation for God's Plan of Salvation

The remainder of the Law supports and illustrates His Plan of Salvation; but this Law is central to God's Plan

Leviticus 25:25:

“If your brother becomes poor and has sold away some of his possession, if any of his kin come to redeem it, then he shall redeem that which his brother has sold”

This is the Law of the Kinsman
Redeemer

This is the basis for God's Plan of
Salvation

Under this Law, God does not
qualify as our Redeemer

He is our Creator, not our
kinsman

Under this Law, God does not
have the price to redeem us

The price of redemption is the
shedding of blood and death

God is a spirit

He has no blood

He cannot die

This creates a serious legal problem for us because God has declared in several places that He is going to redeem us

The only way God could qualify is if He were born into the human race and became human

In order for God to be able to
redeem us as He promised:

He must be born into the human
race

He must be without sin

He must shed His own blood

He must die

The rest of God's Law serves two purposes and two purposes only:

1. It proves to us that we cannot save ourselves, and

2. It proves that we need a Savior

Moses represents the Law

Joshua, whose Hebrew name is the same as Jesus, represents Jesus and the Law of Grace

Moses [the Law] can show us the Promised Land but cannot deliver

Only Joshua [Jesus] can take us to the Promised Land

Sacrifices:

There are four animals for sacrifices:

1. Oxen
2. Goat
3. Lamb
4. Turtle Dove

There are several offerings:

1. The Sin Offering
2. The Trespass Offering
3. The Burnt Offering
4. The Peace Offering

There are also bloodless offerings:

1. The Heave Offering
2. The Meal offering

Each offering and sacrifice
presents some picture of Jesus

The Cleansing of the Leper
[Leviticus 14] is a picture of the
Christian being saved by Jesus

The Red Heifer [Numbers 19] is a
picture of the Church

There are Seven Feasts:

1. Passover
2. Feast of Unleavened Bread
3. Feast of First Fruits
4. Feast of Weeks
5. Rosh Hashanah
6. Day of Atonement
7. Feast of Tabernacles

Three of the Feasts were mandatory for every male to appear before the Lord in Jerusalem:

1. Passover
2. Feast of Weeks
3. Feast of Tabernacles

At the Passover, everyone was there to see the Crucifixion of Jesus

The Feast of Unleavened Bread started at the end of Passover and called for cleansing of sin and dedication to God

The Feast of Firstfruits was the day after the first Sabbath after Passover

The priest would bless the coming harvest

This was the day Jesus rose from the grave

Jesus was literally the Firstfruit

The Feast of Weeks was fifty days
after the Feast of Firstfruits

It was also known as Pentecost

It was the beginning of the harvest
which had been blessed at
Firstfruits

It is when God poured out the
Holy Spirit to begin His harvest

Rosh Hashanah is the Jewish
New Year

It is also called the Feast of
Trumpets

It is the beginning of the Fall
Feasts

Some suggest it is reserved for
the Rapture

The Day of Atonement [Yom Kippur] is the call to repentance

The High Priest enters the Holy of Holies

Two goats are chosen

One is sacrificed

The other is released

[Pictures of Jesus]

The Feast of Tabernacles

[Succoth] or the Feast of Booths

It is a 7-day Feast that lasts for 8 days

Males live in booths to remember what it was like in the wilderness

It celebrates the end of the harvest

This is only Feast with mandatory attendance which has not had a spiritual event take place

This might be the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Jews and their spiritual blindness lifted

Eighth Day is a Feast of Celebration

The Tabernacle and the items in the Tabernacle were “shadows of things in Heaven”

They are pictures of Jesus:

1. Gold = God

2. Silver = redemption/God's Word

3. Brass = judgment

White represents purity

Blue represents God/prophets

Purple represents royalty

Red represents priests

The Ark is a picture of Jesus

Acacia wood represents the
incorruptible man [Jesus]

It is covered within and without by
gold [The incarnation]

It contains the sins of Israel

It is under the Mercy Seat [God]

The Menorah [Lampstand]

It is gold [God] but it is beaten to
make it [Jesus is God who was
beaten]

There are seven lights on it

Seven represents completeness

It is the only light in the

The Table of Showbread is acacia wood covered in gold [incarnation]

It has a crown of gold

It offers bread to the priests

It is bread mixed with oil [anointed with the Holy Spirit]

Represents provision of Jesus after His death

The Altar of Incense

Acacia wood cover in gold
[incarnation]

It has a golden crown [after the
Resurrection]

Presents our prayers to God

This is what Jesus is currently
doing for us in Heaven

The Bronze altar

Acacia wood – the incorruptible
man [Jesus]

Cast out of God's Presence

Covered with bronze [judgment]

Jesus covered [filled] with our sins
and cast out of God's Presence

The linen curtains surrounding the
Tabernacle

Linen is a picture of righteousness

God's righteousness keeps us
from coming before Him

There is one gate [Jesus]

Red, Purple, Blue: Jesus as
prophet, priest and king

The coverings of the Tabernacle:

1. Blue linen – God's Righteousness
2. Goat hair covering
3. Ram's skin died red
4. Badger skin [unclean animal]

This is a representation of a question God is asking:

“How can the righteousness of God [blue linen] have fellowship with the uncleanness of man [badger skin]?”

Answer: “We can’t”

What makes such a relationship possible?

The goats hair is a covering made without killing the goat

Is there such a sacrifice?

Yes, the scapegoat on the Day of Atonement

Sins confessed and sent away

The Ram is a male lamb

It is dyed red to represent the
shedding of the blood

Put all of these together and you
get the answer to God's question.

“How can a righteous God have fellowship with sinful man?”

“Only by the death of God’s Lamb and the shedding of His blood which transfers our sins to Him and takes them away forever.”

There is one additional piece of information concerning the Law of God

Only a priest, who is authorized, can make an offering of sin

A king or a prophet cannot do so unless they are part of the Tribe of Levi – the priestly tribe

Jesus could not present Himself
as the offering of sin under the
Levitical System

He was not a Levite

He was of the Tribe of Judah

Therefore, it was illegal for Him to
offer a sacrifice to God

In Genesis 14:18 – 20 we are introduced to a different kind of priesthood

Melchizedek was introduced as a priest of the Most High God

He was both a priest and the King of Salem

The author of the Book of Hebrews spends several chapters pointing out how the Priesthood of Melchizedek was greater than the Aaronic Priesthood – the priesthood of Levi

Psalm 110:4:

“The Lord has sworn, and will not repent, ‘You are a priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.’”

Psalm 110 is speaking of the
Messiah – Jesus

Jesus was made a priest after the
order of Melchizedek, not Aaron

This is how Jesus was able to be both the Lamb of God, the sacrifice for sin, and the priest who offers the sacrifice

The Book of Numbers deals with the forty years of wandering in the Wilderness

God brought the Children of Israel right to the border of the Promised Land

Moses sent in one spy from each of the twelve tribes

They returned with a report of a land
flowing with milk and honey

There was only one problem:

There were giants in the land

This is why God had sent them into
slavery

During this 400 years that they were
in Egypt, the land of Canaan became
infested with Nephilim DNA

God has spared them from this infestation

God had kept them pure

God had chosen them to remove this infestation of Nephilim DNA from the land once more

This is why every man, woman and child had to be killed

The Children of Israel chose not
to go forth and take the land

God judged the Children of Israel

Only Joshua and Caleb had been
faithful and encouraged taking the
land

They would survive

Everyone 20 years and older
would die in the Wilderness

We now move 40 years ahead

Moses has brought them to the border of the Promised Land

In Deuteronomy, Moses repeats the history of the Children of Israel and repeats the Law

He turns the Children of Israel over to Joshua and he dies

Joshua is now in command

God meets with him and
encourages him to be courageous
and follow God

They go forth and their first city is
Jericho

It is protected by a massive wall

God commands them to march
once around the city every day for
six days

On the seventh day they march
around the city seven times

They then shout and blow horns

The walls of the city fall and they
take the city

God was with Joshua and he led the campaign that took the entire land.

Not all the Canaanites were driven out

The Gibeonites tricked the Children of Israel into making a treaty with them

The land was divided among the tribes

This was their inheritance

Each tribe was give a section of the land as theirs forever

The exception of Levi

They belonged to God

God was their inheritance

God had Moses appoint Cities of Refuge to the Tribe of Levi

There were six of them and they were scattered throughout the land

If someone killed a person accidentally, they would run to one of these cities

If the person made it to the city,
they were safe from the Avenger
of Blood

They had to stay in the city until
the death of the High Priest

Then they were free to return
home

This was a picture of Jesus

We are all under a sentence of death

But with the death of our High Priest – Jesus – we are set free from that death sentence and can return home

At the end of Joshua, he calls for the people to dedicate themselves to God

God did not remove all the Canaanites at once on purpose

He did not want the land to become wild and crops fail or wild animals take over

So there is still more work to be done

We will see in the Books of History how the Children of Israel did not obey God

They did not drive out or wipe out those previous inhabitants of Canaan

As a result, we will see over the centuries how the original inhabitants influenced the Children of Israel to turn from God and worship the gods of Canaan and incur the wrath of God

Next week:

The History of Israel

QUESTIONS

