

BIBLE SCHOOL- 2016

LAWS DESIGNED
TO MAKE YOU
THINK

GOD'S HOLY, JUST AND GOOD LAW



LAWS THAT MAKE YOU THINK

THE LAW WAS DESIGNED TO TEACH

- God's Law challenges men to ask questions and work out the answers
- We need to question the anomalies and ponder the exceptions
- Many laws went against the natural wisdom
- Godly people could work out the lessons
- Some unusual laws were also prophetic

"Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold
wondrous things out of the Law"

THE DEITY DELIGHTS IN STIMULATING THE INTELLECT OF HIS CREATURES- IN DOING SO HE REVEALS HIMSELF MYSTERIOUSLY...

- And to love him with all the heart and with all the understanding and with all the strength, and to love one's neighbour as oneself, is much more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."
- And when Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." (Mark 12:33-34 ESV)

A SIMPLE EXAMPLE FIRST

- Lev 4 v28-32,5v6-7
- The sin offerings for the common people
- Why was a male lamb never prescribed for a sin offering (rams and bullocks were)?
- Where in the Bible had a lamb first been involved as a sin offering?
- Who had predicted a lamb that God would provide ?

THE LAMB OF GOD

- All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.
- He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth. (Isa 53:6-7)

**"Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away
The sin of the world" - John 1:29**



"The Lamb Slain From the Foundation of the World" – Rev 13:8

A VASTLY BETTER SIN OFFERING

- The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.
- (John 1:29)
- Note ...the long expected male lamb for a sin offering has come at last
- Note – this offering is not limited to Jews anymore-now the whole world can be saved

LAWS FOR TEACHING PRINCIPLES

Laws with limited natural or moral benefits

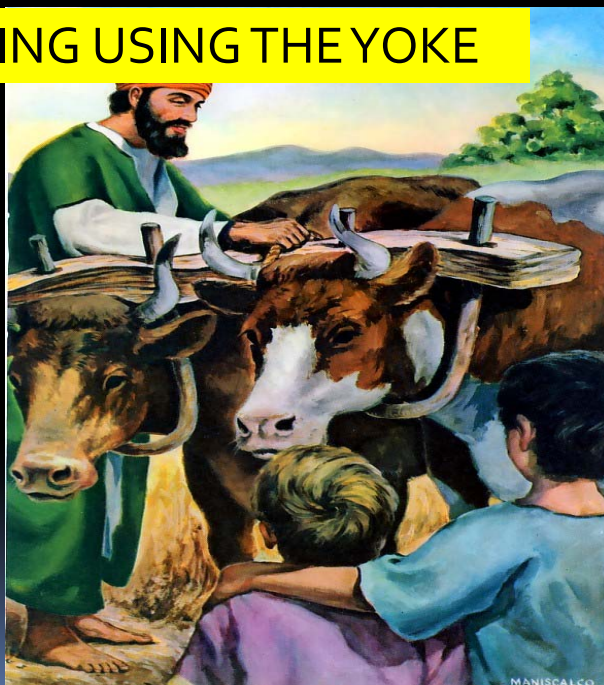
- Cant mix up crops in a field. (Lev19v19) nor cross breed animals (eg to create mules)
- Cant mix materials in a garment (Deut 22v11)

Laws of no natural value or even negative

- Ribband of blue placed on their garments (Num 15v38-39)
- Ox and ass cant be yoked together (Deut 22v10)

PLOUGHING USING THE YOKE

Take my
yoke upon
you, and
learn of me
..my yoke is
easy ...
Matt 11v29



Do not yoke an ox and an ass together -DEUT 22V10 .WHY NOT?



BE NOT UNEQUALLY YOKED...2 Cor 6v16
MARRY ..ONLY IN THE LORD 1 Cor 7v39



THOU SHALT NOT MUZZLE THE OX



LAWS TO MAKE YOU THINK

- Deut 25v4- Not Muzzling the ox while he is threshing the crop
- The only law that was counter-productive to the welfare of man or animals
- Ox would take much longer to finish the job
- Owner would be very frustrated at delays
- So- why was it here ?
- But note how NT applies this unusual law as teaching a principle

NEW TESTAMENT APPLICATIONS

- Say I these things as a man? or saith not the law the same also?
- For it is written in the law of Moses, **Thou shalt not muzzle the mouth of the ox that treadeth out the corn.** Doth God take care for oxen?
- Or saith he it **altogether for our sakes?** For our sakes, no doubt, this is written: that he that ploweth should plow in hope; and that he that thresheth in hope should be partaker of his hope
- (1Cor 9:7-10)

NEW TESTAMENT APPLICATIONS

- *Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.*
- *For the scripture saith, Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, The labourer is worthy of his reward. (1Tim 5:18)*

Give due respect and appreciation to those who serve

LAWS TO MAKE YOU THINK

You may not boil a kid in its mother's milk.

- Mentioned **three times in the Law** -in Exodus 23v19 , 34v26 -also found in Deut 14v21
- Note its **always** in the important context of the feasts of firstfruits
- This law has led to Jews to formulate extreme KOSHER laws and practices (separate kitchens for meat and milk)
- What lessons do we see in this law ?

SEETHING A KID IN ITS MOTHER'S MILK

- Note ..in Exod 23v19..(at time of first fruits)
- Same in Exod 34v26 (time of feasts)
- In Deut 14v22..same offerings of firstfruits
- Archaeologists tell us the Canaanites did this sacrifice at the time of harvest (same time)
- The Canaanites believed in "sympathetic magic" – influencing the Gods sexual activity

SEETHING A KID IN ITS MOTHER'S MILK

- After boiling the kid in its mother's milk, they would then burn the kid and sprinkle the ashes under their fruit trees as a fertility ritual
- They would also mix planting seeds to "marry" them to ensure good harvests.
- Israel must never adopt these pagan rituals
- We should also avoid keeping pagan rituals ..no matter how harmless they might appear.

THE PRICE OF A SLAVE

- The case where a known dangerous ox kills a person. Ex 21 v28-36
- The owner is guilty of manslaughter (did not intend to kill anyone but has done so by his negligence)
- This normally carried a death sentence v29 ..but it could be commuted
- NOTE- v30 -31 The bereaved parents (or partner) could nominate the price, and whatever was nominated -it had to be paid without question or negotiation.
- The offender thus accepted full responsibility, and also the bereaved could decide to be merciful.

THE FIXED PRICE OF A SERVANT

Exodus 21

- There was a set price paid for the life of a servant (that is a foreign servant) (v32)
(Note the same price was paid for a female)
- Why was this specified ..when the price for a son or daughter was not – see v30-31?
- Go to Zech 11v12-13

THE PRICE OF A SERVANT

- And I said unto them, If ye think good, **give me my price**; and if not, forbear. So they weighed for my price thirty *pieces* of silver.
- And the LORD said unto me, Cast it unto the potter: a goodly price that I was priced at of them. And I took the thirty *pieces* of silver, and cast them to the potter in the house of the LORD. (**Zech 11:12-13**)

So what would the Jews value Jesus as- a good shepherd or an hireling ? – a son or a servant ?

THE PRICE OF A SERVANT

- Jesus was God's servant (Isa 52v13)
- Jesus was lightly esteemed by men (Isa 53v3)
- The Jewish leaders decided and agreed on 30 pieces of silver for Jesus life (Matt 26v14-15) – thus unwittingly fulfilling prophecy
- It shows how little they all thought of Jesus – God's son -whom they killed
- They were acting like enraged bulls (Psa 22v12)

LAWS TO MAKE YOU THINK

- Why so much focus on eating the thanksgiving peace offerings **the same day**. (Lev 22v29-30)
- Yet with voluntary peace offering you had two days to partake of your fellowship with God .(Lev 19v5-8)
- **Principle -Thanks to God cannot be delayed**

THE ONLY IMPERFECT OFFERING ALLOWED

- For a freewill offering – you could offer an imperfect beast (the only time ever in the whole sacrificial code) ..why? (Lev22v23)
- Note- that for a vow , God did not let you offer an imperfect beast ..why not ?
- Why the difference ?

THE AMAZING LAW OF NAZARITES

- Come to Numbers 6
- Both male and female had equal access (v2)
- Note the key words here (head ,separation)
- Offered hair on the altar with own hands (v18)
- Nazarites did nothing actually practical or useful
- Rather the Nazarites were to act as walking billboards of spiritual lessons
- What restrictions applied ?
- What was these meant to teach or achieve for the spiritually minded Israelite ?

RIBBAND OF BLUE Num15v38-41

- Had no practical use...but what did it teach ?
- Based on an event in Exod 24v9-10
- Reminded them of heaven..walking with God..and walking with the angels
- Clothes should teach positive lessons ..not excite envy or lust in others .

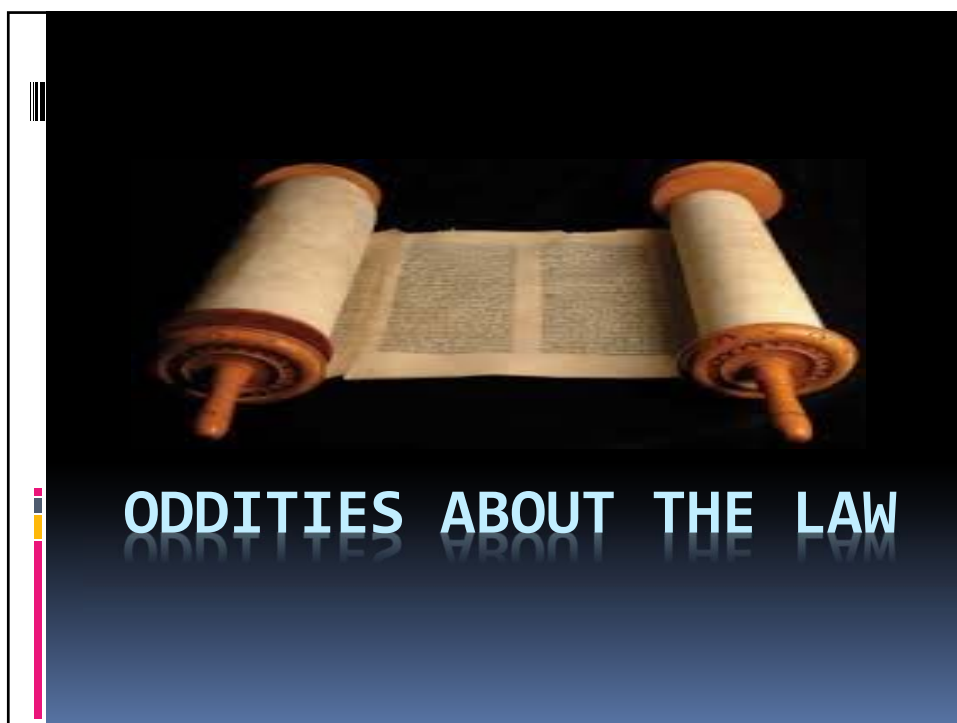
CASES WHERE ONE LAW TOOK PRIORITY

- Circumcision over the sabbath (John 7v22-23)
- Raising up seed, over the one wife principle

Sometimes the ceremonial observance gave way to the moral obligations

Where desperate need intervened - the Law was not always strictly followed .

- A sheep or ox fallen into a pit. (Matt 12v11)
- When humans are desperately hungry- "David was in need, and hungered" (Mark 2v25)



Oddities about God's Law

- Designed to make us think
- Some were prophetic
- Counterintuitive (against the natural) at times
- Some are really in conflict with modern day political correctness – eg. the exclusion of the disabled and a male only priesthood

Oddity- learn the opposite

- Deut 8v3 – Being left to starve is supposed to make us realise that “ man does not live by bread alone”..when it fact it emphasises our need.
- The hunger makes us think that..even if we perish – God’s Word is all that matters

Oddity –Deut 20v17

How did Jebusites survive?

- But of the cities of these people, which the LORD thy God doth give thee *for* an inheritance, thou shalt save alive nothing that breatheth:
- But thou shalt **utterly destroy them; namely, the Hittites, and the Amorites, the Canaanites, and the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites;** as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee:
- Given the clarity of this commandment , how was it that Ornan the Jebusite lived on in Jerusalem and owned important real estate?

THE JEBUSITE KINGS

- Melchisedec – the priest of the most high God
- The Jebusite kings kept the “Zedek” in their titles See Josh 10v1 (Adoni Zedek- the Lord of righteousness)
- Joab and David took Jebus- 2 Kings 5v8
- How come Ornan was kept alive ?
- Perhaps Ornan was the last of the line of the Melchisedec Order? He offered his site for free as the temple site
- See 2 Sam 24v 23 AS A KING TO A KING

Oddity Deut 21v10-11

- Does God approve of selecting gentile wives based on their natural beauty alone ?
- God forbid marriage to Canaanites..so these women would be from far off nations .
- **God is merely regulating what he knows unspiritual Jews will do..**same as the divorce provisions ..to limit the excesses of the hard hearted and the lustful .
- God does not encourage this..but merely regulates it -to prevent abuse

GOD'S CARE FOR THE CAPTIVE WOMAN

- Deut 21v 10-14
- Note – rape in war was not permitted
- Time had to go by – to give the man time to consider the long term ramifications of taking an unconverted wife
- She had probably lost a husband or family in battle – so she needed time to mourn v13
- She had to shave her head and cut her nails – so the man would not be motivated by lust and good looks alone
- If she was later sent away- she could never be sold as a slave

THE LAW HAD VARIOUS LEVELS

THE SABBATH EXAMPLE

- **A focus on God**-who God created all life in 6 days, then rested (Exod 30v11)
- **A positive ritual**- no work to be done (this had positive benefits for mankind's health)
- **A teaching** – man needs to sometimes stop doing his own things, to focus on God and helping others
- **A remembrance** – in giving servants and beasts of burden sabbath respite , recalling that God rescued all the nation from Egypt (Deut 5v15)
- **A prophecy**- a future rest is coming from human labor and travail. (Heb 4v9 mg)

SEEING THE LAW AS A TEACHER

- *But into the second went the high priest alone once every year, not without blood, which he offered for himself, and for the errors of the people:*
- *The Holy Ghost **this signifying**, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing:*
- *Which was **a figure for the time then present**, in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices, that could not make him that did the service perfect, as pertaining to the conscience;*
- Hebrews 9v7-9

LAWS TO MAKE YOU THINK

- Priest wear breeches and use a ramp no nakedness allowed on God's altar. (Exodus 28v42, 20v26)
- You cant kill a kid and its mother on the same day (Lev 22v28)
- You cant take both the mother bird and her eggs (Deut 22v6)
- Disabled people were excluded from the priesthood and the sanctuary (Lev 20v16-24) (Deut 27v18)
- Twice the period of uncleanness for bearing a female child (Lev 12v5)

SOME MORE THINGS TO THINK ABOUT

- Compare Deut 5v15 against Exod 20v11 and 31v17...why are there two different reasons given for keeping the Sabbath
- Exodus – “God delivers him into his hand..” What does this mean?
- Deut 23v1-2 Did God have a problem with the illegitimate children, disabled and the cripples.
- How nay offerings might an average person make a year?

LEPROSY – why were they ostracised?



New Testament Applications

- Do not muzzle the ox (1 Cor 9v9)
- Be not unequally yoked (2Cor 6v16)
- The Royal Law (a crowning principle)
- Be ye Holy as God is holy (1 Pet 1v15)
- Ye cannot eat the table of the Lord and of devils (idols) (1 Cor 10v21)
- Circumcision of the heart (Deut 10v16, 30v6)-
(see Rom 2v29 m, Col 2v11, Phil 3v3)

OHS laws made so long ago

- Exod 21v29-30
- Exod 21v33-34
- Exod 21v10-13