



“JESUS FULFILLS THE LAW IN US”

Series: “LIVING FROM THE INSIDE OUT”, Part 2 of 19

Sunday, July 9, 2023, at 9:00 & 11:00 AM

Text: Matthew 5:17-20

Big Idea: It is a liberating discovery when we realize that Christ’s presence in us begins to make God’s commandments feel more like empowering promises.

Matthew 5:17-20, “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. Anyone who breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.”

I. WHY DID GOD GIVE THE LAW IN THE FIRST PLACE?

To reveal the moral character of God.

II. WHAT WAS THE LAW MEANT TO ACCOMPLISH?

Romans 7:7b, “I would not have known what sin was except through the law.”

Romans 3:20b, “Through the law we become conscious of sin.”

To reveal the moral failure of human beings.

Romans 7:7b, “I would not have known what sin was except through the law.”

Galatians 3:24, “So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith.”

1 John 3:4, “Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness.”

III. HOW DOES GOD FULFILL THE LAW?

Matthew 5:17, "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them."

Jeremiah 31:33, "This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time," declares the LORD. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people."

Ezekiel 36:27, "And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws."

Romans 8:3-4, "For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering. And so he condemned sin in sinful man, in order that the righteous requirements of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit."

We receive the righteousness of Christ by faith, and we live according to the Spirit's guidance.

2 Corinthians 3:17-18, "Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."