

**Introduction to the Bible Week 3**  
**Old Testament: The Law and the Prophets**  
**Student Notes**

**Romans 3:21**

**Luke 24:27** Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, He explained to them the things concerning Himself in all the Scriptures.

**The Law**

**God gave Moses over 600 laws, including the 10 commandments, for the Jewish people to obey.**

**Timeline:**

**Bible books:**

Both in the Old Testament Law and in our lives today, salvation is offered as a gift through the means that God prescribes. Obedience to God's commands has never been a means of personal salvation. People have always been saved by putting their faith in God and his provision for forgiveness.

**The Law is a “contract” between God and Israel:**

“The Mosaic Covenant”

*Protection & blessing:* "If you fully obey the LORD your God by keeping all the commands I am giving you today, the LORD your God will exalt you above all the nations of the world. You will experience all these blessings if you obey the LORD your God..." – Deuteronomy 28:1,2

“But if you refuse to listen to the LORD your God and do not obey all the commands and laws I am giving you today, all these curses will come and overwhelm you..." – Deuteronomy 28:15

## The Law is a “teacher” for individuals

### 1. The Law reveals God’s character

God is \_\_\_\_\_ (Lev. 19:2, Exodus 33:20 )

### 2. The Law reveals the human condition before God

Humans are \_\_\_\_\_ (Isaiah 59:1; Jer. 17:9)

The context of the law: Exodus 19:4-6

The content of the law: Exodus 20:1-17

The heart of the law:

Deut. 6:5 “You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might.”

Leviticus 19:18 love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD.

Jesus sometimes “wounded” people with the law (Luke 18:18-23).

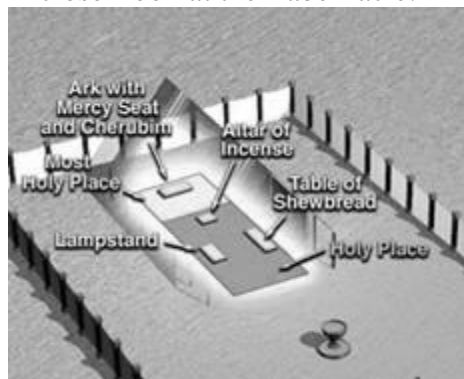
### 3. The Law reveals God’s solution: the Old Testament Sacrificial System

Atonement:

The Law provided a way for individuals their sins atoned for:

“...bring a bull with no physical defects to the entrance of the Tabernacle so it will be accepted by the LORD. Lay your hand on its head so the LORD will accept it as your substitute, thus making atonement for you.” – Leviticus 1:3,4, and chapter 16

A closer look at the Tabernacle:



See Hebrews 9:1-7

### Jesus and the Tabernacle:

#### Heb. 9:11-14

The sacrificial system that the Law prescribed reminded them of their need for a sacrifice:

#### Heb. 10:1-4

The benefits for you from Jesus' sacrifice:

#### Heb. 10:19-23

### Old Testament: Poetry and Wisdom

**Bible books:** Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and Song of Solomon

**Timeline:** Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and Song of Solomon were mainly written during the life of David and Solomon. Some Psalms were written as late as the 5th century BC (after the Babylonian exile). The story of Job takes place during the time of the Patriarchs (Abraham, Isaac, Jacob).

## Old Testament: Prophets

### Bible books:

#### Major (longer) prophets:

**Minor (shorter – not less important!) prophets:** Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

### Timeline:

What is a prophet? \_\_\_\_\_

As a \_\_\_\_\_, a prophet speaks a message about what God will do in the future.

**Isaiah 46:9,10** “And do not forget the things I have done throughout history. For I am God—I alone! I am God, and there is no one else like me. Only I can tell you what is going to happen even before it happens. Everything I plan will come to pass, for I do whatever I wish.”

The prophets also reaffirmed God’s promises to \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, nor shall the kingdom be left to another people. It shall break in pieces all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand forever... **(Daniel 2:44)**

"I saw in the night visions, ...one like a Son of man... And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion... and his kingdom shall not be destroyed. **(Daniel 7:14)**

"For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth... But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness. I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in my people; no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress. **(Isaiah 65:17-19)**

As a \_\_\_\_\_, a prophet speaks forth a message for the present time.

Examples of those who challenged power: Elijah (Ahab) and Nathan (David)

***The Problem of Idolatry***

Jeremiah 2:4, 5

Jeremiah 2:11-13

**The Prophets looked ahead to the “\_\_\_\_\_ Covenant”\_\_\_\_\_.**

Jeremiah 31:31-33 "Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, <sup>32</sup>not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord. <sup>33</sup> But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup>And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

**Sample prophecies from the book of Isaiah (740 – 680 B.C.)**

The book of Isaiah has two major sections:

The Book of JUDGMENT (chapter 1-39)

The Book of COMFORT (chapters 40-66)

**Isaiah 1:1-4; 11-20; 2:7,8**

**Isaiah 6:1-8**

**Isaiah 52:7-53:12**

Notice: The servant (“*he*”) is distinct from Isaiah’s people (“*us*”)

The NT applies this prophecy \_\_\_\_\_ (Mk. 10:45; Acts 8:32,33; 1 Peter 2:24;)

**Isaiah 62:3-5****New Testament Fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets****Romans 3:19-28**

Is your mouth closed? (19,20)

Have you let the law give you the knowledge of your sin?

vs. 24 “*Justified as a gift by His grace*”

“*Redemption*”

vs. 25 “*Propitiation in His blood*”

Galatians 3:13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us.

**Assignment:**

Bible Reading Assignment #3 and “Why Believe the Bible?” due next week