

THE FINE PRINT

Exodus 20:22-23:19

- I. We should not be IGNORANT of God's Law.

- II. God's Law points to COVENANT COMMUNITY...
a community marked by:

Exodus 20:22-26	<u>Worship</u>	Exodus 22:1-4	<u>Accountability</u>
Exodus 21:1-11	<u>Fairness</u>	Exodus 22:5-17	<u>Trustworthiness</u>
Exodus 21:12	<u>Life</u>	Exodus 22:18-20	<u>Faithfulness</u>
Exodus 21:15	<u>Authority</u>	Exodus 22:21-27	<u>Caring</u>
Exodus 21:16	<u>Freedom</u>	Exodus 22:28-31	<u>Reverence</u>
Exodus 21:17	<u>Dignity</u>	Exodus 23:1-9	<u>Justice</u>
Exodus 21:28-36	<u>Responsibility</u>	Exodus 23:10-19	<u>Remembrance</u>

- III. God's Law is PURPOSEFUL but not PERMANENT.
The Law...
 - a. Proves our GUILT.
 - b. Shows GOD'S HOLINESS.
 - c. RESTRAINS SIN in the Community.
 - d. REVEALS IMPOSSIBILITY of keeping the Law.

- IV. God's Law is fulfilled in a NEW COVENANT perfected in Christ.

FURTHER UP, FURTHER IN

1. Do you have a story of the worst or best deal you ever made? Are you a "fine print reader" or a "quick sign artist"?
2. Have you been tempted to skip over sections like this in your Bible reading? In light of 2 Timothy 3:16-17, how would you encourage someone to consider the "fine print" sections?
3. The Rabbis have listed out over 600 rules (*mitzvot* in Hebrew) to live by... What do you think living "under the Law" is like? Are there circumstances where you feel that you, too, are "living under the Law"? How do you live more in freedom?
4. As God lays out His rules for living in covenant community, in Exodus 20:22-Exodus 23:19, what surprised you the most? What is the overall picture we get of God, His character, and His desires?
5. What does this "book of the Covenant" section tell us about being God's People?
6. Read Luke 22:20, Hebrews 9:18-22. How is the New Covenant different from the Old Covenant?
7. What does the Law mean to you as a Christian believer living under Grace? Is the Law no longer relevant? See Acts 13:38-39, Galatians 3:24-25, Matthew 5:17-20.

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BRIAN CAMPBELL



"I have come home at last! This is my real country! I belong here. This is the land I have been looking for all my life, though I never knew it till now... Come further up, come further in!" — C.S. Lewis, The Last Battle