

SERIES: MOSES

TITLE: Written in Stone

SPEAKER: Bob Marvel

DATE: July 25-26, 2020

“May we never get wrapped up in the idea of just keeping rules, but may we see the law in the context of a relationship with Christ that has set us free, to live in freedom and be transformed into the glory of Jesus Christ.” – Bob Marvel

1. What was one house rule growing up that you couldn't wait to break? Did you break it? If so and if willing, please share. What was the impact of breaking the rule on you and your relationship with your parent(s)?
2. As a group, how many of the Ten Commandments can you name from memory? (Need some help? Check out Exodus 20:3-17)
3. How do you personally see the Ten Commandments? As rules to obey to get on God's good side or if you preform them "good enough" God will be on your side? Are they meant to "ruin your life?" Do you see them as a blessing from God or maybe something else? Please share.
4. The Ten Commandments were written on stone tablets that are often referred to as the law. Do you keep all 10 commandments? Which of the commandments do you find easiest to keep? Which are impossible?
5. In what ways do we often turn Christianity into a religion based on "thou shall nots" rather than on life-giving affirmations of God's love for us?
6. Read Exodus 19:4. Note God is speaking in the past tense. Did He require the Israelites to keep the law before He delivered them out of Egypt? What does the timing of when He gave them the law reveal about the nature of God and His desire to be in relationship with us?

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7. Now read Exodus 19:5. If God's law...His instructions...are not about behavioral modification, what are they about? As a result, what can we expect to experience when choosing to live in step with God at the center of our lives?

8. As we continue studying Moses, it's SO cool how time and time again he "pre-veals" Jesus. Read Exodus 24:7-8. Sound familiar? What scene in the New Testament does this point to? See Matthew 26:27-28.

9. Pastor Bob stated, "...when we make the law, keeping the law and doing all the right things a priority, it is devoid of relationship. The reality is that law and rules can't change a heart..." Read Hebrews 7:19 and John 1:17 – with the quote and verses in mind, who is the "better hope" introduced by God by which we can draw near to Him? Does this modify your attitude towards the law knowing who the law points to? If so, please share how.

10. If the law wasn't perfect, what was the point of the law? What do we do with the law, with being good? Does it all go away? Should we just toss it out knowing we are forgiven for our sins? Explain why or why not.

11. Read Hebrews 10:14. Note the beautiful combination of past and present tense. Do you agree or disagree that "our living a life of holiness, surrendering to the Holy Spirit, following God's Will...God's Way...is not about trying to get in right relationship with God, but because we are in relationship with God." Why or why not?

MISCELLANEOUS

1. What would you like to talk about from this week's teaching that hasn't already been discussed?

2. What principles or thoughts had the most impact on you from this week's message? How were you specifically challenged?

3. How can we as a group be praying for each other in the coming week?

"Don't follow the commandments so that He will be our God. Follow them because He is our God!" – Ruth (Cornwall Attendee)

