

A scroll of aged parchment with a textured, brown surface. The scroll is unrolled, showing a central rectangular area. The text is written in a clean, white, sans-serif font. The top edge of the scroll is slightly wavy, and the bottom edge is also wavy. The scroll is set against a plain white background.

# The Oracles of God

Romans 3:1-2

## Romans 3:1-2

- “What advantage then has the Jew, or what is the profit of circumcision? 2 Much in every way! Chiefly because to them were committed the oracles of God.”

# The Oracles of God

- Why did God give the Law? To create a relationship?
- Israel was already in a covenant relationship with God, through the faith of Abraham and the Noahide law
  - Gen. 15:1-6, 13, 18

# The Oracles of God

- Why did God give the Law? To save sinners?
- The Law of Moses cannot save
  - Gal. 3:11 - “But that no one is justified by the law in the sight of God is evident, for the just shall live by faith.”
  - Rom. 3:20 - “Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.”

# The Oracles of God

- Why did God give Israel the Oracles of God?
  - Ted Koppel of Nightline said, “Our society finds truth too strong a medicine to digest undiluted. What Moses brought down from Mt. Sinai were not the Ten Suggestions. They are the Ten Commandments.”
  - Humankind needed to learn of law and sin, truth and error, their need for salvation and a Savior.
  - Acts 17:30 - “Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent”

# The Oracles of God

- It was a time of ignorance, and God wanted humankind to come to a time of knowing God and His will, heart and soul. He must bring humankind who knew only seven commands given to Noah, to the place where he would know the whole of the scheme of redemption

# The Oracles of God

- Eph. 1:17-20 - “That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, 18 the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power 20 which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places”

# Why God Gave Israel The Law

- To reveal His Glory and Holiness
  - Deut. 5:22-24 - “These words the LORD spoke to all your assembly, in the mountain from the midst of the fire, the cloud, and the thick darkness, with a loud voice; and He added no more. And He wrote them on two tablets of stone and gave them to me. 23 So it was, when you heard the voice from the midst of the darkness, while the mountain was burning with fire, that you came near to me, all the heads of your tribes and your elders. 24 And you said: 'Surely the LORD our God has shown us His glory and His greatness, and we have heard His voice from the midst of the fire. We have seen this day that God speaks with man; yet he still lives.’”

# Why God Gave Israel The Law

- To reveal man's sin
  - Rom. 7:7, 13 - "What shall we say then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, "You shall not covet... 13 Has then what is good become death to me? Certainly not! But sin, that it might appear sin, was producing death in me through what is good, so that sin through the commandment might become exceedingly sinful."
  - 1Tim. 1:9 - "knowing this: that the law is not made for a righteous person, but for the lawless and insubordinate"

# Why God Gave Israel The Law

- To identify Israel as His chosen people and to separate them from the heathen
  - Psalm 147:19-20 - “He declares His word to Jacob, His statutes and His judgments to Israel. 20 He has not dealt thus with any nation; And as for His judgments, they have not known them.”
  - Eph. 2:11-12 - “Therefore remember that you, once Gentiles in the flesh--who are called Uncircumcision by what is called the Circumcision made in the flesh by hands 12 that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.”

# Why God Gave Israel The Law

- To give Israel a standard for godly living
  - Deut. 4:1 - “Now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the judgments which I teach you to observe, that you may live, and go in and possess the land which the LORD God of your fathers is giving you.”
  - Deut. 5:29 - “Oh, that they had such a heart in them that they would fear Me and always keep all My commandments, that it might be well with them and with their children forever!”

# Why God Gave Israel The Law

- To prepare Israel for the coming of Christ
  - Gal. 3:24 - “Therefore the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith.”
- To illustrate by type the Person and ministry of Christ
  - Heb. 10:1 - “For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, and not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect.”

# The Function Of The Law

- A Sign - It points to the law of love in Christ
  - Matt. 22:36-40 - “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law? 37 Jesus said to him, 'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

# The Function Of The Law

- A Servitude - It illuminates bondage since the flesh finds it impossible to keep
  - Acts 15:10 - “Now therefore, why do you test God by putting a yoke on the neck of the disciples which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear?”
  - Gal. 5:1 - “Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.”
  - Rom. 8:3 - “For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh”

# The Function Of The Law

- A Schoolmaster - It points men to Jesus and prepares them
  - Gal. 3:22-29

# The Function Of The Law

- A Shadow - It is contrasted with the reality and fulfillment found in Jesus
  - Col. 2:14-17 - “Having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross. 15 Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it. 16 So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, 17 which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.”

# The Limits Of The Law: It Cannot

- Make anyone perfect
  - Heb. 9:9 - “It was symbolic for the present time in which both gifts and sacrifices are offered which cannot make him who performed the service perfect in regard to the conscience”

# The Limits Of The Law: It Cannot

- Justify from sin
  - Acts 13:38-39 - “Therefore let it be known to you, brethren, that through this Man is preached to you the forgiveness of sins; 39 and by Him everyone who believes is justified from all things from which you could not be justified by the law of Moses.”

# The Limits Of The Law: It Cannot

- Give righteousness
  - Gal. 2:21 - “...if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain.”
- Give life
  - Gal. 3:21 - “For if there had been a law given which could have given life, truly righteousness would have been by the law.”

# The Deliverance From The Law

- Jesus fulfilled the Law
  - Gal. 4:4-5, 7 - “But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons... 7 Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.”

# The Deliverance From The Law

- Jesus met all the righteous requirements of the Law
  - Col. 2:13-14 - “And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, 14 having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.”
  - Rom. 6:14 - “For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.”

# The Deliverance From The Law

- Jesus brought the Gentiles into covenant relationship with God
  - Eph. 2:13-17 - “But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. 14 For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, 15 having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, 16 and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. 17 And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near.”

# The Oracles of God

- Heb. 10:7-10 - “Then I said, 'Behold, I have come--In the volume of the book it is written of Me--To do Your will, O God.' 8 Previously saying, Sacrifice and offering, burnt offerings, and offerings for sin You did not desire, nor had pleasure in them (which are offered according to the law), 9 then He said, Behold, I have come to do Your will, O God. He takes away the first that He may establish the second. 10 By that will we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.”