

ABOVE THE LAW

"Purpose of the Law"

August 15, 2010

Josh Remy, Pastor

Righteous through Relationship review...

- Only the righteous can see God
- No one is righteous
- Through faith in Christ, God declares us righteous
- We can't earn righteousness through rules

So, what is the purpose of the rules?

The Law before Christ

(Galatians 3:19-25, pg 701 in SCC Bibles)

- It reveals sin
Romans 7⁷ Well then, am I suggesting that the law of God is sinful? Of course not! In fact, it was the law that showed me my sin. I would never have known that coveting is wrong if the law had not said, "You must not covet."¹
- The Law leads us to Christ by showing our need

The Law with Christ

(Galatians 3:26-4:7)

- When we believe, we are adopted
- Rules mean more in a family
- Faith enables me to keep the Law
Romans 3³¹ Well then, if we emphasize faith, does this mean that we can forget about the law? Of course not! In fact, only when we have faith do we truly fulfill the law.
- The Law now shows I'm living in the Spirit

Going Deeper...

For discussion or personal study

ABOVE THE LAW

"Purpose of the Law" – 2 of 5

Questions

1. What is my least favorite governmental law to try to keep? Does it have a purpose?
2. How does God's Law demonstrate our need for Christ? What is an analogy for what God's Law does for us?
3. What does it mean to be adopted? How does that make me feel?
4. How do the rules change within the context of a family?
5. How would I describe living in the Spirit? How is it the key to righteous living?

Scripture

Read Colossians 2:6-23

- List all of things in this passage that we are as a result of being united with Christ. Which ones make a difference in life?
- Why does personal piety seem like spiritual maturity? Is it?
- What is our part in maintaining a relationship with Christ?

Application

- What is the purpose of the Law in my life?
- Have I been adopted into God's family? What does that mean?
- In what areas of my life do I need to stop relying on self-effort and rely on the Spirit? How will I do that?