**Scripture Reading:** 1 John 1:1-5; 4:7-15

**Singing:** 321:1-4 – 397:1-6 – 266:1-3 – 92:3, 5, 7

**The God of the LAW (2)**

I. Who is the Lawgiver? II. What is His relationship to the Law

III. What is His intention with the Law?

**I. Who is our Law Giver?**

**A. Our Law Giver is LOVE** (1 John 4:16)

 1. That doesn’t mean He is *simply the greatest lover*

 2. God has always been LOVE before He began any of His works

 a. the Sacred Three exist in Divine Love (1 Tim. 1:11)

 ● dwelt in sweet communion with each other

 ● they *honored, served, glorified* each other

 3. **Love is our Law-Giver’s essential attribute**

a. *Love is God’s central perfection around which all the others*

 *resolve as planets around the sun* (O. Winslow)

b. All God’s moral attributes are expressions of His essential love

 ● omnipotence is the *power of love*

 ● omniscience is the *eye of love*

 ● omnipresence is the *atmosphere of love*

 ● justice is the *impartiality and execution of love*

 ● anger is the *jealousy of love*

 ● wisdom is the *counsel of love*

 ● truth is the *faithfulness of love*

● holiness is the *beauty of love*

 4. Check: Do we consider God in this light?

**B. Our Law Giver is Holy** (Is. 6:1-3)

 1. Holiness with God’s beauty(Ps. 96:8-9)

 a. Holiness is shine on each attribute

 b. mostly defined holiness as *sinlessness*

 c. yet to holiness is also *intensity of pure love*

 3. Check: Do we consider God’s holiness as His beauty?

**C. Our Lawgiver is sovereign**(Matthew 11:25)

 1. God’s sovereignty is His *absolute freedom to do as He pleases*

 a. He has *right* to legislate

 b. He has every right to demand obedience

 2. His sovereignty as Supreme Law Giver is not an *isolated attribute*

 a. therefore all His sovereign laws are in line with His goodness, wisdom and holiness

 ● all His laws are sovereignly legislated with the purpose to make our living environment satisfying and beautiful

**D. Our Lawgiver is just** (Ps. 19:9; 50:4; Jer. 9:24)

 1. God’s justice is again a *positive glory:* we can count on Him being just!

 a. He never stands *above the law* (2 Chron. 19:7; Deut. 32:4)

 b. this is great comfort for any who experience *injustice* (Ps. 18; 35)

**Close: How great is our God!**

A. What would the laws be that are issued by such a Law Giver?

B. Why do we experience God’s law as *negative?*

When the law of God is written in our hearts,

we will be most like God

and our duty will be our greatest delight!

God is love

and law is the way He loves us.

But it is also true that God is law,

and love is the way He rules us.