**Scripture:** Matthew 5:1-26

**Singing:** 227 – 321 – 109 – 123

Intro: Is this too strong: *To sin is to give God a slap in His face?*

**Jesus and the Law (1)**

I. Who is Jesus in relationship to the law?

II. What did Jesus do in relationship to the law?

III. How did Jesus do what He did in relationship to the law?

**I. What is Jesus in relationship to the Law?**

A. Jesus’ Name in relationship to the Law is ***the Last Adam*** (1 Cor. 15)

 1. This name relates Him to the *first Adam*

 a. in contrast (1 Cor. 15:21-22; 44)

 b. in similarity (Gen. 1:26-27; Luke 1:35)

B. To see *what perfection looks like,* consider the Last Adam

 1. The Genesis record about *first Adam’s obedience* is minimal

 a. unfallen, he obeyed (loved) perfectly

 b. in his fall, he chose to *disobey* (self-love) *vilely*

 2. The Gospel record about *last Adam* is brilliant picture

**II. What did Jesus do in relationship to the law?**

A. What is the intention of His teaching in Matthew 5:17-20?

 1. It was ***a defense of His own ministry***

 a. from the start of His ministry, Jesus acts *un-traditional*

b. yet Jesus makes clear that *His ministry is not to destroy the law*

 2. It was ***to prevent a perversion*** *of His doctrine of Grace*

a. many abuse free grace into freedom from obedience

 3. It was **to *correct fatal teaching***about works-based religion

B. What is Jesus teaching in vs. 17?

 1. Jesus makes clear that He highly values Law of God (see Matthew 5)

 a. I am not here to *destroy* ***any OT prophecy or law***

b. Instead I am *come to* ***fulfill*** *the both law (and prophets!)*

c. to fulfill means *to bring out is fulness – show forth glory of it*

 2. He reinforces this statement in vs. 18-19

 a. *jot* looks like  *ר*

b. *tittle* is *small curve added to jot to change letter*

● take warning or encouragement of vs. 19!

Close: **Are we paying *as much attention to the Law as Jesus did?***

A. There is *destructive tendency* among Christians today to *minimize* law

 1. Some appeal to Romans 13:8, 10

 2. Others appeal to Romans 6:14

B. Examine yourself in light of Jesus’ clear instruction and application

**Instructive Sayings about Law and Liberty**

Liberty is not the same as license: the saints are not free to please himself but to please God.

Freedom is not the right to do as you please.

It is the liberty to do as you ought.

Perfect conformity to the will of God is the sole and complete liberty.

Gospel liberty is a liberty *from* sin, not *to* sin.