The Mirror Of The Soul
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James 1:22-25

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. 23 Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror 24 and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. 25 But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do. James 1:22-25

Introduction:

Today we begin a series of sermons on the Ten Commandments. This series will give us an opportunity to explore the subject of Law and Grace, as well as an opportunity to discover the keys of freedom which God has given His people.

The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. Ps 19:7

Converting = produces a 180 degree turn

How can a young man keep his way pure? By keeping it according to Your word.
With all my heart I have sought You; Do not let me wander from Your commandments. Your word I have treasured in my heart, That I may not sin against You.
Ps 119:9-11

I. Jesus and the law

Jesus is the centerpiece of the Bible
He is the theme of every book
The books the law are about Jesus

Luke 24:44 "Now He said to them, "These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled."

Pointing to the fact that Jesus would keep the law in order to save those who could not keep the law.

Jesus is the seed of the woman Genesis 2
Jesus is the seed of Abraham, Isaac, And Jacob
Jesus is the ram caught in the thicket
Jesus is the for runner like unto Joseph
Jesus is the deliverer like unto Moses
Jesus is the Passover lamb whose blood saves from wrath
Jesus is the pillar of cloud and pillar of fire
Jesus is the tree that sweetens bitter waters
Jesus is the manna from heaven
Jesus is water from a Rock
Jesus is the law giver and the law keeper

So that according to Romans 3:25-26 “He would be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.”

So as we study the Ten Commandments we learn the character of the Law Giver and the means of Justification for law breakers.

II. The Law Is Like A Mirror – but it can’t alter what you see.

A. It reflects Gods standards
B. It reflects our love for God “if you love me, keep my commandments”
C. Apart from Christ no one can obey the law
D. Blessed if you do it – look in the mirror and do what needs doing.

III. The Law is like a tutor – but it cannot change your behavior

No can can be saved by keeping the law, but he is taught by the law.

Moses was the lawgiver but Joshua was the deliverer.

IV. The Law is like a plumb line – but it cannot level the house

V. The Law Was Written On Tablets of Stone – Grace Has Written on our Hearts

Three Times God Wrote In Scripture

Sinai – Wrote the law

God is the law giver and has the right to make the law

Babylon – Wrote the sentence to Belshazar

“you have been weighed on the scales and found deficient.” Dan 5

“pesado fuiste en balanza y allando falto.”
Jerusalem - Wrote on the ground

"forgiveness of sin"

"Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, "Though your sins are as scarlet, They will be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They will be like wool.

All of us have been weighed in the balance and found lacking.

Have you looked in the mirror lately - what do you see

Do you see idolatry
Do you see pride
Do you see sexual sin
Do you see unforgivness
Do you see self pity
Do you see a bad attitude
Do you see hate
Do you see factions
Do you see envy or jealousy

The mirror cant save you, the law cant change you, the law cant alter the state of your life.

You must go to the Law Giver - the Justifier - to Christ

"But this is the covenant which I will make with the house of Israel after those days," declares the LORD, "I will put My law within them and on their heart I will write it; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. Jer 31:33

Jeremiah 17:13: "Those who depart from Me shall be written in the earth, because they have forsaken the Lord, the fountain of living waters."

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.
Fanny Crosby