

The Wisdom of the Law

What is the value of the Law for Christians?

Christians are no longer under the Law

Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God.

(Romans 7:4)

... and yet the Law has value for Christians

"The law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good."

(Romans 7:12)

The Law has value to Christians because it teaches us wisdom as it reveals God and His character.

The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul;
the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;
the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;
the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever;
the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.
Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

Who can discern his errors? Declare me innocent from hidden faults. Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me! Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

(Psalm 19:7-14)

3 Benefits of the Law for Believers

1. The Law refreshes the soul (v.7)

When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field right up to its edge, neither shall you gather the gleanings after your harvest. And you shall not strip your vineyard bare, neither shall you gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard. You shall leave them for the poor and for the sojourner: I am the LORD your God.

(Leviticus 19:9-10)

3 Benefits of the Law for Believers

1. The Law refreshes the soul (v.7a)
2. The Law teaches wisdom (v.7b)

You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

(Exodus 20:7)

I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.

(Matthew 12:36–37)

When you build a new house, you shall make a parapet for your roof, that you may not bring the guilt of blood upon your house, if anyone should fall from it.

(Deuteronomy 22:8)

3 Benefits of the Law for Believers

1. The Law refreshes the soul (v.7a)
2. The Law teaches wisdom (v.7b)
3. The Law creates joy (vv. 8, 14)

For since the law has but a shadow of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near.

...

But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified.

(Hebrews 10:1, 12-14)

3 Benefits of the Law for Believers

1. The Law refreshes the soul (v.7a)
2. The Law teaches wisdom (v.7b)
3. The Law creates joy (vv. 8, 14)
...by pointing us toward the Redeemer, Jesus.