

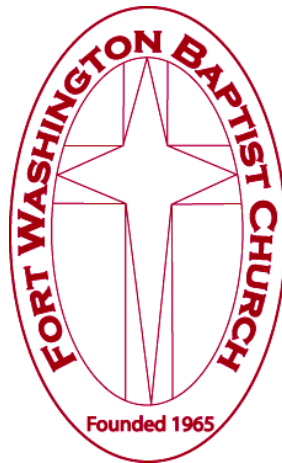
AUTHOR: PASTOR DARIN POUILLARD
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BASIC CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE

A Study of the Articles of Faith



Fort Washington Baptist Church
Pastor Darin Poullard



Participant Copy

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BASIC CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE

A Study of the Articles of Faith



SESSION 58

XII. OF THE HARMONY OF THE LAW AND THE GOSPEL

We believe that the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government; that it is holy, just, and good; and that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfill its precepts arises entirely from their love of sin; to deliver them from which, and to restore them through a Mediator to unfeigned obedience to the holy law, is one great end of the gospel, and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of the visible church.

According to Article XII:

1. **Baptists believe** that the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of His moral government.
2. **Baptists believe** that the law of God is holy, just, and good.
3. **Baptists believe** that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfill its precepts arises entirely from their love of sin.
4. **Baptists believe** that one great end of the Gospel is to deliver “fallen men/fallen people” from their love of sin and to restore them through a Mediator to unfeigned obedience to the holy law.
5. **Baptist believe** that the gospel is the mean of grace connected with the establishment of the visible church.

OF THE HARMONY OF THE LAW AND THE GOSPEL



In this lesson on the 12th Article of Faith, we'll look at the consequences of obedience and disobedience to the Law. The Scriptures teach that people can choose to obey or disobey the Law and commandments of God.

Consequences of Obedience to God's Law

Read Genesis 6:5-12

1. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his time, who walked with God (**Gen. 6:9**).
 2. As result of living in obedience to God, Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord (**Gen. 6:8**)
 3. Because of his obedience, Noah was chosen by the Lord to build an ark for the salvation of his household when the inhabitants of the world were removed from the earth by water because of wickedness/disobedience to God's laws (**Gen. 6:8-22; Heb. 11:7**).
 4. Noah and his family were saved because Noah was obedient to the laws of God
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Read Genesis 26:1-5

1. God knows _____ His commandments and who they are that do not (**26:5**).
2. Abram believed the Lord, _____ the commands of the Lord, and the Lord _____ promising that Abram's descendants would receive a promised land (**read Gen. 12:1-7; 15:1-6**).
3. God promised Isaac that because his father Abram **obeyed** Him, **kept** His charge, His commandments, His statutes, and His laws, that Isaac's descendants would be **multiplied** as the stars of heaven and that all nations of the earth **would be blessed** through those descendants (**Gen. 26:1-5**).
4. Abram and his family _____ because of Abram's _____ God's laws.
5. The world has been blessed because Abram was obedient to the laws of God (**Matt. 1:1-16**).

Question: Do you believe that your obedience to the Laws of God has an impact on what happens to your family? If yes, how so? If no, why not?

Read Exodus 19:5-6

1. God promised Israel saying, "Now then, if you will indeed **obey My voice** and keep my covenant, then **you shall be My own possession** among all the peoples for all the earth is Mine.
2. God promised Israel that they would be **a kingdom of priests and a holy nation**, if they obeyed the voice of God.

3. _____ would affect Israel's relationship with God and their future of becoming what God desired them to become...a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.
4. All that God desired for Israel _____ obedience to the voice of God.
5. Obedience enabled Israel to have hope for the future.

Question: What things do people think give them hope for the future?

Read Exodus 20:20

1. God gave Israel commandments so that Israel would know God's _____ for those in a covenant relationship with Him (**Ex. 20:1-17**).
2. God gave Israel commandments so that Israel would know how to live _____ (**Ex. 20:1-20**).
3. God gave Israel commandments so that Israel would know how to live _____ (**Ex. 20:1-20**).
4. God gave Israel commandments so that Israel would know how to live so they _____ the blessings of God (**Ex. 23:20-22; De. 11:18-25**).
5. God promised that He would **come to them and bless them** if they obeyed Him (**Ex. 20:22-24**).
6. God promised Israel that **He would be an enemy to their enemies** and an adversary to their adversaries if they obeyed Him (**Ex. 23:20-33**).

Question: Do you obey God to be blessed by God or because you know the Law is God's will? Discuss...

Read Leviticus 26:1-13; Deuteronomy 28:1-14

1. God promised _____ upon Israel **IF** they obeyed His law – rain in their season, produce, peace, protection, power over their enemies, fruitfulness, and His abiding presence (**Lev. 26:1-13; De. 28:1-14**). However, if Israel disobeyed God, they would suffer greatly – terror, consumption, fever, pain, poverty, bondage, fear, punishment, and destruction (**Lev. 26:14-39; De. 28:15-68**).
 2. If blessings were promised to Israel for obedience to God's law, then Obedience to God's law brings blessings!
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Read Deuteronomy 4:1-8

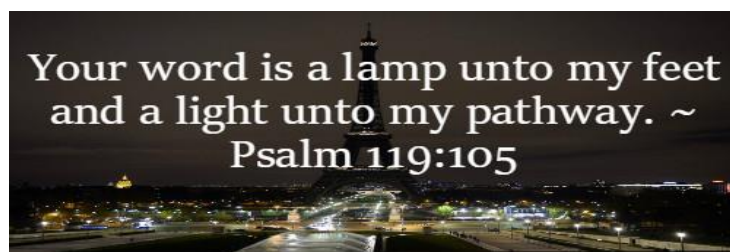
- Israel was taught the Law of God so that they would obey the Law of God, _____ (**De. 4:5-6**) and teach their children the Law of God (**De. 4:9-10**) so that all **would be well** with Israel forever (**De. 5:1-29**), so that they would walk in the ways of the Lord and **live** (**De. 5:32-33**), so their children would fear the Lord and obey the Lord (**De. 6:1-3**), so that Israel would diligently keep the commandments of the Lord **for their survival and to walk always in righteousness** (**De. 6:16-25**).

Fill in: Since blessings come when children walk in obedience to the Laws of God, teaching children the Laws of God are so children would be blessed by God. Therefore, in order to teach children the Laws of God, we can/should:

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____

If Israel obeyed the Lord, they would experience His **lovingkindness/mercy**, His love, fruitfulness, and countless blessings (**De. 7:7-8:3; 11:1, 8-9; 30:15-20**).

The Benefits of Living according to the Law based on Psalm 119



- 1. You'll be _____ as you keep His statutes (**1-8**),
- 2. You'll keep your way _____ as you remember God's commandments (**9-16**),
- 3. You'll live _____ as you keep God's Word (**17-24**),
- 4. You'll be _____ as you cleave to God's testimonies (**25-32**),
- 5. You'll _____ God when learn God's statutes (**33-40**),

6. You'll confess _____ to God's commandments (**41-48**),
7. You'll be _____ through hope in God's Word (**49-56**),
8. You'll have _____ according to God's Word (**57-64**),
9. You'll delight in God's commandments, precepts, and statutes (**65-72**),
10. You'll _____ to honor His word in your life (**73-80**),
11. You'll keep His commandments even when _____ by others (**81-88**),
12. You'll have _____ in the certainty of God's Word (**89-96**),
13. You'll have _____ as meditate on God's law (**97-104**),
14. You'll _____ according to all statutes of the Lord (**105-112**),
15. You'll _____ from those who reject God's law (**113-120**),
16. You'll _____ to intercede when in need life because you love His commandments (**121-128**)
17. You'll take _____ in the testimonies of our Lord (**129-136**)
18. You'll _____ the truth of God's of Law (**137-144**)
19. You'll _____ for the Lord to intercede in your life according to His ordinances (**145-152**)
20. You'll _____ to revive you according to His Word, ordinances, and precepts (**153-160**)

21. You'll _____ because of your love for His Word, His Law, His ordinances, His commandments, His testimonies, and His precepts **(161-168)**

22. You'll _____ to hear your supplication and praise, to help you because you glory in His laws and commandments, and to save you because you delight in His law **(169-176)**.