

Law and Order: Decoding the Commandment Controversy
Week 1: The Secret of Rebellion

Series Introduction:

Mankind is born with the belief that he must _____ for God's _____.

God's Word clearly teaches that our acceptance with God is not based on _____ performance for him but _____ performance for us.

Series Theme: God's laws and rules are not a condition for relationship but a confirmation of a relationship that already exists.

I. Understanding the Order of the Law

Exodus 20:1-3

And God spoke all these words: ² "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. ³ "You shall have no other gods before me.

- Buried in the story of the 10 commandments is the secret of God's _____ and his _____.
- God values _____ most of all.
- The law came as a sign of relationship and _____.
- Relationship with God is not predicated on keeping _____; God started a relationship with Israel before they even knew the _____.
- Before God was a law-giver he was a _____.

Rules without relationship always equals rebellion.

II. Trust the First Law

Exodus 12:1-6, 12-14

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in Egypt, ² "This month is to be for you the first month, the first month of your year. ³ Tell the whole community of Israel that on the tenth day of this month each man is to take a lamb for his family, one for each household. ⁴ If any household is too small for a whole lamb, they must share one with their nearest neighbor, having taken into account the number of people there are. You are to determine the amount of lamb needed in accordance with what each person will eat. ⁵ The animals you choose must be year-old males without defect, and you may take them from the sheep or the goats. ⁶ Take care of them until the fourteenth day of the month, when all the people of the community of Israel must slaughter them at twilight.

¹² "On that same night I will pass through Egypt and strike down every firstborn—both men and animals—and I will bring judgment on all the gods of Egypt. I am the LORD. ¹³ The blood will be a sign for you on the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt. ¹⁴ "This is a day you are to commemorate; for the generations to come you shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD -a lasting ordinance.

- The message of Passover is _____ and _____.
- God accepted a people not because they _____ for him but _____ in him.
- Israel trusted in an unusual command because they knew God's _____.
- Obedience to the first commandment is a natural response for a _____ people.
- On the eve of his crucifixion Jesus transforms the Passover from a remembrance of God's deliverance of Israel to a time of remembering God's deliverance of _____ from _____.