The School of Biblical Law

Covenant and Law

Lesson Twenty-Seven: "The Covenant Model and Commandment Five, Part 3"

Commandment Five is a commandment with a promise: "that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God gives to thee." Because this fifth commandment answers to the fifth section of the covenant, which is continuity, it is not unwarranted that the future is addressed within the context of the commandment.

1. God's original and continuing purpose is to place His people in management of the earth as is communicated in Adam's dominion mandate (Gen. 1:26-28).

Both continuity and discontinuity are principles found within the pages of scripture, but the promise found in Commandment 5 is continuity.

Continuity is God's methodology of expanding whereas discontinuity cuts off the future, as can be seen in the following examples:

- Examples of continuity: Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; kingly lineage of David; sons of Jacob to nation of Israel; righteous seed line in the earth (Ps. 37:1-2; 9-11; 18-20; 22; 28-29; 34-35; 37-38)
- Examples of discontinuity: God to Adam; Noah and the flood; Canaanite nations; Babylonian captivity; Book of Revelation
- 2. Commandment 5 promises continuity between the generations when parents live honorably, as God defines an honorable lifestyle within His word, and train their children to live honorably.

Shema Israel states: "Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is one Lord: And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in your heart: And you shall teach them diligently unto your children, and shall talk of them when you are in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise up. And you shall bind them for a sign upon your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. And you shall write them upon the posts of your house, and on your gates" (Deut 6:4-9).

- Teach words diligently translated from the Hebrew *shanan* (Strong's #8150) meaning to point, prick, pierce, sharpen, whet, teach diligently
- Talk of them in your house and when you walk by the way build a world view through discussion of daily events
- Talk of them when you lie down and rise up measure all things every day through word
- Build your work (hand), volition (frontlets), families (posts), communities (gates) by word
- 3. Commandment 5 promises continuity between the generations when children remain under the tutoring process rather than becoming prodigals.

The child must be prepared for the handoff of responsibility or the transfer of the inheritance.

- The prodigal was ill-prepared, wasted the inheritance, and returned home to work as a hired servant.
- The biblical pattern found within the maturing process of a child in Israel included: Circumcision (discontinuity from the Adamic linage and placing into a covenant lineage), Bar Mitzvah (child of the law/precepts), and Huiothesia (placing the mature son into management).

The future, or continuity, is reserved for those who think long-term and multi-generationally, who lay up an inheritance that is based upon knowledge and application of God's word through dominion labors, and who train the next generation in a world view that guarantees continuing kingdom advancement and cultural transformation.