

Psalm 19; Lord's Day 44
WHY PREACH THE LAW?

- I. To identify sin.
 - A. The correct knowledge of sin is essential to a healthy Christian experience.
 - 1. The only ones who need Jesus are those who admit that they are sinners in God's sight.
 - 2. Real comfort knows our sins and miseries first, then sees the power of the blood of Jesus.
 - B. God's law reveals the perfect God, and thus accurately identifies and describes sin.
 - 1. The more we know God, the more we know the real nature of our sins and especially of our sinfulness.
 - 2. Romans 7 provides the mature, converted saint with the right knowledge of his sins and sinfulness.
- II. It is the knowledge of sin which drives one to Jesus, for forgiveness and righteousness are only in Him.
 - A. The faith which enables me to see my sin, also shows me Jesus.
 - B. God deals with His people in such a way that He demands and works a response.
 - C. The converted constantly learn to walk humbly always striving more and more because we naturally minimize our sin.
 - 1. Though we constantly fail, there remains burning within the desire and love for God's commandments (22).
 - 2. How are these to be reconciled?
- III. The knowledge of sin makes us press forward to the goal of perfection (Canons V-2).
 - A. We do not simply confess sin and sinfulness and merrily go on unchanging.
 - B. We press toward perfection by mortifying and thanking.
 - C. Gratitude is the high motive for striving to make every aspect of our life subservient to our loving Lord.