

## *12 Principles for the OT Law*

1. Do see the OT Law as God's fully inspired word for you
2. Don't see the OT Law as God's direct commands to you
3. Do see the OT Law as the basis for the Old Covenant
  - And therefore, for Israel's history
4. Don't see the OT as binding for Christians under the New Covenant, except where specifically renewed
5. Do see God's justice, love, and high standards revealed in the OT Law
6. Don't forget to see that God's mercy is made equal to the severity of the standards
7. Do see the OT Law as a paradigm
  - Providing examples for the full range of expected behaviors
8. Don't see the OT Law as complete
  - It is not technically comprehensive
9. Do remember that the essence of the OT Law is repeated in the Prophets and renewed in the New Covenant
  - That is the 10 Commandments & the 2 laws of Love
10. Don't expect the OT Law to be cited frequently by the Prophets or the New Testament
  - Legal citation was first introduced only in the Roman era, long after the OT was complete
11. Do see the OT Law as a generous gift to Israel
  - Bring blessings when obeyed
12. Don't see the OT Law as a grouping of arbitrary, annoying regulations limiting people's freedom