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## The 613 Mosaic Laws: A Guided Overview

**Purpose:** These commandments (*mitzvot*) were given to Israel to shape their covenant life with God. They include moral, ceremonial, and civil instructions—248 “do’s” and 365 “don’ts.”

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### Categories of the Laws

Category	Focus	Examples	Fulfilled in Christ
God and Worship	Relationship with God	Believe in God, avoid idolatry, fear His name	Christ reveals the Father (John 14:9)
Torah and Teaching	Study and transmission of truth	Study Torah, honor teachers, write a scroll	Christ is the Word made flesh (John 1:14)
Prayer and Blessings	Daily spiritual practice	Pray daily, bless after meals, recite the Shema	Christ teaches us to pray (Luke 11:1–4)
Temple and Sacrifices	Ritual purity and worship	Offer sacrifices, avoid defilement, priestly duties	Christ is our High Priest and final sacrifice
Sabbath and Festivals	Sacred time	Rest on Sabbath, observe Passover, Yom Kippur	Christ is our rest and Passover Lamb
Dietary Laws	Holiness in eating	Keep kosher, avoid forbidden animals	Christ declares all foods clean (Mark 7:19)
Justice and Ethics	Fairness and compassion	Judge fairly, return lost items, don’t take bribes	Christ embodies perfect justice and mercy
Family and Sexuality	Relationships and purity	Honor parents, marry, avoid incest and adultery	Christ affirms marriage and purity
Charity and Kindness	Care for others	Give to the poor, love your neighbor, don’t oppress others	Christ commands love and compassion

Category	Focus	Examples	Fulfilled in Christ
<b>Business and Property</b>	Honesty and stewardship	Use honest weights, don't steal, pay workers promptly	Christ teaches integrity and generosity
<b>Agriculture</b>	Stewardship of land	Leave gleanings for the poor, observe sabbatical year	Christ fulfills Jubilee and abundance

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### 💡 Reflection Questions

1. Which category do you feel most drawn to—and why?
  2. How does Jesus deepen or transform the meaning of these laws?
  3. What does it mean to live by the Spirit, not just the letter of the law?
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