

- I. Understanding and applying the Old Testament Law
 - A. God is eternal, holy, and just
 - B. God's law applies differently depending on times, circumstances, people
 - C. This passage: begins the "Covenant Code"
 - D. Next section: the "Holiness Code" (through mid-Numbers)
 - E. All of the law teaches us about God
 - F. Much of the law teaches us how to live – directly or indirectly
 - G. All of the law points us to Jesus Christ

- II. God is *not* to be worshiped the way surrounding cultures worship (vv. 23, 26)
 - A. Silver and gold images
 - B. Stepped altars
 - C. God says: don't try it!

- III. God *is* to be worshiped with sacrifices on simple altars (vv. 24-25)
 - A. Animal sacrifices
 - B. Simple altars: earth or uncut stones
 - C. Human innovation sabotages worship

- IV. We are called to simple, God-directed, reverent worship
 - A. Our improvements say false things about God
 - B. Our methods of getting closer to God offend him
 - i. what is music for? is it a way of reaching God?
 - ii. Christian singing makes it clear that our trust is not in music!

- V. Called to approach God
 - A. The antitype of Old Testament worship is not New Testament worship, but Jesus Christ himself (see John 5:39)
 - B. The sacrifice (Ephesians 2:14-15; Hebrews 10:1-19)
 - C. The altar (2 Samuel 6:5-11)
 - D. Jesus Christ is the true way to God (Genesis 28:10-17; John 1:51; Paterius, following Gregory the Great)
 - E. The stone not cut with human hands (Daniel 6; Matthew 21:42-44; Luke 20:9-18))
 - F. The only acceptable altar, in the long run, is Jesus Christ himself

- VI. God will come and bless his people wherever they worship him
 - A. The central statement of the passage
 - B. "In every place" - the different places Israel will camp (see Genesis 20:13)
 - C. "Where I cause my name to be remembered" - wherever God is worshiped
 - D. Wherever God is worshiped through his son Jesus, he comes to bless us