The Nelson's Bible Dictionary gives some helpful insight here…. *"Biblical law is more than a record of human law. It is an expression of what God requires of man. It rests on the eternal moral principles that are consistent with the very nature of God Himself. Therefore, biblical law (the Ten Commandments) is the summary of moral law. As such it sets forth fundamental and universal moral principles….. Moreover, the biblical concept was that law comes from God, issues from His nature, and is holy, righteous, and good. Furthermore, at the outset of God's ruling over Israel at Sinai, God the great King gave His laws. These laws were binding on His people, and He upheld them. In Israel all crimes were crimes against God (1 Sam 12:9-10). Consequently, He expected all His people to love and serve Him (Amos 5:21-24). As the final judge, He disciplined those who violated His law (Ex 22:21-24; Deut 10:18; 19:17). The nation or community was responsible for upholding the law and insuring that justice was done (Deut 13:6-10; 17:7; Num 15:32-36). God's law, unlike those of other nations of the ancient world, also viewed all human life as especially valuable because man is created in God's image. Thus, biblical law was more humane. It avoided mutilations and other savage punishments. Victims could not inflict more injury than they had received. Neither could criminals restore less than they had taken or stolen simply because of a class distinction. Everyone was equal before God's law. The "eye for eye" requirement of the Mosaic Law was not a harsh statement that required cruel punishment. Instead, it was a mandate for equality before the law (Ex 21:24). Each criminal had to pay for his own crime (Num 35:31). Under the law codes of some pagan nations, the rich often could buy their way out of punishment. God's law especially protected the defenseless orphan, widow, slave, and stranger from injustice (Ex 21:2,20-21; 22:21-23). What is often called the civil law includes those specific laws in the Pentateuch (first five books of the Old Testament) that regulate civil and social behavior. All such laws are fundamentally religious since God is the lawgiver and ruler over everything. There are eight distinct categories of civil law in the Old Testament: (1) laws regulating leaders, (2) laws regulating the army, (3) criminal laws, (4) laws dealing with crimes against property, (5) laws relating to humane treatment, (6) laws about personal and family rights, (7) laws about property rights, and (8) laws regulating other social behavior. (from Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary, Copyright © 1986, Thomas Nelson Publishers)."*

And so the **Law** is generally referred to in the Bible as the totality of this *"Law of Moses."* It was an instructive and amazingly beneficial system of law and order, which was particularly moral and righteous, and if obeyed would also bring about the blessing and favor of God. It was filled with wise instructions for God's people. It is also often associated with terms such as *"commandment, statute, precept or ordinances."*

> **Nehemiah 9:13-14** - 13 "Then Thou didst come down on ==Mount Sinai==, And didst speak with them from heaven; Thou didst give to them just ==ordinances and true laws, Good statutes and commandments==. 14 "So Thou didst make known to them Thy holy sabbath, And didst lay down for them ==commandments, statutes, and law, Through Thy servant Moses==. NASB
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> **Deuteronomy 4:6-8** – 5 See, I have taught you ==statutes and judgments== just as the Lord my God commanded me, that you should do thus in the land where you are entering to possess it. 6 ==So keep and do them, for that is your wisdom and your understanding== in the sight of the peoples who will hear all these statutes and say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.' 7 "For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as is the Lord our God whenever we call on Him? 8 "Or what great nation is there that has ==statutes and judgments as righteous as this whole law== which I am setting before you today? NASB