

The Ten Commandments

Deuteronomy 5:4-21 & Exodus 20:1-17

1. "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me.
2. "You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand *generations* of those who love me and keep my commandments.
3. "You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.
4. "Observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy, as the LORD your God has commanded you. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your ox, your donkey or any of your animals, nor the alien within your gates, so that your manservant and maidservant may rest, as you do. Remember that you were slaves in Egypt and that the LORD your God brought you out of there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Therefore the LORD your God has commanded you to observe the Sabbath day.
5. "Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, so that you may live long and that it may go well with you in the land the LORD your God is giving you.
- 6 "You shall not murder.
- 7 "You shall not commit adultery.
- 8 "You shall not steal.
- 9 "You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.
- 10 "You shall not covet your neighbor's wife. You shall not set your desire on your neighbor's house or land, his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

Are the Ten Commandments for Today? And related Questions

Moral Law

There are repeatable, predictable results when considering gravity, or electricity or fire. Are there such results in the area of "morals"?

What might be some long-term blessings to society for following the Ten Commandments? What consequences for breaking them?

Can you describe the different between the Civil laws, Ceremonial laws, and the Moral laws given to Moses for the Old Testament nation of Israel? Which of the 10 Commandants are in USA's law?

The Moral law teaches us what is right and what is wrong. Romans 7:7-12. It is based in God's character.

The Moral law is necessary to show us our need of Christ. Gal. 3:24

The New Testament. Which of the Ten Commandments are repeated in the New Testament? Which are not?

How did Jesus summarize the O.T. law? [Matthew 7:12 & 22:37-40, Romans 13:7-10, Gal. 5:13-14] What is "Christ's law"? - 1Cor 9:21, Gal. 6:2? What is the "royal law"? - James 2:8?

Diving Deeper into Each Commandment.

How did Jesus broaden our understanding of the Ten Commandments? (Matthew 5-7, Luke 6).

There is more in each commandment than may first be apparent. For example Christian morals against hatred, revenge, violence, abortion, suicide, and negligence are drawn out of "You shall not murder."

Salvation by Grace Though Faith in Christ

How are we pardoned for our sin and accepted by God? By grace through faith - Ephesians 2:8-10.

How are we sanctified? Same way - by grace through faith. Or in different words - by living in the Holy Spirit. Titus 2:11-13, Romans 8:4-9, Gal 5:13-26, Phil. 2:12-13 & 1:6

There is a curse, even today, on all those that do not obey the Law. [Deut 27] However, those that come into Christ are redeemed from this curse because Jesus took the curse for us. Gal. 3:10-14.

The Danger of Legalism.

1. Thinking you can earn your salvation by being a good person or by obeying certain laws. Rom 3:20 & 3:28; Gal 2:16
2. Thinking you are superior because you do not break as many laws as others do. Or thinking you are superior because you do more good things than others. Luke 18:10-14
3. Requiring ceremonies or conduct that God does not require. Or making traditions that abort the intent of God's Word. Mark 7:9-13, Matt. 12:1-13

Pentecost.

For 1400 years the Israelites had annually been eating the feast of Pentecost (meaning 50 days) to celebrate the giving of the Ten Commandments at Mt Sinai.

Why did God pour out the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost 50 days after Christ's resurrection ?

Where and how does God want to write the 10 Commandments now?
[Hebrews 8:10 & 10:16, Eze. 36:26-27, Jer 31:33]

The Danger of Lawlessness

Lawlessness is giving yourself a license to avoid what God requires - or to deliberately do what God has forbidden. Jude 1:4, Galatians 5:13

The original Greek word is "anomia" which means -without law. The King James Version translates this "iniquity". This Greek word is found also in Matthew 7:23, 13:41 & 24:12, Heb. 8:12. 1John 3:4

Lawlessness will be a characteristic of the End of this Age. At that time, it will not be rare that people deliberately break the laws of God.

Why is the Antichrist also called "the man of lawlessness."? [2Thess. 2:3-12; Daniel 7:25 & 11:36, 1Timothy 1:8-11]

This lawlessness has resulted in terrible times in the past [Romans 1:18-32] and will again result in "terrible times" in the future [2Tim. 3:1-5; 2Tim 4:3-4, Matthew 24:12]

How do you guard your heart against lawlessness?

How can I grow in a heart attitude that joyfully desires to living in a way the pleases God?

The New Testament give us scores of commands, standards, warnings, and promises telling us how to live to please God in the way we conduct our lives. Do a word study on "please" "pleasing."

The Sabbath - the only Commandment not repeated in the New Testament.

1. The Creation Sabbath - God instituted a 7 day week (Genesis 1). God intends humans to be freed from labor every 7th day. That day is to be different than the other days. It was made for our physical, emotional and spiritual benefit (Mark 2:27, Isaiah 58:13-14).

2. The Israelite Sabbath - One of the 10 Commandments. Its a sign that Israel belongs to God. If anyone would not keep the day holy, they were to be killed (Ex. 31:12-17). They were to rest and not even light a fire with which to cook (Ex 35:3). By the time of Jesus, it was corrupted into the Pharisee Sabbath (Lk 13:10-17). Jesus had no problem with breaking the Pharisees rules because God had not required them.

3. The Christian "Lord's Day" -The Israelite Sabbath was never commanded or encouraged in Christ. It was tolerated. Romans 14:4-6, Gal 4:9-11, Col 2:16-17. In Christ we have begun to find our true rest (Matt 11:28-30). In Christ we have begun to rest from our own fleshly labors (Heb. 4:10).

Jesus rose on the first day of the week. And Christians began to gather for worship on this day in celebration of Jesus. Acts 20:7, 1Cor 16:2, Heb 10:24-25, Rev 1:10

4. The Final Sabbath (Rest)

The rest in Christ we have entered into will reach its fullness, when we have our new bodies and are immediately in His presence (Hebrews 4, Rev. 21). However there will be no rest for those in hell (Rev 14:11)