

Exodus 20:1-26
“*Learning to Walk Before God*”

~ INTRO ~

God told Abraham... “*walk before Me and be blameless.*” (Gen. 17:1).

- But how does a person do that...
 - Unless they know what pleases God.

TONIGHT... WE DIVE INTO...

- The Ten Commandments...
 - Where God begins teaching His people how to follow.

CONSIDER IT THIS WAY...

- If you’ve been away from church & out of relationship with Jesus...
 - You’ve probable forgotten how Awesome God is!

NOW...

- Within a 1-year period +/-
 - These people saw many miraculous signs from God.

SO...

- When we look at the **Law of Moses**...
 - We see how God was leading His people...
 - Into relationship with Himself.

THREE PILARS IN THE MOSAIC LAW...

- I. (Ex. 20) Expresses the righteous will of God in commandments.
- II. (Ex. 21 – 23) Gives ordinances outlining the **social life** of Israel.
- III. (Ex. 24 – 31) Provides statutes directing the **religious life** of Israel

NOTE: There are 613 laws in the OT. ¹

WHAT’S THE PURPOSE OF THE LAW?

- (Gal. 3:24) NLT

THE LAW IS NOT BAD...

¹ Find the 613 laws listed out at <https://www.gotquestions.org/613-commandments.html>

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- But it does reveal our sinfulness...
 - Which is why we often dislike it.

~ Warren Wiersbe ~

“The Jewish ceremonial system in Exodus and Leviticus was fulfilled by Christ, but the moral content of God’s law still remains, and nine of the Ten Commandments are repeated in the New Testament epistles for the church to honor and obey today. The Sabbath Commandment isn’t repeated...”²

IDEA #1 – MAN TO GOD RELATIONSHIP

The first Four Commandments:

- 1) *You shall have no other gods before Me. (v.3)*
 - Jesus said the Father is looking for those who will...
 - Worship Him in spirit & truth (John 4:24).
 - Jesus said, Seek first the Kingdom of God (Matt 6:33)
- 2) *You shall not make for yourself a carved image... (v.4)*
 - God is jealous for you NOT of you.
- 3) *You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain... (v.7)*
 - Failing to keep your word (Lev. 19:12) & (Matt 5:33-37).
- 4) *Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy. (vv.8-9)*

IDEA #2 – MAN TO MAN RELATIONSHIPS

The next Six Commandments:

- 5) *Honor your father and mother (v.12)*
 - Parental institution – children obey your parents (Col. 3:20)
- 6) *You shall not murder (v.13)*
- 7) *You shall not commit adultery (v.14)*

² The Wiersbe Bible Commentary: Old Testament (p.181). © 2007 Warren W. Wiersbe.

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- (Lev. 20:10) NKJV = death for adultery
- The law identified the ACT of sin... (adultery)
 - But Jesus identified the HEART behind sin (lust) (Matt 5:27-28)

UNDERSTAND THE CONCEPT JESUS TAUGHT (Matt 5:21-31)

- When inner emotions are left unchecked...
 - They will give way to the outer activity.
 - Hate = murder
 - Lust = adultery

THE REMEDY...

- (James 1:14-15) sheds light on the road of temptation (don't go this way)
- (Ecc 7:26) gives us wisdom to avoid sin (obey God).

The problem with lust is it wars against our soul.

- It's a slow grind played out over time.
 - It tears us down and wears us out until we indulge.
 - (1 Peter 2:11) says abstain!

8) *You shall not steal* (v.15)

9) *You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor* (v.16)

10) *You shall not covet...* (v.17)

IDEA #3 – EFFECTS OF A RIGHT RELATIONSHIP

GOD CAME DOWN AND SPOKE...

- But the thing that breaks the voice of God in our life is sin.

(v.20) NLT

“Don't be afraid, “Moses answered them, for God has come in this way to test you, and so that your fear of Him will keep you from sinning!”

We understand this very good as kids – fear of disobeying our parents.

- So too God wants us to have a health respect (fear) of Him.