

# The Ten Commandments

*“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish them but to fulfill them. I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. Anyone who breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 5:17-19)*

The Ten Commandments that God gave to Moses is for the people to know what God want them to do and to know their limits and the boarders that they should not cross, as we can read below:-

1) *“You shall have no other gods before me.” (Deuteronomy 5:7) “This is what the LORD says – Israel’s King and Redeemer, the LORD Almighty: I am the first and I am the last; apart from me there is no God.” (Isaiah 44:6)* God is one, no other God before Him.

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.” (Deuteronomy 5:8-10)* No idol should be in our lives. Our God is a jealous God; He does not want us to worship saints, animals, moon, sun, etc. He is the Creator, we should worship Him not the created things. Worshipping idols bring curses into your lives.

3) *“You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses His name.” (Deuteronomy 5:11)* We should not use God’s name as a mean to cover our own agenda and to do our own desires and plans. Many they use the name of God to cover evil things but God cannot be mocked, everything would be exposed.

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, 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 observed the Sabbath day.” (Deuteronomy 5:12-15)* The Sabbath is the day in the week that we are called to worship God, to attend the church and to serve the Lord. This day should not be used to sleep, to have overtime or to do other work other than worshipping God and serving Him.

5) *“Honor your father and 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.” (Deuteronomy 5:16)* God Commanded us to honor our parents; that are to show our faithfulness to those who loved us and cared for us. As we bless them God would bless us more.

6) *“You shall not murder.” (Deuteronomy 5:17)* The Lord Jesus said, *“You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.’ But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to his brother, ‘Raca’ is answerable to the Sanhedrin. But anyone who says, ‘ You fool!’ will be in danger of the fire of hell.” (Matthew 5:21-22)*

7) *“You shall not commit adultery.” (Deuteronomy 5:18)* Any sexual relationship outside the marriages is adultery. Multiple wives is adultery. Divorce except for marital unfaithfulness will cause the other partner to become an adulteress. As well as marrying a divorced person is adultery. This is what the Lord Jesus said: *“It has been said, ‘Anyone who divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.’ But I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, causes her to become an adulteress, and anyone who marries the divorced woman commits adultery.” (Matthew 5: 31-32)*

8) *“You shall not steal.” (Deuteronomy 5:19)* Anything belongs to others you would take with out permission is stealing.

9) *“You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.” (Deuteronomy 5:20) “Do not lie to each other since you have taken off your old self with its practices.” (Colossians 3:9)* Telling lies, slanders and false testimonies are the language of Satan. But speaking the truth in love is God’s language.

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.” (Deuteronomy 5:21)* Your eyes should not be on others but on God. He will give you for sure all what you need of good things once you trust Him.

Now the law was given to Moses to make us know what is sin; for we would not know what covet really was if the law had not said, *“Do not covet.”* We may observe all the law, but what if we fail in one, what will be the result? It is Death because the wages of sin is death. *“For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.” (James 2-10)* Then what we can do? How can we escape death? *“What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God—through Jesus Christ our LORD!” (Romans 7:24-25a) “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our LORD.” (Romans 6:23)* The Lord Jesus died on the cross for our sins and rose from the dead to give us eternal life; as we accept Him as Saviour and Lord in our lives He will transform us to be like Him and enable us to overcome sins and follow His word and commands.

*My dear and beloved:* You may ask then what was the purpose of the law? The law was put in charge to lead us to Christ. Believing in Jesus does not mean to leave the commands of God and to sin, but to obey them and to live a righteous life as you agree to pray.

*My prayer:* Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord guide me with your word to live a Holy life for your name to be glorified. Thank you Lord, this is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.