

Journey of Faith

The Consecration of the Wilderness

Exodus 20 and Deut. 5:22-33

1. The LAW and being RIGHTEOUS.

- **Abraham was made RIGHTEOUS** by believing that what GOD SAID He would do for him would actually happen, even though there was no visible evidence yet. **Gen. 15, Heb. 6:13-20**
- **God's Ten Commandments cannot make a person RIGHTEOUS** before God because laws are given for law-breakers.
- **God's Covenant with the Israelites at Sinai was Conditioned** on their keeping the terms and conditions, which were clearly spelled out.
- It followed the structure of a Hittite Suzerain-Vassal Treaty.



Like a Hittite Suzerain-Vassal Treaty

Preamble: *I am the Lord, your God*

Prologue: *Who Brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery (also Deut. 8)*

Stipulations: *10 Commandments*

Witnesses

Curses and Blessings (Dt. 27-28)

—God —The People

2. The LAW and being HOLY.

The primary meaning of HOLY:

To be splendid, beautiful, pure, uncontaminated.

The secondary meaning—

To be **set apart** for that purpose.

What did the people do in preparation?

- Wash their clothes
- Set boundaries around the mountain.

What was it like when God gave the Ten Commandments?

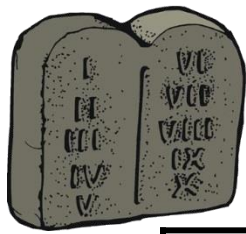
- **Exodus 19:16-19** Thunder and lightening flashes, thick cloud, loud trumpet sound, smoke, fire, violent quaking.
- **Deuteronomy 5:1-5, 22-33** cloud, thick, gloom, great voice, darkness, mountain burning with fire, like a furnace.
- **Hebrews 12** Blazing fire, darkness and gloom, whirlwind, blast of a trumpet, sound of words.

3. The LAW and the FEAR of GOD.

- **Exodus 19:19** to test you, so that the fear of Him may remain in you, so that you may not sin!
- **Deuteronomy 5:29** oh that they had such a heart in them that they would fear Me and keep all My commandments...that it may be well with them.
- **Deuteronomy 29:19** No bitter root of poison: "I have peace though I walk in the stubbornness of my heart..."
- **Hebrews 12:12, 15** Strengthen the hands that are weak... See to it that no one comes short of the grace of God; that no root of bitterness springing up causes trouble, and by it many be defiled.

But just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written:

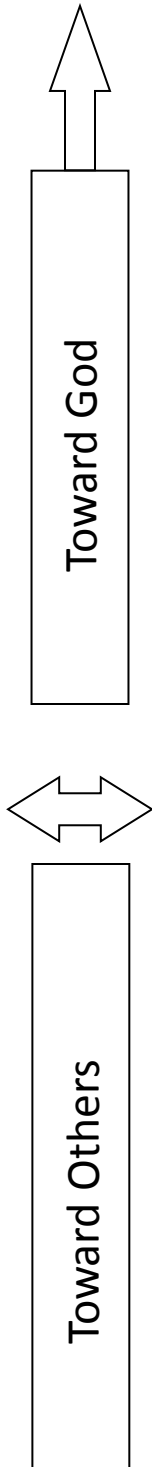
"Be holy, because I am holy." 1 Peter 1:15-16



The Ten Commandments

Exodus 20, Deuteronomy 5

How the command is broken in heart and action



1. You shall have no other gods before Me.	Coveteousness, stubbornness, unsurrender, unbelief. Anything a person allows to rule their daily life or capture their affections above God.
2. You shall not make for yourself an idol.	Heathenism, worshipping statues, false image of God in the mind, walking by sight not faith, materialism, trusting only the sensory.
3. You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.	Open swearing, indifference to swearing, minced-oaths, flippant use of God's name, unreal prayer. Living an ungodly lifestyle while claiming God's name.
4. Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy.	Doing one's own pleasures on God's day, doing unnecessary work. Not stopping. Works of worship, necessity, mercy and emergency are okay.
5. Honor your father and your mother.	Being ashamed of parents, worrying parents, lack of obedience to parents and other God-given authority.
6. You shall not murder.	Open murder, abortion, euthanasia, failure to warn the wicked, hatred in the heart.
7. You shall not commit adultery.	Violating marriage vows, before or after they are made. Sex outside of marriage, lustful thoughts, all forms of impurity.
8. You shall not steal.	Taking what is not rightfully ours. Shoplifting, taking money or possessions without permission, slander, being a sore loser, laziness doing work, wasting time on a job, not repaying, plagiarizing.
9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.	Telling a lie, falsely accusing or blaming someone else, gossiping, telling one side of truth, pretending, flattering.
10. You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.	Desiring or longing for others' money, possessions, wisdom, reputation, talents, looks, situation, or family. Loving money.

Summaries and examples taken from Rose Book of Bible Charts and notes from Frank Sells, OT Professor at Columbia Bible College