

TEN COMMANDMENTS

From the Lord, your God, Who has taken you out of the land of Egypt, from the house of slavery.

Acceptance of God as the ultimate author of morality and meaning of life.

1. You shall not recognize the gods of others in My presence.

Beware of idolatry. Attaining money, power, stimulation, professional success, and accumulating possessions, while legitimate pursuits, are not the ultimate purpose of life.

2. You shall not take the Name of the Lord, your God, in vain.

How we acknowledge or deny God and godliness through our words and deeds.

3. Remember the Sabbath day to sanctify it.

Recognize the value of time by refocusing on the most important elements of life: family, obligations to others, prayer, kindness, justice, and decency.

4. Honor your Father and your Mother.

The obligation to parents reinforces the concept of treating others responsibly in spite of sentiment or situation.

5. You shall not murder.

Each human being is the essence of uniqueness, yet equally created in God's image. Not only can a life be physically taken, but demoralization and humiliation can kill our souls.

6. You shall not commit adultery.

Sexual relations are made special and holy through a covenantal marriage. The honoring of commitments provides the family stability necessary for individual growth and health, community peace, and societal welfare.

7. You shall not steal.

Respecting the property and reputation of others provides mutual safety, peace, and prosperity.

8. You shall not bear false witness against your fellow.

While we should keep far from falsehoods, knowing when information could or should be shared can make the difference between destroying and helping others.

9. You shall not covet.

Desire for the possessions of others destroys relationships and leads us to violate the other Commandments.

ISBN 0-06-019138-4



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(SA)

The TEN COMMANDMENTS

-----Exodus 20:1-17-----

Then God spoke all these words, saying,

2 "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

3 "You shall have no other gods besides Me.

4 "You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on earth beneath or in the water under the earth.

5 "You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me,

6 but showing lovingkindness to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

7 "You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not leave him unpunished who takes His name in vain.

8 "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

9 "Six days you shall labor and do all your work,
10 but the seventh day is a sabbath of the Lord your God;
in it you shall not do any work, you or your son or
your daughter, your male servant or your female
servant or your cattle or your sojourner who stays with you.

11 "For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the
earth, the sea and all that is in them, and rested on the
seventh day; therefore the lord blessed the sabbath day
and made it holy.

12 "Honor your father and your mother, that your days
may be prolonged in the land which the Lord your
God gives you.

13 "You shall not murder.

14 "You shall not commit adultery.

15 "You shall not steal.

16 "You shall not bear false witness against your
neighbor.

17 "You shall not covet you neighbor's house; you
shall not covet your neighbor's wife or his male
servant or his ox or his donkey or anything that

Society for the Practical
Establishment and Perpetuation
of the
TEN COMMANDMENTS

GOD IS THE AUTHOR OF THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

The TEN COMMANDMENTS are the most extraordinary principles in the universe! That is not an opinion but a solid fact. One reason they are so is that they were not authored by any creature. No human nor angel can rightly claim authorship thereof.

Since the TEN COMMANDMENTS did not originate from any creature and could not have come into being on their own, there is only one other source from whom they could have and did originate. That source is the almighty GOD - the Creator of the heavens and the earth.

The TEN COMMANDMENTS therefore had a divine origin. Each one of them serve as an indisputable witness to the existence of the almighty GOD. That is a most awesome fact which should be duly noted throughout the lifetime of every human being.

For those who call themselves "atheists" and "agnostics" - who think that what we have stated is foolishness, please seriously consider the following indisputable evidence that prove that GOD MOST HIGH is the Author of the TEN COMMANDMENTS:

1. **THEY ARE EVERLASTING LAWS:** No creature has the wisdom or power to create anything that endures forever. That fact is quite clear from everything man fashions. All of it fades away eventually. Man could not have made that which is eternal while he can't even keep his own body from dying and decaying. He who is mortal cannot create that which is immortal. An eternal law has to have an eternal author.
2. Since the TEN COMMANDMENTS are eternal, **THEY ARE IMMUTABLE:** All laws made by the creature are subject to change and destruction even while their authors live or die. Even the most wrongly venerated human charter on earth - the American Constitution - has been changed and amended.
3. **THEY ARE INDESTRUCTIBLE:** The eternal nature of the TEN COMMANDMENTS is also seen in the fact that for over 6,000 years, they have endured the fiercest attacks and endeavors by their enemies to destroy them, even in the absence of effort of anyone to protect them. They survive in their original form, unpolluted and unchanged with the most of satanic and human power arrayed against them. No creature would make an eternal law that he hates even if he had the power to make such a law.
4. **THEY ARE UNIVERSAL IN AUTHORITY:** The universal authority of the TEN COMMANDMENTS over all mankind proves they are from God. No creatures either singly or collectively have the power to impose laws upon every single member of mankind and make every member of mankind legal and rightful subjects with the unquestionable responsibility to perfectly obey them. Whenever and wherever the creature has made laws, the laws' authority has always been limited.

5. **THEY ARE PERFECT IN AUTHORITY:** The universal authority of the TEN COMMANDMENTS over every thought, word and deed any human can perform demonstrates that God is their author. No angel nor human has the capability to impose a law over every deed that creatures can perform. Only God can legislate the thoughts, emotions, sentiments, likes and dislikes of every rational creature. No human has the ability to tell what's in a person's heart. Further, no creature can maintain an accurate record of every infraction or obedience to a law performed either in the heart or outwardly. It takes the almighty God to perfectly know and keep an accurate record of the deeds every human has performed; hold every human accountable; and judge them rightly and fairly in the end.
 6. **THEY ARE UNIVERSAL IN CONDEMNATION:** God's own sentence of death and eternal punishment upon every member of mankind for disobedience to His Law in the first man Adam is proof that God is the author of the TEN COMMANDMENTS. Had any human been the author, he would not have devised a law that condemned himself to death and eternal punishment in the lake of fire. No one has ever or will ever escape God's sentence of death. Had the creature made the TEN COMMANDMENTS, the sentence of the law could not be assured to fall upon every person of mankind. We already see foolish man endeavoring to nullify the death sentence. Whenever and wherever man has made laws, there has been partiality in sentencing, bribery, loopholes and other means of escape. But such is not possible with God's Law.
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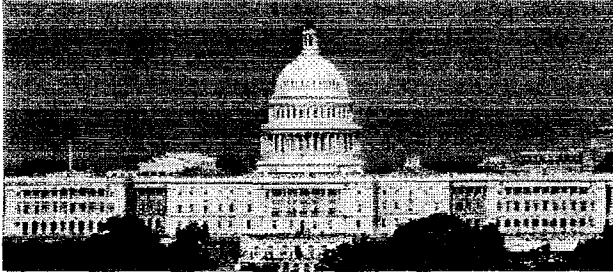


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Society for the Practical
Establishment and Perpetuation
of the
TEN COMMANDMENTS

OUR GREATEST RESPONSIBILITIES

What are the greatest responsibilities every man, woman and child are required by God to perform during the entire course of their lives?

That most momentous question was posed equally to white and black political figures, law enforcement officials, college professors, teachers, mentors and so-called orthodox protestant "ministers." Not one of them was able to give the correct answer. Most expressed values which are sadly deficient or different from the chief responsibilities.

Ignorance of mankind's supreme responsibilities, lack of appreciation of the recognition thereof, disagreement with the fact of their preeminence and embracing values other than the preeminent responsibilities, especially by the so-called experts, the "learned" and the leadership of a society, are among the things at the heart of all that's awry in every society. If the leadership, etc, are blind about the most important facts of life, the majority of the inhabitants of their society will be the same. Just because a person holds the position of president, judge, legislator, college professor, expert, teacher, minister, mentor, etc, does not mean he or she knows or honors the essential principles of life (John 18:38; Exodus 5:1-2).

Simply stated, the greatest responsibilities every person of mankind will have during the entire course of our lives are these: to love the Lord God (the Creator of the heavens and the earth) with all our souls, minds and strength, and love every person of mankind (those who have not committed a crime in God's sight that's worthy of death) as we should rightly love ourselves. There are no responsibilities which can supersede, change or destroy these responsibilities. They are divinely established and are therefore *preeminent, universal, immutable and indestructible* (Matthew 22:34-40).

There should therefore never be any disagreement from person to person and from generation to generation about the preeminence of these responsibilities. Citizens who have been properly educated and sane minds of the leadership of nations should wholeheartedly agree and acquiesce to their supremacy.

The proper functioning of the societies rests upon the governments' and their leaderships' realizing, publicly acknowledging, embracing and perpetuating these major responsibilities by practical laws,

leadership-expressed sentiments and values.

The felicity of every inhabitant of the societies rests upon their agreeing to, valuing and submitting to these most decorous principles in every detail of their lives.

But in order for societies to be properly established, it is absolutely essential for all who will play a major role in establishing or reestablishing them to perceive that to love God and all of mankind are indeed the most important responsibilities of life, and therefore, it is of utmost importance that the nations be properly established upon these principles. Those who find themselves in the position of reestablishing a government should settle for nothing less. This is an area of human existence which should tolerate no compromise.

Lamentably, this is where the founding fathers of America failed. After the patriots of the American colonies declared independence from Britain and won the Revolutionary War, it seems they had a golden opportunity to establish America upon principles that would genuinely make it a great and wonderful nation.

But they could not do so. All evidence point to the fact that the founding fathers were graceless men who were true haters of God. In fact, history states that Thomas Jefferson and his friend James Madison were secularists and didn't "... follow the beliefs of any of the established churches of their time." Because they were graceless men, they didn't possess the moral and spiritual power to properly establish this nation upon *divine* principles. Nevertheless, many people insist on foolishly believing that America was established upon what they call "Judaeo-Christian principles" - a belief which is far from the truth.

Proof of what has been stated is clearly revealed by the fact that America's Constitution doesn't at all identify or address the two preeminent responsibilities which God requires of all governments and of every inhabitant of every society. The most important document of this nation is absolutely silent in this regard.

Our first and foremost responsibility to love God is really none other than the requirements of the first four commands of the TEN COMMANDMENTS; and our responsibility to love every person of mankind is commanded in the latter six.

The TEN COMMANDMENTS are the principles upon which the corporeal nation of Israel of old was, and the spiritual kingdom of heaven (which the corporeal nation of Israel of old typified) is, based. But it should be carefully noted that none of the principles of the TEN COMMANDMENTS can be found in the letter or spirit of the American Constitution. In fact, anyone who properly understands the TEN COMMANDMENTS and the American Constitution can clearly see that the two are really quite antithetical and thoroughly hostile to one another.

How clearly do these facts make manifest the empty boasts of false preachers, religious radio talk show hosts and guests and unregenerate professing "Christians" across America, who state that America was established upon "Judaeo-Christian" principles - who erroneously claim that America is a Christian nation, and who seek to harmonize or unequally yoke the heathen principles of democracy with those of the Kingdom of Heaven. They are utterly blind to the fact that the two are as opposite to one another as light is to darkness.

When unregenerate religionists flippantly and vainly pray: "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven," they don't know a fraction of what those precious words really mean. The will of God is summed up in the TEN COMMANDMENTS; but the TEN COMMANDMENTS do not allow for anything that the

American Constitution allows.

Those who rightly desire that the will of God be done on earth should begin to understand just what this means: It means to desire that God be the King of America (and of all nations), and for America's government and its officials to become God's instruments by which He would, through them, impose His Laws upon the people. It means that the people take their place as servants of God rather than them seeking to make His government their servant or genie. It rightly means the destruction of democracy and republicanism, because the Kingdom of God is a Theocracy. It means the destruction and intolerance of all the varying heathen religions and philosophies, and that every person worship the true God and believe only in Christ. It means the destruction of all immoral rights and freedoms guaranteed and protected by the American Constitution, etc. As one understands the true righteous nature of the Kingdom of God, he will find that it is absolutely contrary to the core ideals of Americanism. There is no greater proof than this that America was founded upon and is being governed by heathen and satanic principles.

Since the founding fathers failed to establish this nation upon the most noble principles of all, it is time for those of us who clearly understand that they didn't, and for those of us who have the grace in us to appreciate and live according to those noble principles, to do all within our power to seek to reestablish America upon the divine principles of God. He who does not seek to do so cannot truly love God or mankind.

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Southern hospitality: In cars, it's hostility

Has anybody in this town heard of the rule of "one and one"? You know what I mean. When you're stuck in a line of cars with folks in a perpendicular line of cars trying to get in, you let one car in, then you move forward, and the guy behind you lets one car in, then he moves forward, and so on.

Charlotte, you're growing. There's lots of traffic. Unless you learn to follow the rule of "one and one," there will be total traffic anarchy and you'll end up like ... Boston.

Life - particularly life in the city - has a lot of these unwritten traffic rules.

When you do get permission and claim a place into the car line, for instance, it's imperative that you give the kind stranger who let you in a quick wave of thanks. It's polite, and the person doesn't feel like a sucker for letting you in. Don't give the wave, and the person who let you in will be cranky all day and take it out on every other driver he meets. Smile smugly, like you got away with something, and I shudder to think of the consequences.

It all seems so simple. But recently, I've observed many drivers violating the rule. They let two or three people in, the next person doesn't let anybody in, and everybody's mad.

Take another rule, one my dad taught me when I was a little girl. Whenever a ball would roll into the street, he would put on his brakes. Nine times out of 10, he said, a ball rolling into the street is followed by a child. The child, oblivious to traffic, will be totally intent on retrieving the ball. And you know what? He was right. It's a good rule, and it's still true. You save a lot of screeching tires and heart-stopping moments.

Next we tackle gridlock. We're finally getting enough traffic to have out-and-out gridlock and we don't know what to do. Snap out of it! You can't just keep going until the light changes and end up sitting in the middle of the street.

Even if the light is green, when you see there's no way you can clear the intersection, you've got to stay put. The person behind you is supposed to know this, and NOT honk. Get it? It's also against the law. But the phenomenon is creeping into Charlotte traffic wars. Soon we'll need those signs that are tacked up on some New York intersections: "Don't block the box."

We talk a lot about Southern hospitality, but it seems that whatever that is, however it is practiced, it disappears as soon as people step into a vehicle. It's time to show people what you're made of - and not just on those streets with the cameras.

The never-ending construction has caused other problems. You think you're on a two-lane street. Then as you move closer, you realize that everything's slowing down and traffic is being reduced to one scrawny lane, probably covered with stray nails, surrounded by orange barrels and being guarded by a guy in a hard hat.

First, you think, "Shouldn't I be wearing a hard hat, too?" Then you try to make eye contact with someone who will let you in. No such luck. Charlotteans have mastered the art of avoiding your eyes, the better to let you languish in the no-man's land of the lane that is no more. As I said at the start, remember the golden rule of "one and one."

Tomorrow's lesson: Why you shouldn't wait until you are at the light to put on your turn signal.

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WEEK OF MARCH 26 - APRIL 1

Message: "Rules for the Road"

Scripture passage: Exodus 20:1-17

Theme: The Ten Commandments

A. **PRAYER:** Offer a brief prayer, thanking God for His presence, and asking Him to guide your time together.

B. **ICEBREAKERS AND WARM-UP QUESTIONS:**

L 1. Who laid down the law in your home growing up?

4 2. (Break up into pairs for this one.) What were the three most important rules in your home when you were growing up, and what do these reveal about your family?

W 3. (Call everyone back together for this one). Tell us about a time you tried to bend the rules...and what were the consequences?

S C. **BIBLE STUDY:** Have people open their Bibles to Exodus 20:1-17. Ask for a volunteer to read verses 1-11, and another to read verses 12-17. Discuss:

1- Look at verses 1-2. It's important to understand that God did not just show up one day and hand down the Ten Commandments out of the blue. According to verse 2, what does God do for His people *before* giving them these rules to live by?

2- The first four commandments (vv. 3-11) concern our relationship with God. What do these say about the kind of relationship God wants with us?

3- What is the difference between the first commandment (no other gods) and the second commandment (no idols)?

--What (or who) are some of the false gods and idols of our culture today?

4- Look at verses 5-6. Which is greater – God's judgement or God's mercy?

5- In the Bible, a name is a powerful thing, denoting someone's character and carrying that person's authority. With that in mind, what does it mean to "misuse" God's name?

6- What is the rationale behind the Sabbath? How do you make time for Sabbath rest nowadays?

6- The final six commandments (vv. 12-17) concern our relationships with other human beings.

What do these say about the kind of relationships God wants us to have with each other?

7- Many versions translate verse 12 as "You shall not murder." How does *murder* vary from *killing*?

8- Ask a volunteer to read Matthew 5:21-22. What does Jesus add to the sixth commandment?

9- What happens to a couple when one commits adultery? What does Jesus add to this (Matthew 5:28)?

10 -What passes for stealing? What forms of stealing go on around us everyday?

11- Is lying okay if it doesn't injure another, as false witness does? How about little white lies?

12- Why is coveting a problem? What are we saying about God when we covet somebody else's stuff?

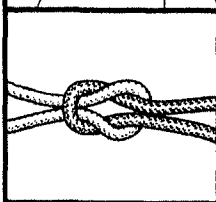
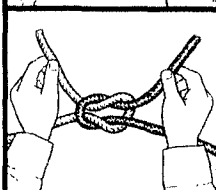
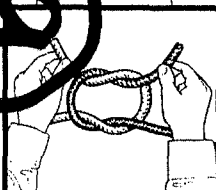
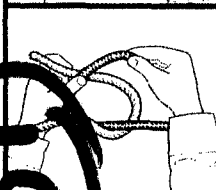
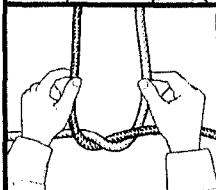
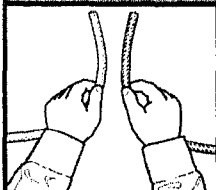
13- (*Note:* You may wish to break into pairs or threes to discuss this one. Also, remind group members of the option to pass). What might God be calling you to do, and how could this group help?

D. CLOSING PRAYER: Break into pairs, preferably of the same gender. Spouses should not be partners. Ask each person to share with their partner their answer to this question:

** Which one of these ten commandments are you struggling with right now, and what do you need to do about it?*

Remind group members of the option to pass. Ask partners to commit to pray for each other throughout the coming week. Ask partners to join hands and pray for each other silently – then you close the whole group with a brief prayer.

SQUARE KNOT



DEMONSTRATE TYING THE SQUARE KNOT

The square knot is also known as a joining knot because it can join together two ropes and because it is the first knot Scouts learn when they join the BSA. It has many uses—from securing bundles, packages, and the sails of ships to tying the ends of bandages.

To tie a square knot, hold one rope end in each hand. Pass the right end over and under the rope in your left hand and pull it snug. Next, pass the rope now in your left hand over and under the one now in your right, and pull it snug. Remember, **right over left, left over right**.

UNDERSTAND AND AGREE TO LIVE BY THE SCOUT OATH OR PROMISE, LAW, MOTTO, AND SLOGAN, AND THE OUTDOOR CODE

Scout Oath or Promise

On my honor I will do my best
To do my duty to God and my country
and to obey the Scout Law;
To help other people at all times;
To keep myself physically strong,
mentally awake, and morally straight.

Scout Law

A Scout is trustworthy, loyal,
helpful, friendly, courteous, kind,
obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave,
clean, and reverent.

Scout Motto

Be Prepared.

Scout Slogan

Do a Good Turn Daily.

(For further explanation of the Scout Oath or Promise, Law, motto, and slogan, see chapter 3, "Tenderfoot Scout," pages 45–55 [T].)

Outdoor Code

As an American, I will do my best to
Be clean in my outdoor manners,
Be careful with fire,
Be considerate in the outdoors, and
Be conservation-minded.

(For more on the Outdoor Code, see chapter 9, "Camping," page 219 [C].)

SCOUT
MOTTO

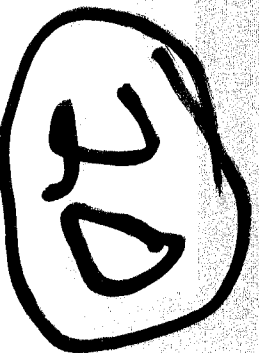
BE PREPARED.

SCOUT
SLOGAN

**DO A GOOD
TURN DAILY.**

Dr. Laura
Schlessinger

and Rabbi Stewart Vogel



Commandments

The Third Commandment

marked with episodes of torture, marking all in "God's name." This, of course,

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Cain and
Abel
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It's an Issue of Respect

This is really all about respect, something that a conservative law judge in New Albany, Indiana, knows little about. It seems a Kentucky Fried Chicken worker, who quit over her manager's explicit sexual remarks, was denied unemployment benefits by a judge who said the talk may have been an attempt to boost morale. "Use of vulgar and obscene language and terms can serve to promote group solidarity," wrote Charles Schaefer, the judge who hears unemployment cases. "To the extent that it was intended to promote this end, it would have been an effort to achieve a legitimate business goal" (*Courier-Journal*, September 26, 1997). Unbelievable! And since when do business goals (profit) come before values, ethics, and decency?

When we use God's name frivolously, as in the drugstore commercial, we dishonor God and display irreverence—we ultimately malign or diminish God's reputation. We aren't showing the proper respect for God. When we use profanities in general, even when God's name is not invoked, we aren't showing the proper respect for people—which is one of God's oft-stated desires as indicated throughout the Bible. We show disrespect to people when we either direct profanities toward them or even simply use profanities in their presence.

Language is our way of communicating what we want and reflects who we are. By using bad language, we diminish the divine spark within us that defines our humanity. This certainly is not an emulation of God's ways.

It is God who gave humanity the gift of speech—a gift not bestowed on any other animal with the complexity with which we were endowed. "Who gives man speech? . . . Is it not I, the Lord?" (Exodus 4:11). It is to be appreciated and used with reverence and caution.