

Ten Commandments (Part 6)  
(Introduction – Part 6)

Introduction

-Designation, Location, Numbering, Structure

-General Observations: The Ten Commandments are authoritative in character, variable in form, focused in their address, spiritual in their intent, gracious in their disposition.

6. The Ten Commandments are intended for proper use.

-Not a moral code, model for society, or a basis for liberation theology

-A map, muzzle, mirror

1) The Ten Commandments teach us how to live (Exodus 20:1, 2).

2) The Ten Commandments restrain sin in society (1 Timothy 1:8-10).

Calvin: *“The Law, by means of its fearful denunciations and the consequent dread of punishment, curbs those who, unless forced, have no regard for rectitude and justice. Such persons are curbed, not because their mind is inwardly moved and affected, but because, as if a bridle were laid upon them, they refrain their hands from external acts, and internally check the depravity which would otherwise petulantly burst forth.”*

3) The Ten Commandments show us our sin and our need of a Savior (Romans 7:7-11; 8:3).

WLC Q #95: *“Of what use is the moral law to all men?”* Answer: *“The moral law is of use to all men, to inform them of the holy nature and will of God, and of their duty, binding them to walk accordingly; to convince them of their disability to keep it, and of the sinful pollution of their nature, hearts, and lives; to humble them in the sense of their sin and misery, and thereby help them to a clearer sight of the need they have of Christ, and of the perfection of his obedience.”*

Practical Lessons

1) There is one moral law for all people.

2) No amount of obedience to God’s Law earns so much as a thimbleful of God’s favor.

3) Conformity to God’s Son comes about through conformity to God’s Law.