

Ten Commandments (Part 4)
(Introduction – Part 4)

Introduction

I. The Designation of the Ten Commandments in Scripture and Theology

II. The Location of the Ten Commandments in Scripture

-Exodus 20:1-17; Deuteronomy 5:6-21

-Two different historical occasions

-Not identical (4th, 5th, and 10th commandments)

III. The Numbering of the Ten Commandments

-Orthodox Jews

-Roman Catholic/Lutheran

-Reformed

IV. The Structure of the Ten Commandments

-Various arrangements

-Commandments 1-4: Love to God; Commandments 5-8: Love to Others (Matthew 22:35-40)

LCF 19:2: *“The same law that was first written in the heart of man continued to be a perfect rule of righteousness after the fall, and was delivered by God upon Mount Sinai, in ten commandments, and written in two tables, the four first containing our duty towards God, and the other six, our duty to man.”*

-God first, then others. The vertical is the foundational to the well-being of the horizontal. Fairbairn: *“As love has unspeakably its grandest object in God, so precedence is justly given to what directly concerns Him—implying that religion is the basis of morality (understand what Fairbairn means by religion), that the right adjustment of men’s relation to God tends to ensure the proper maintenance of their relations one to another.”*