

INTRODUCTION

The Ten Commandments are for us to obey.

That is, we recognize that One in authority over us has spoken; we hear what He says, and we do it.

This study of The Ten Commandments is not just a study of law, but a study of love, and the new birth, and faith in Jesus Christ.

Today we look to the lines in God's word just before The Ten Commandments, to receive from the Lord what help He has given us, in understanding and obeying The Ten Commandments, in how He identified Himself to us before He spoke them.

TEXT

Exodus 20:1-2 And 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 bondage."

BODY

I. The Ten Commandments Are Spoken By God

A. God as "I Am"

1. 1689.2.1 God is

- a) but one only living and true God; whose subsistence is in and of himself, infinite in being and perfection; whose essence cannot be comprehended by any but himself
- b) a most pure spirit, invisible, without body, parts, or passions
- c) [the One] who only hath immortality
- d) [the One] who is immutable, immense, eternal, incomprehensible, almighty, every way infinite
- e) [the One who is] most holy, most wise, most free, most absolute;
- f) [the One who is] most loving, gracious, merciful, long-suffering, abundant in goodness and truth... most just and terrible in his judgments

2. Implications of God's being on The Ten Commandments

- a) immutable - what is essentially right and wrong can never change
- b) most wise - He has all wisdom to know what the commandments should be
- c) most loving - so all His commandments are love
 - (1) it is perfect love by which they are given
 - (2) it is love to obey them
- d) most just and terrible in his judgments
 - (1) He makes laws that are just
 - (2) He is the Judge who judges justly
 - (3) so He never is just okay with His commandments being disobeyed
 - (4) and He is sure to judge and punish all sins
- e) gracious, merciful, long-suffering
 - (1) we should see in his long-suffering not that He approves of sin, and will not punish it, but that He normally does not punish it immediately
 - (2) we should look for How God shows mercy on those who are disobedient

B. God as Creator

1. God is the Creator of us all - 1689.2.2 God, having all life...in and of himself, is the alone fountain of all being, of whom, through whom, and to whom are all things...
2. Implication of God's creation on The Ten Commandments
 - a) 1689.2.2 God ...hath most sovereign dominion over all creatures...to him is due from...men, whatsoever...obedience, as creatures they owe unto the Creator
 - b) He is sovereign; He has the right to command us; He has all authority

- C. This is not the false god of those who speak of “**God’s mission**”
1. it has become very popular to speak of God as having a mission
 - a) prominent members of large organizations are saying this
 - b) books are being published on this
 - c) at least one president of a large seminary is saying this
 2. mission means being sent
 3. Matthew 8:9 For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers **under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes;** and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."
- D. This is not the false god of those who speak of God as “**passionate.**”
1. Acts 14:11-15 And when the people saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in the speech of Lycaonia, The gods are come down to us in the likeness of men. 12 And they called Barnabas, Jupiter; and Paul, Mercurius, because he was the chief speaker. 13 Then the priest of Jupiter, which was before their city, brought oxen and garlands unto the gates, and would have done sacrifice with the people. 14 Which when the apostles, Barnabas and Paul, heard of, they rent their clothes, and ran in among the people, crying out, 15 And saying, Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are **men of like passions with you**, and preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto the living God, which made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all things that are therein:
 2. the point of the apostles is that a being known to have passions like men do is not a fit object of worship
- E. God, not man, is the being who determines what is essentially right and wrong
- F. APPLICATION
1. we acknowledge that He has the right to command us
 2. we trust that His commandments are right
 3. we love His commandments as we also love Him
 4. we obey His commandments in all reverence and fear

The Ten Commandments are spoken by God.

II. The Ten Commandments Are Spoken By God Our Savior

A. By His servant Moses, God saved the children of Israel

1. they were in slavery
2. they initially rejected the one God sent to save them
3. the one holding them in slavery would not let them go
4. but God, by the one He had sent, showed His power over their captors
5. God brought them out of their slavery to be His special nation

B. By His Son Jesus Christ, God has saved us

1. Colossians 1:13-14 He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, (14) in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.
2. we were in bondage to sin
3. we initially rejected the one God sent to save us
4. but God, by the one He has sent, showed His power over the devil, over sin, over death
5. He, by Jesus Christ, has brought us out of slavery to be His special nation

C. APPLICATION

1. The Ten Commandments are not given for us to be saved by them
2. We obey in grateful love
3. These are the sins for which He died---how can we live in them?

CONCLUSION

Hear The Ten Commandments as one under the authority of God, that you may obey in all reverence and fear

Hear The Ten Commandments as one saved by the grace of God through Jesus Christ, that you may obey in gratitude and love

Stephen - Call to Worship - Exodus 15:13

Conner - Scripture Reading - Psalm 119:17-24

Lord's Supper - 1 Cor 5:7b ...For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us.

Jeremiah - Congregational Prayer

Benediction

Allison - Prelude

Allison - Trinity 667 "To God Be the Glory" - Alex lead

Angie - Trinity 53 "Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah" - Andrew lead

Rita - Trinity 406 "I Hear Thy Welcome Voice"