

How do you react to the
10 Commandments?

Scripture Reading

EXODUS 20:1–17

God has already saved these people...

- from slavery in Egypt (ch. 1),
- through raising up Moses (chs. 2-6),
- by sending ten plagues (chs. 7-13),
- by splitting the Red Sea (chs. 14-15), and
- by shepherding them in the desert (chs. 16-19).

1

God demands

that you devote yourself
exclusively and entirely to him.

Give him your ultimate allegiance.

because he is holy, utterly unique,
the only one of his kind—
there is no god besides him.

2

God demands

that you worship him, *not* using any visual representations.

Never worship pictures, and never worship God using pictures

because God can't be pictured, and pictures misrepresent him.

3

God demands

that you speak the truth about him to others.

Say right things about God—never blaspheme him, blame him, use him, or put words in his mouth. And never break your promises

because God is a promise-keeper.

4

God demands

that you fully rest in Jesus, the One whom the Sabbath foreshadowed,

because the greatest good in life is walking with God, and the only way to walk with God is to stop working to earn it and rest in Jesus.

1-4

To love God means

that you give him your ultimate allegiance, that you never misrepresent him in pictures or words, and that you trust in Jesus—not your own works—in order to have a relationship with him.

5

God demands

that you always respect your parents. This includes

obeying them while in their home and caring for them when they're elderly.

Why? Because your parents are the precious human beings who gave and sustained your life.

6

God demands

that you respect the life of every human being,

never hurting another with your hands or with your lips,

because every human bears God's image and is therefore precious.

7

God demands

that you respect the sanctity of marriage and never violate his good gift of marital sex.

Why? Because faithfulness in marriage reflects God's own covenant-keeping love and because marital sex is integral in human life and human flourishing.

8

God demands

that you respect the property of others, never taking what's theirs.

Why? Because God made our loving ownership of a few things to reflect his loving ownership of everything—and taking from others is the opposite of love.

9

God demands

that you respect the reputation of others.

Never tear them down (or let them get torn down) with lies or gossip.

Why? Because God is not a liar, and because another person's reputation is most precious!

10

God demands

that you be content with him and what he has given you.

Never have a craving in your heart for what God has put off limits.

Why? For your good & God's glory. When you're discontent, you're unhappy and you communicate that God isn't enough to make you happy.

5 – 10

To love others means

that you are content to know God and to relate with his precious image-bearers with total respect, rather than using them for selfish advantage.

How do you react to the 10 Commandments?

1. God the Father, you're holy. I'm guilty.

“The commandment is holy and righteous and good.”
(Romans 7:12)

“Whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.” (Romans 3:19-20)

How do you react to the 10 Commandments?

1. God the Father, you're holy. I'm guilty.
2. God the Son, save me.

“If a law had been given that could impart life, then righteousness would certainly have come by the law. But the Scripture declares that the whole world is a prisoner of sin....The law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith.” (Galatians 3:21-24 NIV)

How do you react to the 10 Commandments?

1. God the Father, you're holy. I'm guilty.
2. God the Son, save me.
3. God the Spirit, control me.

“God has done what the law...could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk... according to the Spirit.” (Romans 8:3-4)

God gave us
the ten commandments
to drive us to *himself*.

God the Father, you're holy. I'm guilty.
God the Son, save me!
God the Spirit, control me.