

Proving All Are Sinners in Need of a Savior

Exodus 20:1 And God spake all these words, saying, 2 **I**
am the Lord thy God, which have brought
thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.
3 Thou shalt have **no other gods before**
me. 4 Thou shalt not make unto thee any **graven**
image, or any likeness *of any thing* that *is* in heaven
above, or that *is* in the earth beneath, or that *is* in the
water under the earth: 5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself
to them, nor serve them: for **I the Lord thy**
God am a jealous God, visiting
the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third
and fourth *generation* of them that hate me; 6 And shewing
mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my
commandments. 7 Thou shalt **not take the name**

of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain. 8

Remember the **sabbath day,** to keep it holy. 9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: 10 But the seventh day *is* the sabbath of the Lord thy God: *in it* thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that *is* within thy gates: 11 For *in* six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them *is,* and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it. 12 **Honour thy**

father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee. 13

Thou shalt **not kill.** 14 Thou shalt **not commit**

adultery. 15 Thou shalt **not steal.** 16 Thou shalt

not bear false witness against thy neighbour. 17

Thou **shalt not covet** thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant,

nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, **nor any thing that *is* thy neighbour's.**

18 And all the people saw the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking: and when the people saw *it*, they removed, and stood afar off. 19 And they said unto Moses, Speak thou with us, and we will hear: but let not God speak with us, lest we die. 20 And Moses said unto the people, Fear not: for **God is come to prove you**, and that his fear may be before your faces, that ye sin not. 21 And the **people stood afar off**, and Moses drew near unto the thick darkness where God *was*. 22 And the Lord said unto Moses, Thus thou shalt say unto the children of Israel, **Ye have seen that I have talked with you from heaven.** 23 Ye shall not make with me gods of silver, neither shall ye make unto you gods of gold. 24 An altar of earth thou shalt make unto me, and shalt sacrifice thereon thy **burnt offerings**, and thy **peace offerings**, thy sheep, and thine

oxen: in all places where I record my name I will come unto thee, and I will bless thee. 25 And if thou wilt make me an altar of stone, thou shalt not build it of hewn stone: for **if thou lift up thy tool upon it, thou hast polluted it.** 26 Neither shalt thou go up by steps unto mine altar, that thy nakedness be not discovered thereon.

- As we start a study of this chapter please notice that the central theme is that He is God and there is no other

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God *am* a jealous God, visiting

the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth *generation* of them that hate me;

- Notice that He reminds them that He is the one that brought them out. **2 I am the Lord thy God,** which have **brought thee out** of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.
- He wants them to remember Him and what He has done
- He is jealous of His name, His person, and what He has done
- These commandments are given as a test **20 And Moses** said unto the people, Fear not: for **God is come to prove you,** and that his fear may be before your faces, that ye sin not.
- No one can pass this test. It was meant as a test that you would fail and that can be seen in this very passage
- They were afraid of God **18 And all the people saw the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking: and when the people**

saw *it*, they removed, and stood afar off. 19 And they said unto Moses, Speak thou with us, and we will hear: but let not God speak with us, lest we die.

- They are to build an altar to sacrifice on for their sins and failures 24 An altar of earth thou shalt make unto me, and shalt sacrifice thereon thy **burnt offerings**, and thy **peace offerings, thy sheep, and thine oxen:** in all places where I record my name I will come unto thee, and I will bless thee.
- Even the altar will symbolize that they didn't do it with their strength and their effort 25 And if thou wilt make me an altar of stone, thou shalt not build it of hewn stone: for **if thou lift up thy tool upon it, thou hast polluted it.**

1. The purpose of the law, the 10 commandments was to bring us to Christ
 - a. As our teacher the law shows us our need of a Saviour
Galatians 3:24 Wherefore the law was our

schoolmaster *to bring us* unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

b. Actually the law was a ministry of death

II Corinthians 3:6 Who also hath made us able

ministers of the new testament; not of

the letter, but of the spirit: for **the letter**

killeth, but the spirit giveth life. 7 But if the

ministration of death, written *and* engraven

in stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel

could not stedfastly behold the face of Moses for the

glory of his countenance; which *glory* was to be done

away:

i. The law, the letter was written on stones

ii. The letter kills

iii. the letter was a ministry of death

iv. It had glory but only as it brought death

v. You must die to be made alive

c. The law was a ministry of condemnation

II Corinthians 3:9 For if the **ministration of**

condemnation *be glory, much more doth the ministration of righteousness exceed in glory.*

- i. The law condemns us
- ii. There is glory in this condemnation because it show us our need of a Saviour

d. Jesus said that only the sick needed a doctor

Matthew 9:12 *But when Jesus heard that, he said unto them, They that be whole need not a physician, but*

they that are sick. ¹³ *But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: **for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.***

- i. Jesus didn't come to call healthy people but sick
- ii. He came to call sinners to repentance
- iii. We often make the same mistake as the Pharisees thinking that the 10 commandments are our pattern to live by. They are not
- iv. The 10 commandments showed us our sin so we could turn to Jesus for grace

e. The commandments were given with a specific purpose

- i. They were to show us our need of salvation
- ii. They were to make it clear we are sinners
- iii. They were never meant to be lived by or a standard for us to live or run our country
- iv. The commandments leave us no out but to turn to Jesus
- v. The commandments are like the prosecuting attorney proving our guilt and pronouncing our guilt and that we deserve the death penalty

2. Every mouth is to be shut [Romans 3:19](#) Now we know that **what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law:** that **every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.**

- a. They were to never have a god before the one and true God [Exodus 20:1](#) And God spake all these words,

saying, **2 I am the Lord thy God,** which have **brought thee out** of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. **3** Thou shalt have **no other gods before me.**

- i. It was God who had brought them out of slavery
 - ii. They were never to think of any other before they thought of God
 - iii. Nothing was to capture their heart like God and His power
 - iv. They were to be captivated in Him
 - v. It was like **Matthew 6:33** they were to seek Him first
 - vi. No one always puts God totally first
 - vii. We fail on the first commandment because He is not our priority. He is not before everything and everyone else in the world for us all the time
- b. They were never to have anything that served as a god reminder or to be worshipped **4** **Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image,** or any likeness of

any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:

5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve

them: for **I the Lord thy God**

am a jealous God, visiting the

iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third

and fourth *generation* of them that hate me; 6 And

shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me,

and keep my commandments.

i. God wants to be recognized as powerful and bigger than we can imagine

ii. God wants us to know how much power He has

iii. He is also jealous. He doesn't like second place. He doesn't like other things to take priority over Him

c. God was to never be taken flippantly and not even to

be responded to flippantly 7 Thou shalt **not take**

the name of the Lord thy God in vain;

for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

- i. We flippantly throw around His name
 - ii. We carry it poorly
 - iii. We use it in our curse words and exasperation
 - iv. We get angry with Him and blame Him for our misfortunes
- d. They were to set aside a day just for God **8 Remember the sabbath day,** to keep it holy. **9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: 10 But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: 11 For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.**
- i. They were to have a day that was just for God. It was Saturday.
 - ii. They were to do no work
 - iii. They were not to cause even strangers to have to work

- iv. It is nearly impossible to live out this truth especially in the world you live in today-lights, police, hospitals, etc
- e. They were to honor their parents **12 Honour thy father and thy mother:** that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.
 - i. Even this commandment is beyond us
 - ii. To always not only obey but to honor and respect
 - iii. They will be taught to stone their children if they curse or strike them.
- f. They were not to kill **13 Thou shalt not kill.**
 - i. They could not decide to take a life unless it was legally correct
 - ii. They did have rules about war and capital punishment that will be given later
 - iii. Jesus wanted us to learn that this was not just about not committing murder but even the attitudes I might have against those that have done me wrong
 - iv. I am not to think it in my heart

v. This is clearly a deal breaker. We may have gotten by some of the commandments but we won't make it through all of them

g. Sexual immorality was wrong **14 Thou shalt not commit adultery.**

i. Jesus reminded us that this was more than just the act it was the attitude

ii. If a man thinks it in his heart he is guilty

iii. This affects the way we treat our spouse and marriage

iv. This would have to do with looking at porn or things that would get my heart going after others

h. Taking from others was wrong **15 Thou shalt not steal.**

i. If you took it you were wrong

ii. If you cheat to get it

iii. If you steal the work of others on a test

iv. If you take what isn't yours any where along the way then you have stolen

i. You can't lie about your neighbor **16** Thou shalt **not bear false witness** against thy neighbour.

i. This is more than do not tell a lie

ii. It is do not lie about your neighbor

iii. It would be do not spread a lie but we love gossip

iv. We often lend our heart and hand to help destroy the testimony of another

j. Don't want the things that others have **17** Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, **nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.**

i. I can't be wanting what others have

ii. I can't want another man's house

iii. I can't be trying to keep up with the neighbors or my friends

iv. I am to be happy with what I have

k. When you break one of the commandments you have broken them all **James 2:10** For whoever shall keep

the whole law, and yet offend in one *point*, he is guilty of all.

I. Jesus came to save sinners [Romans 3:23](#) For **all**

have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;

[24](#) Being **justified freely by his grace**

through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: [25](#) Whom God hath set forth *to be* a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God; [26](#)

To declare, *I say*, at this time his righteousness: that he **might be just, and the justifier of him**

which believeth in Jesus. [27](#) **Where is**

boasting then? It is excluded.

By what law? of works? Nay:

but by the law of faith. [28](#) Therefore

we conclude that **a man is justified by faith**

without the deeds of the law.

3. The Jews had no illusion that they could measure up to what God wanted from them
- a. They saw God as great, powerful, and above them 18
And all the people saw the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking: and when the people saw *it*, they removed, and stood afar off.
 - b. They had no flippant attitude about being ok with God they were actually terrified 19 And they said unto Moses, Speak thou with us, and we will hear: but let not God speak with us, lest we die.
 - c. Moses tells them to not be afraid that God has come to test them 20 And Moses said unto the people, Fear not: for **God is come to prove you**, and that his fear may be before your faces, that ye sin not. 21 And the **people stood afar off**, and Moses drew near unto the thick darkness where God *was*.

- i. The people don't take comfort in the fact that a God so great has come to prove or test them
 - ii. They stand back far away
 - iii. They do not want to talk to God but prefer that Moses do the talking and they will let Moses talk to them
 - iv. They are genuinely afraid and know that they do not measure up
- d. God reminds them that He is not like a little idol or god that they make with their hands. He speaks from heaven **22 And the Lord said unto Moses, Thus thou shalt say unto the children of Israel, **Ye have seen that I have talked with you from heaven.****
- i. This is no ordinary god. This is the god of heaven
 - ii. They know that they will never measure up and they are afraid
- e. No one measures up and no one ever has measured up. We are all failures, sinners, sick, and in need of a Saviour

4. After giving them the commandments God makes provision for an altar. They will have where to go when they measure up **24 An altar of earth thou shalt make unto me, and shalt sacrifice thereon thy burnt offerings, and thy peace offerings, thy sheep, and thine oxen:** in all places where I record my name I will come unto thee, and I will bless thee.
- a. The commandments came with the divine plan of a sacrifice
 - b. They are given the commandments and an altar
 - c. They do not yet know it but they will constantly make sacrifices for their sin and their failure
 - d. God knew man would fail. He designed the plan of salvation and He did the very plan of salvation
 - e. He would come in blessing as they learned of their need and made the sacrifices
 - f. These sacrifices all pointed to the person of Jesus
 - g. In the middle of the trial, found guilty, waiting for our death God provides a sacrifice for us to be delivered,

saved

5. They were even to realize that the altar was something that they couldn't do **25 And if thou wilt make me an altar of stone, thou shalt not build it of hewn stone: for if thou lift up thy tool upon it, thou hast polluted it.**

- a. Even the altar was to be special
 - b. The altar would be made of materials exactly as God had prepared them
 - c. They would not lift a hand to make them like they wanted
 - d. It shows that it is God and His plan not man and his
 - e. The sacrifice would be made as God wanted, where God wanted and the way God wanted
 - f. Even the altar was a God thing. We never measure up. We can't measure up and can't even build something that measures up
- You can learn much from this chapter
 - All of us have failed the God of heaven

- Every man is a sinner
- All mouths are stopped
- We realize that the commandments were given to bring us to Jesus and not a standard to live by
- We realize that God has provided the answer for our sins
- We magnify and glorify God because we see our enormous guilt and His great grace
- We worship Him like He wants to be worshipped because He is worthy