

# Exodus 33 – First Precept I Am God

Exodus (Names) - Changing the World  
Dr. Leon L. Sanders      Exodus 20:1-3

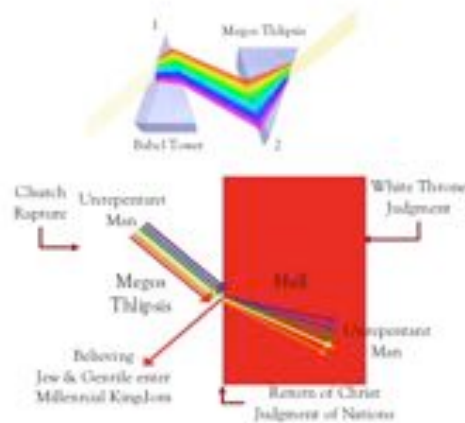
## Ten Precepts – Essence of Law

- Judaism – Ten Words
- Christianity – Ten Commandments
- Hebrew – Mitzvah: Instruction, Precept
- Image of God – Man  
Ro 1:26-27; 2:7; Ro 1:18-20



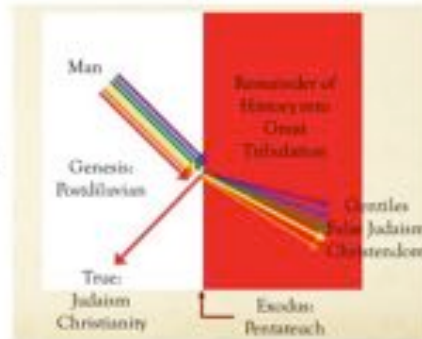
## Overview of Post Cataclysm History

- Generally unified culture
- Prism 1 – Tower of Babel
- Rainbow – Divergent worldviews
- Prism 2 – Megos Thlipsis: Return to Antediluvian Conditions (See Lower Graphic)



## Exodus - Selective Divergence

- Exodus is the "lens" that separates the Hebrews
- God deals with them uniquely during Axial Age
- From the Hebrews comes Judaism (True) reunited during Tribulation and Christianity (Removed)



### First Precept

I AM LORD your God  
 I demonstrated this by bringing you: Out of Egypt (world)  
 Out of Slavery (to sin)

### Extraordinary Statement

- Man had generally been separated from God since Sin
- Distant God had severely judged sin via Cataclysm
- Man's view of God as evil destructive Demiurge
- Man developed construct of god(s) appeased via ritual
- Intercessor (ruler) led culture to obtain favor of god(s)

## God Becoming Personal – National

- By this statement God proved He came out of Heaven to establish a relationship based not on man's rituals but on His character defined first of all by His holiness
- He proved His point by demonstrations of His grace and the futility of the demonic powers via: (Exd 2:13-15)
  - Nine Signs
  - Inadequacy of their firstborn sin sacrifice versus His

## I AM – Foundation of Creation

- Yahweh – God publicly announces His foundational name as proclaimed through Moses (Ex 3:13-15)
  - God is self-existent, eternal, therefore source of existence
  - God changes not, therefore His plan changes not (Mal 3:6)
  - God, as creator of man, is Lord of all men (Is 45:22-25)
  - Though rejected by all men, God will save some men (Is 45:18; 46:13-15; 47:9; 52:22)

## Light Out of the Darkness

- Sin seeks to snuff out the light
  - Believers – Light of the world (Mt 5:14-16)
- This statement breaks through the darkness of sin
  - God (Christ) is light (Is 1:14; 1Is 1:5; Is 2:23-25)
  - God (Christ) came to call man to the light (Is 45:4-6; 1Is 2:9-10)
- Light of God stabs into bleak darkness of man's history

## God's Nature Defines Morality

- Since man is made in the "image" of God
  - God's morality defines man's morality
  - God's morality changes not (Absolutes) (Rock) *Job 7:24-25*
  - Sinful man has rejected God, and His morality *Job 7:26-27*
- Man redefines morality to justify his sinfulness
  - Man's morality is changeable (Relative) (sand)
  - Man has no *logical* justification for his morality but sin



## Understanding First Precept

Teaching man how to grow into spiritual maturity

## Ten Precepts Design – Thought

- God gave the Ten Precepts with a purpose – Encourage thought
  - Beginning of thought is memorization – Most end here
  - Each pithy precept designed to stimulation meditation
    - Explore the ramifications of each precept
    - Explore the interrelationship of each precept to each other
  - First Precept makes Gospel possible

## Bible Never Proves God

- The Bible begins, and ends, from the position that God is:
  - Self-existent (Eternal)
  - Source of all that does exist (Spiritual and physical)
  - Coherent in His nature
  - Infinite
  - Definer of unchanging morality and thus, Judge of sin

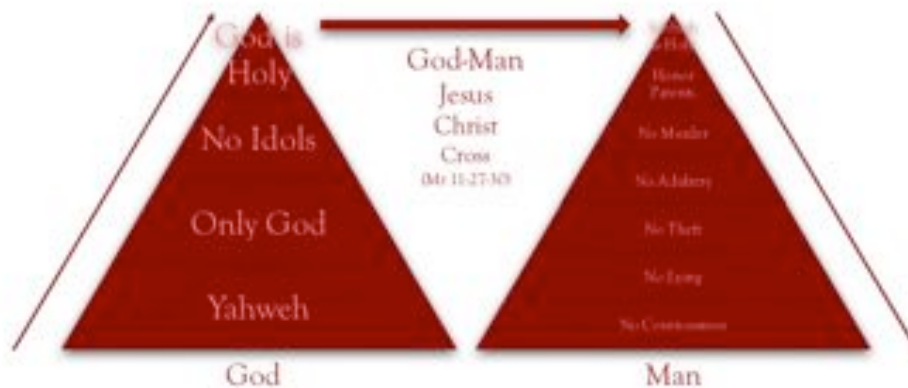
## Consequences Rejecting First Precept

- If you reject the precept that God is Yahweh then:
  - No explanation for Coherency in Nature – Randomness
  - No explanation for source of spiritual and physical
  - No basis for morality, define one's own
  - No basis to judge right and wrong, changeable criteria
  - No consequences for life (Hell) – Meaningless
  - You are the hero (god) of your own story (Job 12:6, Ps 12:15, 23:2)

## Sermon on the Mount

- In this compilation sermon Christ explained the Law as they *should* have understood it (Mt 23:19)
- Instead, they memorized these precepts, substituting additional rules explaining how to keep these precepts
- They never understood that they could *never* keep the precepts which defined God's righteousness without becoming a *new creation* (Gospel) – They were *sin*

## First Precept Foundational



## Revelation of God Begin at Horeb



- This graphic illustrates that God's revelation to Hebrews was culturally morphed into religions
- The essence of morality given at Horeb echoed throughout the Axial Age

## Hellenism – Synthesis of Faiths

- Pythagoras traveled to all the Axial kingdoms, except China, synthesizing a truth system
  - Secular form advanced by Socrates and continued by Plato (some modifications by Aristotle & others) becoming the basis of Western culture - the "birth" of *democracy*
  - Mystic forms became the "mystery religions" of the Bible



## Axial Faiths & Kingdoms

Pythagoras could easily have traveled to the contiguous realms

He began the merging of religion into one religion - Gnosticism

This contaminated Judaism and Christendom already altered by "oral traditions" producing Islam

## Prove Truth of the Bible

- The religions of man prove the truth of God's Word
  - For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things. (Ro 1:18-23 ESV)

## Men Demonstrated Their Sin

- Man's reaction to God's Word proves his sinfulness
  - What then? Are we Jews any better off? No, not at all. For we have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin, as it is written: "None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one. Their throat is an open grave; they use their tongues to deceive. The venom of asps is under their lips. Their mouth is full of curses and bitterness. Their feet are swift to shed blood; in their paths are ruin and misery, and the way of peace they have not known. There is no fear of God before their eyes." (Ro 1:18-19 ESV)