

MORE ON THE TEN

Lessons 21-23

THE FIRST COMMANDMENT--THOU
SHALT HAVE NO OTHER GODS
BEFORE ME

- Whatever we cherish that tends to lessen our love for God or to interfere with the service due him, of that do we make a god.

THE SECOND--NO GRAVEN IMAGE

- Forbids the worship of the true God by images.
- Many nations claimed the their images are just symbols by which the Deity is worshiped, but God forbids this.

THE THIRD--THOU SHALT NOT TAKE THE NAME OF GOD IN VAIN

- This commandment prohibits false oaths, swearing, and using the name of God in a light or careless manner.

THE FOURTH--THE SABBATH

- We are to do our work in 6 days--but acts of necessity and mercy are permitted.
- The sick and suffering are to be cared for on the Sabbath, but unnecessary labor is to be strictly avoided.
- We are not to discuss business matters or lay plans on the Sabbath--God looks upon doing this as if we were actually engaged in doing the things we talked about.
- To keep the Sabbath holy, we are not to dwell on things of a worldly character.

THE FIFTH--HONOR YOUR PARENTS

- This commandment requires children to yield respect, submission, and obedience to their parents, and also to give them love and tenderness, to lighten their cares, to guard their reputations, and to comfort them in old age.
- It also enjoins respect for ministers and rulers and for all others to whom God has delegated authority.

THE SIXTH--THOU SHALT NOT KILL

- All acts of injustice that tend to shorten life
- The spirit of hatred and revenge
- The indulgence of any passion that leads to injurious acts toward others or causes us to wish them harm
- A selfish neglect of caring for the needy or suffering
- All self-indulgence, unnecessary deprivation, or excessive labor that tends to injure health

THE SEVENTH--THOU SHALT NOT COMMIT ADULTERY

- Forbids acts of impurity, sensual thoughts and desires, or any practice that tends to excite them.
- Includes spiritual adultery toward God.

THE EIGHTH--THOU SHALT NOT STEAL

- This commandment condemns manstealing and slave dealing
- Forbids wars of conquest
- Condemns theft and robbery
- Demands strict integrity in the minutest details of the affairs of life
- Forbids overreaching in trade
- Requires payment of just debts and wages
- Every attempt to advantage oneself by the ignorance, weakness, or misfortune of another is fraud

THE NINTH--NO FALSE WITNESS

- Includes false speaking in any matter
- Every attempt or purpose to deceive our neighbor
- Falsehood is an intention to deceive; this can be done by a glance, a motion of the hand, an expression of the countenance
- Includes overstatements and every hint or insinuation to give an erroneous or exaggerated impression
- Includes stating facts in such a manner as to mislead
- Forbids every effort to injure a reputation by misrepresentation, evil surmising, slander, or tale bearing
- Includes the intentional suppression of truth by which injury may result to others

THE TENTH--THOU SHALT NOT COVET

- This commandment strikes at the very root of all sins
- It prohibits the selfish desire