

# Exodus 20:1-21

The Ten Commandments – God’s Moral Law

**“The law” in the Old Testament is a translation of “torah” which simply means “instruction, teaching”**

- What did the Law mean to the children of Israel? Look up Exodus 19:5-6
- What role did the Law play in God’s plan for salvation for the world? Look up: Romans 7:7
- Why did Jesus condemn the Pharisees (those trained in the Law)? Look up: Matthew 23:2-5, 13, 27-28

The religious leaders in Matthew 23 have *seated themselves in Moses’ seat*, meaning that they have adopted the role of the law’s interpreters. They were eager to make rules and add burdens to others. But they themselves were the first to break the spirit of the Law. Many of the Pharisees’ ethical teachings were good; the problem was not their teaching but their hearts (Romans 2:21), an unfortunate trait among some “religious” people still today. Example: The Pharisees criticized Jesus for healing on the Sabbath, arguing He was in violation of the law. How ironic that they began plotting his death on the Sabbath!

Jesus’ response was that they should *“Stop judging by mere appearances, and make a right judgment.”* John 7:24. Making a right judgment is dependent on seeking God’s will and not our own. Jesus’ call to right judgment is a challenge to each of us, for we are all guilty at times of judging others for the way they serve God, while we make excuses for ourselves. The only way to avoid such shallow behavior is to be united with God and to seek His will for our own lives - and not our interpretation of Scripture according to our prejudices or desires. God judges the heart and a man’s motives are weighed by the Lord (Proverbs 16:2). Look up Romans 12:2

## God’s Moral Law. Read Exodus 20:1-21

*I am the Lord who brought you up out of Egypt to be your God; therefore be holy, because I am holy. - Leviticus 11:45*

<b>The Ten Commandments said:</b>	<b>Jesus said:</b>	<b>The Ten Commandments said:</b>	<b>Jesus said:</b>
1: “You shall have no other gods before me” – Exodus 20:3	“Worship the Lord your God and serve Him only” – Matthew 4:10	6: You shall not murder” – Exodus 20: 13	“Anyone who has contempt for his brother will be subject to judgment” – Matthew 5:22
2: “You shall not make for yourself an idol” – Exodus 20:4	“No servant can serve two masters” – Luke 16:13	7: “You shall not commit adultery” – Exodus 20:14	“Anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already...” – Matt 5:28
3: “You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God” – Exodus 20:7	“do not swear at all...but let your yes be yes, your no be no” – Matthew 5:33-34	8: “You shall not steal” – Exodus 20:15	“If someone want to sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well” – Matthew 5:40
4: “Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy” – Exodus 20:8	“The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath” – Mark 2:27-28	9: “You shall not give false testimony” – Exodus 20:16	“Men will give an account on the day of judgment for every careless word they’ve spoken” – Matt 12:36
5: “Honor your Father and your Mother” – Exodus 20:12	“Anyone who loves his father or mother more than me, is not worthy of me” – Matthew 10:37	10: You shall not covet” – Exodus 20:17	“Be on your guard against all kinds of greed” – Luke 12:15

### Does the Moral Law still apply to us?

*It is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God, not by works, so that no one can boast. Ephesians 2:8-9 But just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do. 1 Peter 1:15*

- Definition of *Legalism* - The belief that one’s salvation is dependent upon strict observance of religious rules.
- Definition of *Antinomianism* \,an-ti-'nō-mē-ən-izm\ - The view that under the dispensation of grace, the moral law is of no use

- By what are we saved? \_\_\_\_\_ Look up Galatians 2:15-21
- From what are we saved? From \_\_\_\_\_ Look up Romans 6:14, and from \_\_\_\_\_ Look up 1 John 4:18-19
- Now that we are saved, how should we live? Look up: Romans 8:1-4; 1 John 2:3; *for at-home study* 1 John

- Did Jesus abolish the Law? Look up: Matthew 5:17-20; Mark 10:17-21. Jesus did not reject His Father’s principles for moral behavior. He expects His followers to understand and apply the moral principles already revealed in Scripture, not by outward appearances, but from a changed heart. Look up Matthew 15:16-20

### Look up: Matthew 22:34-40