



WHY THE TEN COMMANDMENTS?

EXODUS 20:1-2

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Are the Ten
Commandments
still important
for us today? If
so, why?



1. CORNERSTONE OF ALL OUR LAWS

- Just about every **law code** in the world has some basis on the **Ten Commandments** (Middle East, Europe, Africa, etc.)
- Just for the sake of **general history** people need to know about the Ten Commandments, plus they aid better understanding of our Canadian law and history. Sadly most Canadians these days cannot even name them.



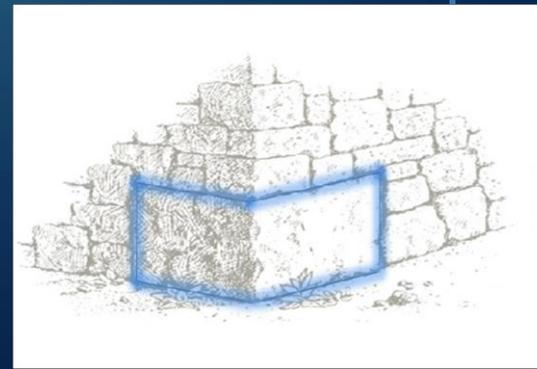
2. CORNERSTONE OF THE ALL COMMANDMENTS

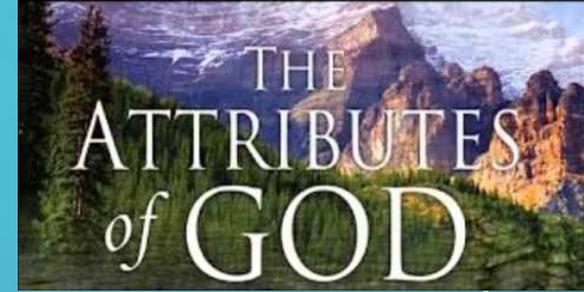
- (Deut. 6:4; Matt. 22:37-40) The Greatest Commandment consists of two parts: to love God & to love others
- The Ten Commandments are the expansion of the two halves: the first four relate to **honouring God**, and the 5th to 10th concern our **relationship with others**
- Therefore the understanding of the Ten Commandments is still important for us today



3. CORNERSTONE OF NEW TESTAMENT ETHICS

- (Matt. 5:17-18) Jesus came to **fulfill** the Law, not to abolish it. And Jesus expands each of them here.
- (Gal. 6:1-2) “the law of Christ” This is not a list of do’s and don’ts, rather a **higher standard of love** that Christ wants us to abide in (1 John 2:8-11; Rom. 13:8-10)
- As God is **faithful** to us, we must strive to be faithful to Him (1 Cor. 10:13; 2 Thes. 3:3)





4. IT REFLECTS THE CHARACTER OF GOD

- (20:1-2) God wants them to **know** and to **remember** who He is (Deut. 5:22)
- There are many **characteristics** and **attributes** of God that these commandments reveal to us. (i.e. faithful)
- As we study each of the ten commandments we shall learn more about God and us in the coming days

5. THE BASIS OF ISRAELITE COVENANT



- (20:2) The Law was the **response** of their deliverance, not the **cause**. They didn't first obey God and then He decided to deliver them **because of** their obedience.
- Although their **identity** and deliverance was not based on the commandments, their **blessing** before God was clearly linked to their obedience. These are clear **standards** that God has set before His chosen people.

6. IT IS STILL GOOD TO FOLLOW THE LAW



- Although we are no longer under the mosaic covenant (Heb. 10:1; Gal. 4:4-5) the **intent** of these laws has never changed, since God never changes (Rom. 13:8-10)
- Moreover, we are also God's **chosen** people (Exo. 19:6; 1 Peter 2:9). In order for us to reflect God and to proclaim Him, we need to live according to His standard.

WHY THE TEN COMMANDMENTS?



- It is still the cornerstone of most of our civil laws
- It is the cornerstone of all our Biblical commandments
- It is still the cornerstone of our New Testament ethics
- It is the basis of the Israelite covenant with God
- It reflects the character of God
- It is still good for us to follow God's standard