

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

THE WAY | A Journey Through Exodus  
PART TWO | The Way IN  
Exodus 20:1-21

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## MOM'S TEN COMMANDMENTS

### The 10 Commandments of my home: by Karen Blessing, Blogger

1. I am your Mother. I went through a lot to conceive you, used all the toilet paper in the land while carrying you and suffered a lengthy ordeal to have you. Accept me as your Mother or I will farm you out into bondage.
2. Thou shalt have no other mother besides me. I am yours and you are stuck with me.
3. Thou shalt not take the name of your mother in vain. Just so we're clear, this means you can't swear at me!
4. Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. Give me a break, at the very least on the weekends.
5. Honor thy father and thy mother. Notice how I've generously included Dad in this one.
6. Thou shalt not kill. No matter what you cannot have murderous thoughts towards me, 'cause I'm here to stay.
7. Thou shalt not commit adultery. If you even know what this is, you're grounded for life.
8. Thou shalt not steal. You cannot take my things and then try to pretend I never had them. I KNOW it was there yesterday.
9. Thou shalt not bear false witness against your neighbor. STOP blaming your brother. I'm not stupid, I know it was you.
10. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house. Do well in school, get into college, get a good job and buy your own...

And thou shalt love thy mother with all thy heart, and with all thy soul and with all thy might...  
Or there will be an exodus. And it will not be mine.

## THE REAL TEN COMMANDMENTS

*Then God gave the people all these instructions:*

*2 "I am the Lord your God, who rescued you from the land of Egypt, the place of your slavery.*

*3 "You must not have any other god but me. [#1]*

*4 "You must not make for yourself an idol of any kind or an [#2] image of anything in the heavens or on the earth or in the sea. 5 You must not bow down to them or worship them, for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God who will not tolerate your affection for any other gods. I lay the sins of the parents upon their children; the entire family is affected—even children in the third and fourth generations of those who reject me. 6 But I lavish unfailing love for a thousand generations on those who love me and obey my commands.*

*7 "You must not misuse the name of the Lord your God. [#3] The Lord will not let you go unpunished if you misuse his name.*

*8 "Remember to observe the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. [#4] 9 You have six days each week for your ordinary work, 10 but the seventh day is a Sabbath day of rest dedicated to the Lord your*

*God. On that day no one in your household may do any work. This includes you, your sons and daughters, your male and female servants, your livestock, and any foreigners living among you. 11 For in six days the Lord made the heavens, the earth, the sea, and everything in them; but on the seventh day he rested. That is why the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and set it apart as holy.*

*12 "Honor your father and mother. Then you will live a long, full life in the land the Lord your God is giving you. [#5]*

*13 "You must not murder. [#6]*

*14 "You must not commit adultery. [#7]*

*15 "You must not steal. [#8]*

*16 "You must not testify falsely against your [#9] neighbor.*

*17 "You must not covet your neighbor's house. [#10] You must not covet your neighbor's wife, male or female servant, ox or donkey, or anything else that belongs to your neighbor."*

## **THE ROLE OF THE TEN COMMANDMENTS**

**1. They are a community constitution, not a private, personal step ladder to God.**

- They show others the kind of God Israel worships
- They don't show individual worth before God
- They don't earn merit before God

*"To single out the Ten Commandments and set them up as a standard of conduct for unbelievers indicates a misunderstanding of the purpose of the Ten Commandments."*

**2. The Ten Commandments were training for God's people to live together in Canaan.** It set them apart as a holy people, an ordered people, a Yahweh-honoring people, so that other nations would see them, and come to know the True God.

## **SHOULD WE KEEP THE TEN COMMANDMENTS?**

- The short answer is "No", at least not like Israel was to keep them.
- **2 Corinthians 3:7-11** tells us 3 things:
  - *The Old Covenant led to death.*
  - *The New Covenant leads to life through the Spirit.*
  - *The Old way was temporary and is replaced by the New way that remains forever. (See also Hebrews 8:13)*

*The Law was a cohesive whole, given to the nation of Israel for their use. Jesus' sacrifice established a change in the way we interact with God. "So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian" (Galatians 3:23-25). Jesus fulfilled the law and culminated the requirement of following it (Romans 10:4). In its place, we have the law of Christ (Galatians 6:2), which is expressed in Matthew 22:37-39.*

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