

Study Plan

- 1 Is the Bible Trustworthy?
- 2 Did God Really Create the World?
- 3 If God is good, why does suffering exist?
- 4 Why is evil so widespread and powerful?
- 5 Why is Israel so important?
- 6 Who is God?
- 7 What is the purpose of the Ten Commandments?
- 8 Are Biblical heroes all good guys?
- 9 How do the Old and New Testaments fit together?
- 10 Why did Jesus perform miracles?
- 11 What did Jesus really say?
- 12 Is death the end (or the beginning)?

What is the Purpose of the Ten Commandments?

Our second big problem...

Things to Remember

- Our first big problem: **Sin**. Because we all are sinful, we are all separated from God and will die.
- Many people in Egypt died. There was only one way to escape death: the blood of the lamb.
- **Exodus 3:14** > God's Name : "I AM"
 - He is the eternal source of everything that exists
 - He is the Creator and Absolute Authority over everything and everyone (Matthew 28:18).

Into the Wilderness

- **Exodus 14 – Egypt’s final challenge**
 - Verses 5-7 > Pharaoh changes his mind
 - Verses 10-11 > The Israelites still don’t trust God
 - Verses 21-22 > God opens the sea
 - Verses 27-28 > The Egyptian army drowns (what did Pharaoh command to be done to Hebrew babies?)
 - Verse 31 > For now, the Israelites trust God
- **Exodus 16:2-3,13-15,35 > God feeds the grumbling people with bread from heaven**

Back to Mount Sinai

- **Exodus 3:12** > God's promises to Moses:
 - “I will be with you”
 - When the people leave Egypt, they will return to this mountain and worship
- **Exodus 19** > 3 months later
 - **Verses 1-2:** at the promised mountain
 - **Verses 5-6:** “obey Me fully” and “be a kingdom of priests.”
What does a priest do?
 - **Verses 7-8:** “We will do everything...”
 - **Verses 16-19:** Lightning, Thunder, Trumpets, Smoke, and Trembling. Notice: The Almighty, Holy God judges sin.

The Ten Commandments : Exodus 20

Remember – God is The Authority. We must honor His laws.

1. **Verse 3:** You shall have no other gods before Me

- The first commandment broken by men
- Who/what is your source of authority?

2. **Verses 4-6:** You shall not make and worship idols

- Taking good things and making them the “most important” things. Worship = “worth” + “ship”. What is most important to you?
- Everyone worships something, often a physical or mental image (“smaller gods”)

3. **Verse 7:** You shall not misuse the name of God

- Not only using his name as a curse (“OMG”), but speaking falsely about Him and His greatness

4. **Verses 8-10:** Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy

- Did you always reserve a day each week to seek and worship God?

The first four
commandments
describe our
relationship
with God

The Ten Commandments : Exodus 20

5. **Verse 12:** Honor your father and mother

- Not just obey – honor. Did you always respect your parents...?

6. **Verse 13:** You shall not murder

- Have you ever been angry at someone? (Matthew 5:21,22)

7. **Verse 14:** You shall not commit adultery

- Have you ever lusted? (Matthew 5:27,28)

8. **Verse 15:** You shall not steal

- Even small things, software, or copied materials

9. **Verse 16:** You shall not lie

- God is truth. Guess who is “the father of lies”?

10. **Verse 17:** You shall not covet

- If only I had _____, I would be more satisfied.

The final six commandments describe our relationship with people

So, how did you do?

- **We all fail this test!**
 - The only passing score: 100% perfect (**Matthew 5:48**)
 - If you miss one, you fail all (**James 2:10**)
 - Ignorance is no excuse (**Leviticus 5:17**)
- The 10 Commandments are like a mirror
 - An honest look shows our guilt (**Romans 3:19-20**)
 - We don't use a mirror to wash our face, we need something else to remove our sin

Guilty of breaking God's Law

- Breaking the law leads to **punishment**
 - If we break the law of our country, we are guilty and the government has the authority to punish us.
 - When we break God's laws, we are guilty and He has the authority to punish us.
 - He has perfect knowledge of our thoughts, feelings, and actions (**Psalm 139:4**)
 - We are much worse than we think (**Romans 3:10-18**)

The People of Israel

- **Exodus 19:7-8** “We will do everything...”
- **Exodus 20:18-20** “do not have God speak to us...”
 - The people of Israel understood their guilt and were afraid of God’s judgment
 - They wanted Moses to be the one that talks to God
 - **Exodus 24:12-14** Moses went up on the mountain to receive the Law of God
- **Exodus 32** The people of Israel sin
 - **Verses 1-4** The people grew impatient and sinned.
 - **Verses 19-20** Moses was very angry and broke the tablets
 - **Verses 33-35** The people are punished for their sin

Things to Think About

- The entire human race has **two problems**:
 1. Adam's **sin resulted in death** (physical and spiritual). For him and for all humans.
 2. We have **all broken God's law** and are **guilty**. We all deserve **punishment**. God is a perfect judge, and we stand silent before Him (without defense).
- **We each** have these two problems – big problems.
- How can a God of **justice** punish sin and forgive sin (**Exodus 34:6,7**)?