

The Ten Commandments... the Ten Words of the Covenant... and are they for the New Covenant as well?

The Ten Commandments, as given under the Old Covenant/letter of the law:
(Exodus 20:2-17, first version)

One

I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

Two

Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:

Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;

And showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

Three

Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

Four

Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:

But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:

For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

Five

Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

Six

Thou shalt not kill.

Seven

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Eight

Thou shalt not steal.

Nine

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

Ten

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

(Then in, Deuteronomy 5:6-21, second version, worded slightly different but with the same meaning applied)

Moses preceded by saying in Deuteronomy 4 verse 13 "And he declared unto you his covenant, which he commanded you to perform, even ten commandments; and he wrote them upon two tables of stone"...

and in Deuteronomy 5 verses 2-5

2-The LORD our God made a covenant with us in Horeb.

3-The LORD made not this covenant with our fathers, but with us, even us, who are all of us here alive this day.

4-The LORD talked with you face to face in the mount out of the midst of the fire,

5-(I stood between the LORD and you at that time, to show you the word of the LORD: for ye were afraid by reason of the fire, and went not up into the mount;) saying,...

One

I am the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage.

Thou shalt have none other gods before me.

Two

Thou shalt not make thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the waters beneath the earth:

Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me,

And showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me and keep my commandments.

Three

Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain: for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

Four

Keep the sabbath day to sanctify it, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee.

Six days thou shalt labour, and do all thy work:

But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thine ox, nor thine ass, nor any of thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates; that thy manservant and thy maidservant may rest as well as thou.

And remember that thou wast a servant in the land of Egypt, and that the LORD thy God brought thee out thence through a mighty hand and by a stretched out arm: therefore the LORD thy God commanded thee to keep the sabbath day.

Five

Honour thy father and thy mother, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee; that thy days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with thee, in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

Six

Thou shalt not kill.

Seven

Neither shalt thou commit adultery.

Eight

Neither shalt thou steal.

Nine

Neither shalt thou bear false witness against thy neighbour.

Ten

Neither shalt thou desire thy neighbour's wife, neither shalt thou covet thy neighbour's house, his field, or his manservant, or his maidservant, his ox, or his ass, or any thing that is thy neighbour's.

Followed by Moses saying in Deuteronomy 5 verse 22 "These words the LORD spake unto all your assembly in the mount out of the midst of the fire, of the cloud, and of the thick darkness, with a great voice: and he added no more. And he wrote them in two tables of stone, and delivered them unto me."

Deuteronomy 10 verses 1-4 makes clear the second set of Ten Commandments is according to the first set.

Finally, the Ten Commandments / the Ten Words of the Covenant / the Decalogue / the WORD of God, is still required keeping under the New Covenant of Jesus Christ... in which New Testament scriptures reveal that it is by the Spirit of the Law of Life that we establish/keep/uphold the WORD of God through the Faith of Jesus Christ, who is the embodiment and fleshly manifestation of the WORD of God and is the giver of Grace, and who taught and instructed his followers to fulfill his WORD by love for God and for neighbor... The Ten Words basically expressed are a warning not to fall away from a valid standing in the Covenant (after each in parenthesis is a comment for suggested application in Faith):

Word One...

Thou shalt have no other gods before me

(Referring to knowing and being in unity with the One True and Living God)

Word Two...

Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image

(Warning not to worship idols/false gods)

Word Three...

Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain

(Warning not to disavow, renounce, reject, abandon, turn against, treating it as meaningless with no credibility, holding it in unbelief, as unreal, as untrue)

Word Four...

Remember the sabbath day to keep it holy

(Referring to the "true spiritual Sabbath Rest of the Kingdom of God", his Heavenly Country being the 7th Day/Millennial Sabbath, and to not hold disbelief toward it as the Apostle Paul warns of in Hebrews chapters 3&4... furthermore we can see how even the Mosaic application of how it was observed outwardly under the Old Covenant, also referred to as the veil, is done away with if one's Faith in Christ is confident enough to the application of Spirit, as the Apostle Paul also reveals in Romans 14:1-23 and in Colossians 2:14-23 as doctrinal instruction for believers in Christ... but if one is weak in Faith and reasons that the Mosaic application is still effective, then for that one's own conscience sake they should observe it to their selves after the manner of their own personal convictions without being judgmental, and as long as that one does not impose it upon others with intimidations or by force in a condemning manner... whether in confidence do not despise a brother for weakness, or in weakness do not judge a brother for having confidence, for both belong to Christ, be not offensive towards one another but rather respect each other for where each one is at in their Faith. In some things Faith is best to have to yourself before God, remember Jesus said, "Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again." When you are in the true spiritual Sabbath Rest you are "in the bosom" of the Father... "the Rest of Faith" that comes through the Grace and Love of Jesus Christ.. for Jesus is the bosom of the Father and the giver of rest. John 1:18 and Matthew 11:28-30)

Word Five...

Honour thy father and thy mother

(For a blessing of wellbeing comes from this)

Word Six...

Thou shalt not kill

(Live peaceably, for if you shall live by the sword you will die by the sword)

Word Seven...

Thou shalt not commit adultery

(Man and wife are to be faithful in marriage... The Holy Ghost even warns against fornication prior to marriage)

Word Eight...

Thou shalt not steal

(Warning not to do unjust things, rather trust for God's provision)

Word Nine...

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour

(Warning not to testify falsely against him/her)

Word Ten...

Thou shalt not covet

(Warning not to want for things that are of inordinate desires)

Jesus is the WORD... the Light, the Truth, and the Life

John 1:1-5 and 9-14, 17

1-In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

2-The same was in the beginning with God.

3-All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

4-In him was life; and the life was the light of men.

5-And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

9-That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

10-He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not.

11-He came unto his own, and his own received him not.

12-But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

13-Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

14-And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

17- For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

When the True and Living God made the temporal creation He framed it on and according to His WORD, and it is that WORD that the two Covenants are based on... in the scriptures we find that the establishment of Christ's New Covenant supersedes the Old Covenant... and in the Divine Plan, God provided through his Son the Christ, a change in both the Covenant and the Testament, of which Jesus is the Mediator of this New and better Covenant and Testament which is established on better promises... and by which the people of God are unified as one body, whether they be Jew or Gentile both are now made one, and both are the Faithful in Christ, to include those of the Faithful before Christ came into the world and those Faithful after He returned to the Father in Heaven... this is not a "replacement theology" but would be more correctly understood as an "inclusion theology", as a provision to God's Divine Plan... the more you come to understand His Divine Plan the more you will come to marvel at the greatness of it.

Hebrews 1:1-4

1- God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,

2- Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

3- Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

4- Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

The covenant of old is based upon the Word of God expressed in a written form prescribing an operation of works/ordinances to be performed in specific ways to attain a figurative form of justification before God (which the Apostle Paul referred to as the works of the law). But this covenant was found to be weak, unprofitable, faulty, inferior, unable to purify the conscience perfectly, and was not possible for the blood of animal sacrifices to truly take away sins, nor was it of the operation of faith; yet this was meant to happen... understanding this covenant was patterned according to the Divine Plan, being a figure of the True, serving as an example and shadow of Heavenly things to come, though not the substance/essence of the True (therefore a veiled interpretation); and even in the writings contained in the law of Moses itself, and by men Divinely inspired of God, both attesting and prophesying of a Messiah to come, who would be a Mediator of a better Covenant. (Hebrews has much to say on this)

Hebrews 7:12-22

12- For the priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity a change also of the law.

13- For he of whom these things are spoken pertaineth to another tribe, of which no man gave attendance at the altar.

14- For it is evident that our Lord sprang out of Juda; of which tribe Moses spake nothing concerning priesthood.

15- And it is yet far more evident: for that after the similitude of Melchisedec there ariseth another priest.

16- Who is made, not after the law of a carnal commandment, but after the power of an endless life.

17- For he testifieth, "Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec". [Psalms 110:4]

18- For there is verily a disannulling of the commandment going before for the weakness and unprofitableness thereof.

19- For the law made nothing perfect, but the bringing in of a better hope did; by the which we draw nigh unto God.

20- And inasmuch as not without an oath he was made priest:

21- (For those priests were made without an oath; but this with an oath by him that said unto him, The Lord sware and will not repent, Thou art a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec:)

22- By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament.

Hebrews 8:1-13

1-Now of the things which we have spoken this is the sum: We have such an high priest, who is set on the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens;

2-A minister of the sanctuary, and of the true tabernacle, which the Lord pitched, and not man.

3-For every high priest is ordained to offer gifts and sacrifices: wherefore it is of necessity that this man have somewhat also to offer.

4-For if he were on earth, he should not be a priest, seeing that there are priests that offer gifts according to the law:

5-Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern showed to thee in the mount.

6-But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises.

7-For if that first covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the second.

8-For finding fault with them, he saith, Behold, the days come, saith the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah:

9-Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord.

10-For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:

11-And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest.

12-For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.

13-In that he saith, A new covenant, he hath made the first old. Now that which decayeth and waxeth old is ready to vanish away.

Hebrews 9:15

And for this cause he is the mediator of the new testament, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

Hebrews 9:23, 24, & 28

23-It was therefore necessary that the patterns of things in the heavens should be purified with these; but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these.

24-For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, which are the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us:

28-So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

Hebrews 10:19-24

19-Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus,
20-By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh;

21-And having an high priest over the house of God;

22-Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.

23-Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)

24-And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:

Hebrews 11:1-3,5,6,13-16,39-40

1 - Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

2 - For by it the elders obtained a good report.

3 - Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

5 - By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

6 - But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

13 - These all (*the elders*) died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

14 - For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country.

15 - And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned.

16 - But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.

39 - And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise:

40 - God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

Matthew 5:17

Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill.

Romans 3:31

Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law.

In Matthew 22:36-40 Jesus was asked what was the great commandment in the law (of Moses/the Old Covenant), of which He said, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Also in Mark 12:29-31 "The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

So then, keeping the Essence of the WORD to fulfill His Commandments... is having a love for the Living God through His Son Jesus, the Christ/Messiah, and love for your neighbor (especially a brother in Christ), this is what is referred to as the Royal Law, the Law of Liberty, and the Spirit of the Law of Life... (the unveiled interpretation)

James 2:8 If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well:

James 2:12 So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty. (This Liberty is not to be construed as meaning we do not have to keep the WORD of God anymore, or that we are free to indulge in sinfulness, rather it frees us from the works of the law/the law of sin and death, and it frees us from the bondage of sin, the fallen condition/state)

Romans 8:1&2 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

...and Jesus who is One with God the Father, and who is God from the fullness of the Eternal Spirit, and is the WORD of God who came in the flesh, and who was crucified and resurrected and returned to the fullness of the Eternal Spirit, made a New Covenant for His faithful followers

which remain in the flesh close to 2000 years ago, and which superseded the Old Covenant "of works" through the performance of ordinances.

For His New Covenant is a Covenant "of Faith", being a better Covenant and Testament which is based on better Promises, and of greater power to purge the conscience from dead works to serve the living God, and now if I/you/we are saved by Christ's grace and live a changed life and turned away from sin, and living anew in His Spirit and in His Faith, He then has justified us which is imputed unto us for righteousness and we have peace with God, and so fulfilling His Commandments in this manner... and we must confess the Faith, but not just confess with our mouths, we must confess with our actions which is the proof of what we believe, we must live it as a living testimony! It is no longer by the works of the law being it's ordinances and precepts for justification, which Jesus abolished and done away with for those in His New Covenant - this is what really matters... if one lives anew in Spirit and in His Faith. (Old Covenant / Law of Moses / the veil is abolished/done away with... see 2 Corinthians 3:6-18, Ephesians 2:12-16, and Colossians 2:14-23, also in Acts 15:5-11, 24 the Apostles Peter and James counter the Pharisees on this issue of keeping the Law of Moses)

In conclusion... to be valid to the Covenant of Jesus Christ one must by Faith through His Grace:

uphold the Ten Commandments / the Ten Words of the Covenant / the Decalogue / the WORD of God...

and must have the living testimony of the Spirit of God / the Holy Ghost by which He gives one the power to uphold and stand in the WORD of God... expressed in Love and to good works of Faith in honor to Him, and living to His instructions and teachings in His Gospel given through His Apostles to the Church body of Spirit. So it is no longer by keeping the WORD of God by the works of precepts and ordinances of the old testament law/covenant.

Under the Mosaic covenant there's two parts to the contract... "the law and the testimony"... sometimes the word "law" refers specifically to the Ten Commandments, then sometimes it refers to the whole Mosaic covenant of 613 laws such as when referring to "the law and the prophets"... and prior to Jesus putting the New Covenant into effect, which now supersedes the old covenant, and abolishing the old covenant works of the law, thus giving liberty from it to all those who will fulfill His WORD, the people at that time were still under obligation to observe the old, until He put it into effect. That puts in perspective where Jesus told the people to do as the Scribes and Pharisees tell you in matters of lawful observance, but be not like them, pointing out that they are hypocrites and will stand in greater judgment. (Matthew 23)

Now under Christ's New Covenant there's also two parts to the contract... "the WORD and the Spirit"... which is sometimes referred to as the bread and the wine, and the body and the blood. Both parts must be as one/in union/intact to be valid. It is the Holy Spirit that testifies of Christ, and as we live according to the Spirit and have put on the Spirit we become and are a living testimony through the Spirit.

For the believer, keeping and preserving the WORD of God spiritually is all about living to, being in, and remaining valid to the spiritual existence, and not living to temporal worldliness, the fallen/invalid condition, the prison of the flesh in sinful works/deeds.

Jesus is the door through which we must enter into the promises of heavenly bliss, there is no other way. The oneness we have in and through his WORD is a glory beyond all temporal human expression... you must properly obtain and put on the wedding garment of the Spirit to be acceptable. (John 10:7-10, 1 Corinthians 2:7-12, and Matthew 22:11-14)

More references on the Ten Commandments:

Jesus, who is the embodiment of the WORD of God, referred to them in the Gospels...

Matthew Chapter 19 Verses 16 - 19

Mark Chapter 10 Verse 19

Luke Chapter 18 Verses 18 - 20

Paul refers to them in his letter to the Romans...

Romans Chapter 13 Verse 9

James refers to them in his letter...

James Chapter 2 Verses 8 - 12

Jesus also referred to how to apply the correct interpretation of them...

Matthew Chapter 22 Verses 36 - 40

Mark Chapter 12 Verse 29 - 31

John Chapter 14 Verses 15 - 27

John also referred to how to apply the correct interpretation of them...

1 John Chapter 2 Verses 3 - 10

(True spiritual applications of scripture are functional and practical, able to operate without contradictions or conflicts in the practice of them, but because Faith is a developing process, it's important to value respect for each other out of Love in Christ... Faith is living and growing, we go from Faith to Faith, as with the increase of it in Glory... from Glory to Glory)

