

Shalom,

The Ten Words

Then God spoke all these Words saying,

“I am Adonai your God, Who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

“You shall have no other gods before Me. Do not make for yourself a graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above or on the earth below or in the water under the earth. Do not bow down to them, do not let anyone make you serve them. For I, Adonai your God, am a jealous God, bringing the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing lovingkindness to the thousands of generations of those who love Me and keep My mitzvot.

“You must not take the Name of Adonai your God in vain, for Adonai will not hold him guiltless that takes His Name in vain.

“Remember Yom Shabbat, to keep it holy. You are to work six days, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Shabbat to Adonai your God. In it you shall not do any work—not you, nor your son, your daughter, your male servant, your female servant, your cattle, nor the outsider that is within your gates. For in six days Adonai made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Thus Adonai blessed Yom Shabbat, and made it holy.

“Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long upon the land which Adonai your God is giving you.

“Do not murder.

“Do not commit adultery.

“Do not steal.

“Do not bear false witness against your neighbor.

“Do not covet your neighbor's house, your neighbor's wife, his manservant, his maidservant, his ox, his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's.” (Exodus 20:1-17 TLV)

The Torah Portion named for **Yitro** in the Hebrew Scriptures, or **Jethro** in English, is found in **Exodus 18:1–20:23**. This portion includes Jethro’s, Moses’ father-in-law’s counsel to Moses that he should appoint others to assist him in the ministry to the people of Israel, but **the central theme in this portion is that YHWH revealed Himself to all His congregation and imparted His Ten Words, or His instructions, that are the foundation of His covenant relationship with mankind.** These words, along with His revelation throughout Scripture, show that through His lovingkindness people might be **partakers together with Him in His way of doing things, or be partakers of His divine nature, completely re-created in the Messiah.**

His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him Who called us by His own glory and virtue. Through these things He has given us His precious and magnificent promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, since you have escaped the corruption that evil desires have brought into the world. (2 Peter 1:3-4 TLV)

Therefore if anyone is in Messiah, he is a new creation. The old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. Now all these things are from God, Who reconciled us to Himself through Messiah and gave us the ministry of reconciliation. That is, in Messiah, God was reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them; and He has entrusted the message of reconciliation to us. (2 Corinthians 5:17-19 TLV)

When these Ten Words were first given to Israel on Mount Sinai, the ability to understand them and apply them in their lives could not be fully comprehended, because it took the teaching of the Holy Spirit to open their eyes to God's marvelous plan. When the Holy Spirit came upon mankind to give supernatural revelation of the truth, then men could see that the **Ten Statements are Truth that reveals Who God is and His plan that men, through trusting in the sacrificial death of Jesus, would be regenerated to be, and act, just like God.**

The Children of Israel, as men often do, try to understand God and His Word with a natural mind. They took the Ten Words God spoke and wrote a **huge commentary that emphasized doing things, or obedience, in the natural rather than allowing His Words, which are Spirit and Truth, to dwell in them to manifest a New Creature equipped to be like Him.**

God is Spirit; and worshippers must worship Him spiritually and truly. (John 4:24 CJB)

Also, no one puts new wine into old wineskins; if he does, the new wine will burst the skins and be spilled, and the skins too will be ruined. On the contrary, new wine must be put into freshly prepared wineskins. (Luke 5:37-38 CJB)

We understand that, **after sin entered the world, no human effort, nor doing or keeping commands, could ever restore the relationship that had been lost. LOVE (God is LOVE) made the way, not just through forgiveness, but through trusting the sacrifice of Yeshua HaMashiach to redeem everyone lost in sin so that complete reconciliation would be accomplished.**

Reconciliation is wonderful and amazing! Those who are reconciled become **one** with God Who, by His love, brought them back to Himself. That means that all who receive that reconciliation **may know the reality of being in Messiah, and having Messiah in them**—not just as old sinners saved by grace, but **once saved, living as a new species of creation with the Ten Words of God now engraved into their very being in the fleshy tablets of their hearts.** The old wineskin of the natural man is transformed by the Spirit of God into a new creature anointed and conditioned to be filled with all the fullness of God.

“But this is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after those days” —it is a declaration of Adonai— “I will put My Torah within them. Yes, I will write it on their heart. I will be their God and they will be My people.” (Jeremiah 31:32 TLV)

“Moreover I will give you a new heart. I will put a new spirit within you. I will remove the stony heart from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Ruach within you. Then I will cause you to walk in My laws, so you will keep My rulings and do them.” (Ezekiel 36:26-27 TLV)

For what great nation is there that has God as close to them as ADONAI our God is, whenever we call on Him? What great nation is there that has laws and rulings as just as this entire Torah which I am setting before you today? (Deuteronomy 4:7-8 CJB)

Remember that people tend to get things in the wrong order by trying to do things, or doing good works, to please God, when **the design of God is for His people to become united with Him by trusting Him, and once they are reconciled new creations, they will do, from the heart, according to their new nature in Messiah that which is imprinted in them by the Spirit of God.**

That's why we have this Scripture text: No one's ever seen or heard anything like this, Never so much as imagined anything quite like it— What God has arranged for those who love Him. But you've seen and heard it because God by His Spirit has brought it all out into the open before you. (1 Corinthians 2:9-10 MSG)

Knowing that we are reconciled to God is one of the most awesome revelations we can receive and, recognizing that we have within us the New Creation nature of God, compels us to share in showing His love and His will to reconcile everyone who will take it by faith.

Living in His newness,
Terry

With your ears you will hear a word from behind you: “This is the way; stay on it.” (Isaiah 30:21 CJB)

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