

WRITTEN IN
STONE

Overview of the 10 Commandments

DEUTERONOMY 5:1-

1. Does the law have a secular or civic purpose?
2. Does its primary effect aid or hurt another religion?
3. Does it entangle government and religion further?



THE LEMON TEST (1978)

“A culture, like an individual, reaps what it sows. The seed of honor produces a harvest of honorable acts. The seed of anger eventually yields violence. The law of the harvest is part of the divine design for human...



AL MOHLER

“Reaping What We Sow – The Harvest of Moral Relativism”

“...society, and it allows no exceptions. A society which sows reverence for life will reap a culture of kindness and a legacy of respect. A people shorn of this seed will eventually produce a harvest of unspeakable horror, anguish, and inhumanity. America is now living on the tattered remnants of a post-Christian culture...



AL MOHLER

"...The tapestry of permanent truths is not completely gone; here and there a fragment appears. But the moral fabric of this culture has been torn asunder by the clipping shears of moral revisionism. The threads now stand loose and bare, and American society has few defenses against the barbarians."



AL MOHLER

“A world which has in the last century alone witnessed the horrors of Auschwitz, the Soviet gulag, the Cambodian killing fields, Nazi ‘medicine,’ and two world wars has no reason to trust its own ‘values.’ Chesterton once remarked that the mark of the barbarian is ‘the sacrifice of the permanent to...



AL MOHLER

“...temporary.’ In the midst of a new barbarism, it is the church’s task to speak permanent truths to a rebellious world.”



AL MOHLER

- Moses was called by God to deliver God's people from Egyptian slavery
- God sent 10 plagues as judgment to show Pharaoh his power
- After 430 years of slavery, the Hebrews were released
- They wandered for 39+ years in the wilderness, making their way to the Promised Land from Egypt

THE CONTEXT OF DEUTERONOMY

- In Deuteronomy, they are on the border of the Promised Land
- Deuteronomy is a series of sermons that Moses preached to the second generation of Hebrews
- Moses would not enter the Promised land; Joshua took over leadership from him

THE CONTEXT OF DEUTERONOMY

*I will take you to be my people, and I will be
your God, and you shall know that I am the
Lord your God, who has brought you out
from under the burdens of the Egyptians.*

EXODUS 6:7

I. God's Call to Hear the Law (Deuteronomy 5:1)

1. Hearing or listening to information
2. Processing or meditating on the information
3. Reacting and responding to information

THE THREE ELEMENTS OF SHEMA

The Law serves three purposes...

1. The Law is a map that guides our conduct.



PHIL RYKEN

The Law serves three purposes...

1. The Law is a map that guides our conduct.
2. The Law is a muzzle that keeps us from doing wrong.



PHIL RYKEN

The Law serves three purposes...

1. The Law is a map that guides our conduct.
2. The Law is a muzzle that keeps us from doing wrong.
3. The Law is a mirror that shows us our sin.



PHIL RYKEN

“...[The man] who does not know
the nature of sin cannot know
the nature of the Savior.”



JOHN BUNYAN

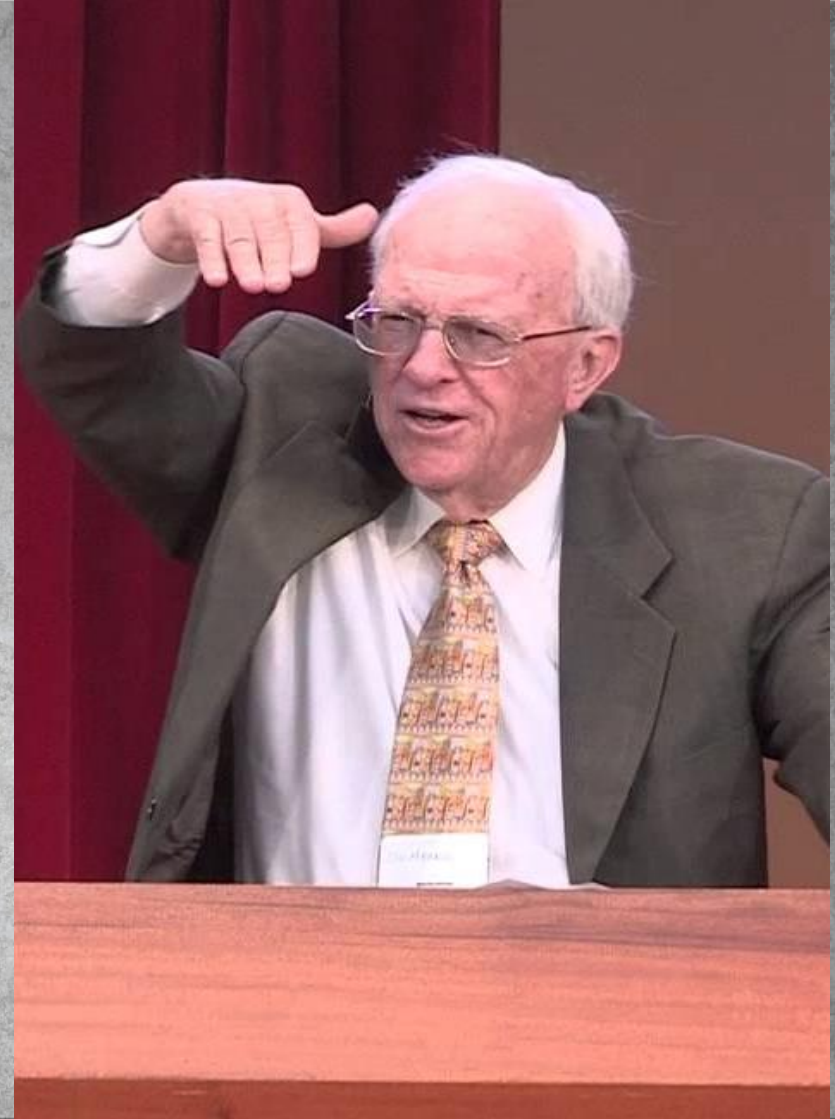
The Law	The Gospel
The Law condemns	The Gospel saves and justifies
The Law convicts	The Gospel relieves our guilt and shame
The Law shows us we cannot keep it	The Gospel tells us One already has
The Law says, "Do this."	The Gospel tells us "Already done."

I. God's Call to Hear the Law
(Deuteronomy 5:1)

II. The People's Context for Hearing the Law
(Deuteronomy 5:2-6)

A. With Whom? (Deuteronomy 5:2-4)

“Thus what was about to be revealed was not something radically new and different but simply a reaffirmation or renewal of what had already been given. In line with secular covenant arrangements, each new generation of covenant partners must subscribe to the terms sworn to by their respective ancestors.”



EUGENE MERRILL

“The Ten Commandments are not the product of human creativity or a legislative assembly. There is no conference committee at Horeb and Sinai. There is no filibuster, and there is no bill-signing ceremony in the Rose Garden. This is God speaking to His people. There is no negotiation here. This is divine address—‘And God spoke all these words.’”



AL MOHLER

I. God's Call to Hear the Law
(Deuteronomy 5:1)

II. The People's Context for Hearing the Law
(Deuteronomy 5:2-6)

A. With Whom? (Deuteronomy 5:2-4)

B. How? (Deuteronomy 5:5)

1. They knew they were in the presence of the infinite.
2. They longed for someone "holier" to speak for them and hear God's words.

***TWO REASONS MOSES STOOD
BEFORE THEM AND GOD***

I. God's Call to Hear the Law
(Deuteronomy 5:1)

II. The People's Context for Hearing the Law
(Deuteronomy 5:2-6)

A. With Whom? (Deuteronomy 5:2-4)

B. How? (Deuteronomy 5:5)

C. Why? (Deuteronomy 5:6)

“The preface to the ten commandments teaches us, that because God is the Lord, and our God, and Redeemer, therefore we are bound to keep all his commandments.”

***THE WESTMINSTER SHORTER
CATECHISM***

- The Decalogue
- The 10 Words
- The 2 Tablets

***OTHER NAMES FOR THE
TEN COMMANDMENTS***

- How We Relate to God (vertical)
Commands #1-4
- How We Relate to Our Neighbor (horizontal)
Commands #5-10

DIVIDING THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Commandment	O.T. Penalty	N.T. Restatement
1 st – Lordship	Death (Exod. 22:20; Deut. 6:13-15)	Acts 14:15
2 nd – Idolatry	Death (Deut. 27:15)	I John 5:21
3 rd – Representation	Death (Lev. 24:15-16)	James 5:12
4 th – Sabbath	Death (Num. 15:32-36)	Hebrews 4:9-10
5 th – Honor	Death (Exod. 21:15-17)	Ephesians 6:2

Commandment	O.T. Penalty	N.T. Restatement
6 th – Murder	Death (Exod. 21:12)	I John 3:15
7 th – Adultery	Death (Lev. 20:10)	I Corinthians 6:9
8 th – Stealing	Death (Exod. 21:16)	Ephesians 4:28
9 th – Lying	Death (Deut. 18:16-21)	Colossians 3:9-10
10 th – Coveting	Not sin specifically mentioned	Ephesians 5:3

“The first thing to say about the Ten Commandments is that they exist and their status is that of divine command. They are not Moses’ bright ideas, but God’s categorical requirements. Scripture affirms that the two tablets of the law were written direction by God. Thus God told the world what...



J.I. PACKER

"... sort of behavior pleases Him: He made this very clear by His ten prohibitions of any other sort of life. Though stated as part of God's covenant with Israel, the Decalogue shows God's will for all His human creatures and is this the place where all mankind's moral and spiritual education needs to begin...



J.I. PACKER

“... That was true in Moses’
day and is just as true in
ours.”



J.I. PACKER

1. All Scripture is profitable (II Timothy 3:16-17).

***WHY STUDY THE
TEN COMMANDMENTS***

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3. The N.T. refers to the Ten Commandments for “moral support” (Mark 10; Romans 13; I Timothy 1).
4. We need truth we can trust (Psalm 1).

WHY STUDY THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

*Open my eyes, that I may behold
wondrous things out of your law.*

PSALM 119:18