

Exodus

121

The Ten Words 20:1-17

- You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.
 - In this time a name was synonymous with the character of the one possessing the name. To use the name of God in any way except to give honor, reverence and glory to that name would violate this commandment. (See also Deuteronomy 6:13-15; 10:20-22)
 - Swearing by the name of the LORD to bolster a lie is a clear violation of this command. ¹² You shall not swear by my name falsely, and so profane the name of your God: I am the LORD. Leviticus 19:12 (ESV)
 - Matthew 5:33 could apply to this command.

122

The Ten Words 20:1-17

- Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.
 - Word sabbath means to stop or cease. The command is for work to cease on this day.
 - The command is to Israel and to those who dwell with them.
 - The basis for the command goes back to creation when God ceased from the work of creation on the seventh day. This is the only precedent we have for a seven-day week.
 - This also locks in creation as seven literal days.
 - This command gave a weekly reminder of all of the commands to the Israelites.

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The Ten Words 20:1-17

- Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.
 - Jesus was constantly hounded by the religious leaders and accused of breaking the Sabbath law for healing on the Sabbath and every time he revealed that they were the ones in error. (see Matthew 12)

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The Ten Words 20:1-17

- Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.
 - Outside the Gospels and the Book of Acts which are all references to things taking place on a Sabbath day, there are only two references to the Sabbath in the New Testament:
 - ¹⁶ Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. Colossians 2:16 (ESV)
 - This was Paul's response to those who were trying to bring those who had professed faith in Christ under the Old Testament laws as a condition of salvation.

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The Ten Words 20:1-17

- Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.
 - Outside the Gospels and the Book of Acts which are all references to things taking place on a Sabbath day, there are only two references to the Sabbath in the New Testament:
 - ⁹ So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, ¹⁰ for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his. Hebrews 4:9-10 (ESV)
 - This passage clearly reveals the fulfillment of the Sabbath law in the life of a follower of Jesus Christ. We keep the Sabbath rest when we cease from our efforts to earn our salvation and rest in the completed work of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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The Ten Words 20:1-17

- Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.
 - Although not mentioned by name Romans 14:5-6 refers to the Sabbath as practiced by the Israelites.
 - ⁵ One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶ The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. Romans 14:5-6 (ESV)

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The Ten Words 20:1-17

- Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.
 - Although not mentioned by name Romans 14:5-6 refers to the Sabbath as practiced by the Israelites.
 - This reflects the reality of the church in Paul's day where some were largely made up of people coming out of Judaism while others were made up largely of Gentiles. The instruction here is to go with your personal conviction without judging the different practice of others.

128

The Ten Words 20:1-17

- Honor your father and your mother
 - The root of the Hebrew word for honor is to be heavy. One is to consider the worth of father and mother. In contrast they are not to be taken lightly.
 - Note that the father and mother are worthy of equal honor.
 - The promise given with the commandment (see Ephesians 6:1) reflects the central place of the family in the health of a nation.
 - The implication of the command is for father and mother to be worthy of honor yet the command does not depend on that condition.
 - Jesus referenced this commandment in Matthew 15:4 and 19:19.

129

The Ten Words 20:1-17

- You shall not murder
 - The Hebrew word is from a root to break or dash to pieces, used of killing in a violent and unjust manner. Always refers to humans.
 - Reiterates the sanctity of human life.
 - Does not forbid capital punishment after due process carried out by those who have been placed in authority by God. (see Genesis 9:8; numerous laws in the remainder of the Torah which required the death penalty, Romans 13:1-7)
 - Jesus referred to this commandment in Matthew 5:21; 19:18.

130

The Ten Words 20:1-17

- You shall not commit adultery
 - Adultery is the violation of a marriage. It is sexual intimacy between two people who are not married to each other but at least one of whom is married.
 - As the preceding commandment emphasized the sanctity of human life this commandment emphasizes the sanctity of marriage.
 - Jesus spoke of this commandment in Matthew 5:27; 19:18.