

Setting the Table
Stone Tablets in a Wireless World
Exodus 19:16-20:16
July 8, 2018

As we set the table today, let's listen to what the Scriptures say about these commands:

1. These are _____ words; not a dead document.

"He [Moses] was in the assembly in the desert, with the angel who spoke to him on Mount Sinai, and with our fathers; and he received living words to pass on to us."
--Acts 7:38

2. They are not _____; they are given for our good.

"And now, O Israel, what does the Lord your God ask of you but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to observe the Lord's commands and decrees that I am giving you today for your own good?"

--Deuteronomy 10:12-13

3. They are not just good life principles; they are our _____.

"Take to heart all the words I have solemnly declared to you this day, so that you may command your children to obey carefully all the words of this law. They are not just idle words for you — they are your life." --Deuteronomy 32:46-47

Let me share some observations that will help our understanding:

1. The Bible calls them _____ tables of the law.
2. The commands deal with our _____, our _____, and our _____.
3. These are _____ commands, not "if/then" statements.
4. They are directed to _____, not to a group.
5. They are spoken and written directly by _____.
6. They are listed _____ – once in Exodus 20 and the other in Deuteronomy 5.

As we set the table, let's avoid two extremes:

1. _____.
2. _____.

One reason the New Testament talks about the law in several different ways is because there are several different kinds of law:

1. _____ Law.
2. _____ Law.
3. _____ Law.

Here are two big reasons why I think God gave us His law:

1. To _____ His glory and character.

"The Lord our God has shown us His glory and His majesty..."

--Deuteronomy 5:24

2. To mark _____ as His chosen people.

"He has revealed his word to Jacob, his laws and decrees to Israel. He has done this for no other nation; they do not know his laws." --Psalm 147:19-20

The law is a...

1. _____.

"If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction." --Psalm 119:92

2. _____.

"Do not be afraid. God has come to test you, so that the fear of God will be with you to keep you from sinning."

3. _____.

"Indeed I would not have known what sin was except through the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, 'Do not covet.'" --Romans 7:7

4. _____.

“All who rely on observing the law are under a curse, for it is written: ‘Cursed is everyone who does not continue to do everything written in the Book of the Law.’” -- Galatians 3:10

5. _____.

“So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith.” -- Galatians 3:24

Let me make a couple other points...

1. They are to be passed on to the _____ generation.

“When your son asks you in time to come, ‘What is the meaning of the testimonies and statutes and the rules that the Lord our God commanded you?’ then you shall say to your son...and the Lord brought us out...and the Lord commanded us to do all these statutes...”--Deuteronomy 6:20-24

2. The 10 Commandments can be reduced to _____ commandments.

LGLO – “Love _____, Love _____.”

“‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.” --Matthew 22:37-40

3. The Ten Commandments are important and should be _____.

4. The commandments are important but they are _____ to keep.

“Therefore, no one will be declared righteous in His sight by observing the Law; rather through the Law we become conscious of sin.” --Romans 3:20

5. One of the purposes of God’s Commands is to show that we fall _____ of His holy standards.

“For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it.” --James 2:10