

The Ten Commandments

“You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment.

(Matthew 22:37)

Consider the following statement: The Ten Commandments help us to live in right relationship with God, ourselves, and others.

Keeping the above statement in mind, read and meditate on the following passages:

Scripture:

Exodus 19:1 - 20:2-17	God gives His law to Moses as the representative of the people assembled at Sinai.
Deuteronomy 5:1-22	Moses restates God’s law to the next generation.
Dt. 30:15-20	Obedience to God’s Commandments is life, disobedience is death.
Jeremiah 29:11 –	
Job 12:10 –	
Mt. 4: 1-11	Christ is tempted by the devil
Mt. 5: 17-48	Jesus insists on obedience to the Commandments and perfects them.
Mt. 5:21-22	Jesus calls us to go beyond the Ten Commandments by examining the attitudes behind the actions. Do not grow angry with your brother.
Mt. 5:27-28	You sin if you even look at a woman lustfully.
Mt. 5:33	You should not swear.
Mt. 11:29-30	Jesus is our model for living a life of virtue.
Mt. 19:16f –	<u>Parable of the Rich Man</u>
Lk 10:29-47	Parable of the Good Samaritan.
Jn 13:34	You are to love as I have loved you.
Mt. 22:34-40	The two Great Commandments: love of God and love of neighbor.
Romans 3:1-31	We have been justified solely through the free gift of God’s grace so that we might believe in Jesus.
I Cor 6:10	Those who will not inherit the Kingdom of Heaven.
I Cor 8:16-20	Fornication (premarital relations) is a sin against your own body.
Gal. 5:1	Sin, not the Commandments, is the yoke of slavery.
Gal. 5:19-21	Sinful thoughts and behavior lead to loss of salvation.
Eph 6:1-12 –	Children should obey their parents.
1John 5:16-17	The distinction between mortal (deadly) sin and venial sin.
1 James 5:3	Loving God means keeping His Commandments, and these are not burdensome.

Catechism:

CCC 1702-1708	Man: Image of God
CCC 1718-1720	Desire for Happiness & Christian Beatitude
CCC 1731-1738	Freedom & Responsibility
CCC 1777-1781	The Judgment of Conscience; Responsibility of Acts
CCC 1833, 1834	Virtues
CCC 1849-1850	Definition of Sin

Catechism (con't):

CCC	1854-1860	Mortal & Venial Sin
CCC	1954f.	Natural Moral Law
CCC	1996f.	Grace
CCC	2084-2132	<u>First Commandment</u> : “ I am the Lord your God: you shall not have strange gods before me.”
CCC	2142-2159	<u>Second Commandment</u> : You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.
CCC	2168-2188	<u>Third Commandment</u> : “Remember to keep holy the LORD’s day.”
CCC	2196-2246	<u>Fourth Commandment</u> : “ Honor your father and your mother.”
CCC	2258-2317	<u>Fifth Commandment</u> : “ You shall not kill.”
CCC	2331-2319	<u>Sixth Commandment</u> : “ You shall not commit adultery.”
CCC	2401-2449	<u>Seventh Commandment</u> : “ You shall not steal.”
CCC	2464-2503	<u>Eighth Commandment</u> : “ You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.”
CCC	2514-2527	<u>Ninth Commandment</u> : “ You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife.”
CCC	2534-2550	<u>Tenth Commandment</u> : “ You shall not covet your neighbor’s goods.”

Key Terms:

Conscience: The interior voice of a human being, within whose heart the inner law of God is inscribed. Moral conscience is a judgment of practical reason about the moral quality of a human action.

Virtue: A habitual and firm disposition to do the good. Human virtues acquired by education, by deliberate acts and by perseverance ever-renewed in repeated efforts are purified and elevated by divine grace.

Sin: An offense against God, as well as a fault against reason, truth, and right conscience.

Natural Moral Law: The rule of conduct inscribed in the heart, and known by human reason.

Grace: The free and undeserved gift that God gives us to respond to our vocation to become his adopted children.

Commandments: A norm of moral and/or religious action; above all the *Ten Commandments* given by God to Moses. Jesus summarized all the commandments in the twofold command of love of God and love of neighbor.

“A full explanation of the commandments of the Decalogue became necessary in the state of sin because the light of reason was obscured and the will had gone astray.”

St. Bonaventure (CCC, 2071)

“From the beginning, God had implanted in the heart of man the precepts of the natural law. Then he was content to remind him of them. This was the Decalogue.”

St. Irenaeus (CCC, 2070)