# EXODUS FOR BEGINNERS

**GOD CREATES A NATION** 

**MIKE MAZZALONGO** 

# STUDENT WORKBOOK

**BIDIETAIK** 





Copyright 2022 BibleTalk.tv

All our material is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike License. This means you can use it almost however you need. The only thing you can't do is re-sell it.

Download it. Print it. Teach it. Share it.

# Table of Contents

1. Introduction: The Golden Thread	5
2. General Outline: Moses Before the Call	12
3. Deliverance - 1: Moses Answers the Call	18
4. The Genealogy of Moses and Aaron	22
5. Deliverance - 2: God Promises Success	26
6. Deliverance - 2: A Miraculous Staff and 10 Plagues - Part 1	30
7. Deliverance - 2: The Miracle Staff and 10 Plagues - Part 2	36
8. The Exodus	42
9. The Exodus: Journey to Sinai	46
10. The Covenant Between God and His People: Given and Received	52
Excerpts taken from "Understanding and Obeying the 10 Commandments"	58
11. The Covenant Between God and Israel: God Gives Moses the Plans for the Tabernacle - Part 1	76
12. The Covenant Between God and Israel: God Gives Moses the Plans for the Tabernacle - Part 2	82
13. Aaron's Sin: Apostasy. Restoration. Completion and Consecration	88

# **Exodus for Beginners**

# God Creates a Nation

#### Mike Mazzalongo

The book of Exodus explains how God revealed Himself to the Jewish people, and how from them, He created a nation that would bring the Savior of all mankind into this world.



bibletalk.tv/exodus

#### 1. Introduction: The Golden Thread

In this first lesson Mike reviews Egyptian history and geography in setting

the scene for the introduction of the Jewish people and their condition before their spiritual and national transformation. Intro - Commentary on Exodus by D.A. Garret. Genesis sets the scene: Genesis covers a period of \_\_\_\_\_\_ years \_\_\_\_\_ Many events take place in the world, however, the Bible is only \_\_\_\_\_ It's as if there is a \_\_\_\_\_

In Exodus, a clan of families becomes a	and we observe that nation
1	
2	
3	
4.	
Authorship / Date	
<u>-</u>	
Pentateuch =	_
Moses is considered the author of Exodus:	
1	
2	
3	
L.b., 5 46 47 L.b., 7 40 (L.c., 2)	
John 5:46-47; John 7:19 (Jesus)	
Moses wrote the book	
Egypt	
(Word was a name	)



# The Chronology of Ancient Egypt

A. Kitchen, Egypt, A History of Chronology, Freedman, ABD Vol. 2

Major Eras	Dynasties	Dates	Remarks	
Predynastic	n/a	Prior to 3000	Egypt not unified	
Archaic	"0" and 1st-2nd	3000-2700	Egypt unified and classical Egyptian culture established	
Old Kingdom	3rd-8th	2700-2160	Pyramid age; Egypt powerful and united	
First Intermediate	9th-10th	2160-2010	Political chaos; Egypt not united	
Middle Kingdom	11th-12th	2106-1786	A second era of power and unity; overlaps with the First Intermediate	<ul><li>Joseph</li></ul>
Second Intermediate	13th-17th	1786-1550	Weakness and division; this period includes the Hyksos dynasties (15th and 16th)	
New Kingdom	18th-20th	1550-1069	Egypt's imperial age; the exodus probably took place in the 18th or 19th dynasty	■ Exodus
Third Intermediate	21st-25th	1069-656	Approximately coincides with Israelite monarchies; Egyptian power waxed and waned	
Saite-Persian	26th-31st	654-332	Foreign domination of Egypt	
Ptolemaic	32nd-33rd	332-30 B.C.	Greek domination after Alexander the Great and subsequent rule by Ptolemaic kings	
Roman	n/a	After 30 B.C.	Decline and end of classical Egyptian culture under Roman domination	

Summary and Purpose of Exodus	
Exodus is a historical record	
Exodus describes the transformation	
Deuteronomy 6:25	
Deuter Onlonly 6.23	
Exodus explains why the Jews	
Main Characters	
1. The Jews	
2. God / YHWH	
Evodus shows different aspects of Cod's being.	
Exodus shows different aspects of God's being:	
A. The One and Universal God – Exodus 3:15	

C. The God of			
_			
His mercy is shown by:			
1			
2			
3			
D. The God who is		·	
E. The God of			
F. The God of			
es – The Man of God			
The Figure of God			

Worldly powers:  - Worship	4. Egypt – The Symbol of Worldly Power	
- Worship		
- Worship		
- Worship		
- Concentrate	Worldly powers:	
- Oppress	- Worship	
- Oppress	- Concentrate	
- Depend		
- Depend	- Fixate	
- Represent  Exodus reveals for the first time  The Golden Thread is seen		
Exodus reveals for the first time	- Oppose	
The Golden Thread is seen	- Represent	
Exodus is the story	The Golden Thread is seen	
Exodus is the story		
	Exodus is the story	

### 2. General Outline: Moses Before the Call

Mike reviews several ways to outline the book of Exodus for specific study purposes and then begins with a summary of Moses' life before his miraculous calling from a burning bush. (Exodus 1:1-3:9)

Intro - Genesis provides	
- Exodus tells the reader	_
Outlines	
"Truth for Today" Commentary – Exodus – Coy Roper	
1. Two-Part Outline	
I	(1-18)
II	(19-40)
A	(19-24)
В	(25-40)
2. Relationship Outline	
I	(1-18)
II	(19-24)
III	(25-40)
2. Evnovionae of the Boonle Outline	
3. Experience of the People Outline	(1.1 12.16)
I	(13:17-18:27)
II	
III.	
IV V	
v ·	(32-34)

#### 4. The Expanded Outline

- I. Introduction
  - A. Summary of Genesis
  - B. Author and date of the book of Exodus
  - C. Geography and history of Egypt
  - D. Purpose of Exodus
- II. Deliverance 1 (1:1-6:27)
  - A. Israel enslaved (1:1-22)
  - B. The Deliverer: Moses (2:1-4:26)
  - C. Initial failure (4:27-6:13)
  - D. Moses and Aaron genealogy (6:14-27)
- III. Deliverance 2 (6:28-12:36)
  - A. God's promise of success (6:28-7:7)]
  - B. The miracle of the staff -(7:8-13)
  - C. Deliverance by means of plagues (7:14-12:36)
- IV. The Exodus (12:37-18:27)
  - A. Departure from Egypt (12:37-15:21)
  - B. Journey to Sinai (15:22-18:27)
- V. The Covenant Between God and Israel (19:1-40:38)
  - A. The Covenant made (19:1-25)
  - B. The people react, ratify and receive the Law and Covenant (20:1-24:18)
  - C. Plans for the Tabernacle (25:1-31:18)
  - D. Apostacy and Restoration (32:1-34:35)
  - E. Building of the Tabernacle (35:1-39:43)
  - F. Erecting and conservation of the Tabernacle (40:1-38)

Term Exodus in Greek	and Hebrew	
Introduction		
A. Summary of Genesis		
B. Author and Date of Exodus		
C. Coognaphy and History of Egypt		
C. Geography and History of Egypt  1		
2 3		
4		
5		
6		
D. Purpose of the Book of Exodus		
D.I. 4/4.4 ( 07)		
Deliverance - 1 (1:1-6:27)		
A. Israel enslaved (1:1-22)		

Evod	us 1:8-10
LXUU	35 1.0-10 <u> </u>
Exod	us 1:11-22
	1
	2
	3
יו ס	
Deli	verer: Moses (2:1-4:26)
	verer: Moses (2:1-4:26)  es' Early Life – 2:1-10

The pi	ovidence and faithfulness of God:	
1		
Moses	lived years, three periods:	
A		
C		
His na	me meant	
	- Exodus 2:11-14	
2. Mos	ses in Midian – 2:15-22	
	- Exodus 2:23-25	
3. Mos	es: Deliverer of Israel (3:1-4:26)	

# 3. Deliverance - 1: Moses Answers the Call

In this lesson Mike reviews the four excuses Moses offered in an attempt to avoid his mission and the initial results when he finally accepted God's call to face Pharaoh. (Exodus 3:10-5:23)

o – Review		
ne Deliverer – Moses (continued	d) – Exodus 3:10-4:26	
alls Moses and Moses answers in four v	ways:	
a. He	Exodus 3:10-12	
b. He	Evodus 2:12 22	
р. пе	EXOUUS 3:13-22	
-		
God tells him to go to the Pharaoh		
c. People won't	Exodus 4:1-9	

Three Signs:	
A	
B	
C	
d. Moses tries to	Fyodus 4:10-17
u. Moses tries to	
A	
В	
1: 1	
es prepares his departure – 4:18-23	
egroom of blood – 4:24-26	
78. com er steou 112 i 20	
The passage includes:	
The passage includes: a	

	Vs. 24
	Vs. 25-26
Deli	verance - 1 - Exodus 1:1-6:27
C. Ini	itial Failure – Exodus 4:27-6:13
	Vs. 27-31
1. Firs	st meeting with Pharaoh – Exodus 5:1-5
	Vs. 1-5

Pharoah's response – Exodus 5:6-19	
Moses' reaction – Exodus 5:20-22	
Lessons	
L	
Lesson #1 -	
Lesson #2 -	
	_
Lesson #3 -	
Lesson #4	

# 4. The Genealogy of Moses and Aaron

The story of Moses' first meeting with the Pharaoh, his response, God's renewed challenge and the curious placement of Moses and Aaron's family tree continues. (Exodus 6:1-22)

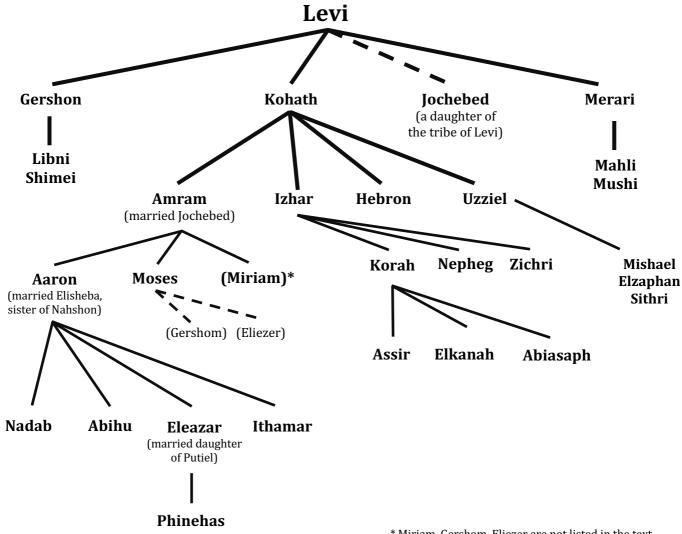
Intro – Rev	view
Delivera	ance - 1 - Exodus 1:1-6:27
C. Initial	Failure (continued) - 4:27-5:23
1. First me	eeting with Pharaoh – 5:1-23
	s and Aaron's Genealogy – 6:1-27
1. God reas	ssures Moses and Aaron – 6:1-13
- Ex	xodus 6:1
- Ex	kodus 6:2-5
1) I	He had known

2) He is the one who	
3) Even though these men	-
4) To further connect	-
- Exodus 6:6-8	
Part 1 – vs. 6	
Part 2 – vs. 7	
Part 3 – vs. 8	
Summary of Israel's experiences in these verses:  A	-
B	_
C	_
- Exodus 6:9	

- Exodus 6:10-11		-
- Exodus 6:12		-
-		
- Exodus 6:13		-

#### 2. The Genealogy - 6:14-27

#### Truth for Today Commentary - Exodus (Coy D. Roper, P. 103)



 $<sup>\</sup>ensuremath{^*}$  Miriam, Gershom, Eliezer are not listed in the text.

Why a Genealogy now?	
Lessons	
1. God knows	-
God reminded Moses	-
2. Many times our trials	-
The thought came to me that	_
The illness that changed me	-
- John 17:3	

# 5. Deliverance - 2: God Promises Success

In this lesson Mike examines more closely the meaning and consequences of God "hardening the heart of Pharaoh" and if this phenomenon still occurs today. (Exodus 6:28-7:7)

Intro – Review	
Deliverance - 2 - Exodus 6:28-12:36  A. God's Promise of Success - 6:28-7:7	
- Exodus 6:28-7:2	
- Exodus 7:3-5	
- Luke 14:26	
- Exodus 20:20	

- Ephesians 6:1	
Back to the Pharaoh and the expression, "hardened his heart." What is happening here?	
- Romans 1:22-25	
- Romans 1:28	
When we put these ideas together:	
God didn't prevent the from and in so doing,	
He permitted his rebellion which had	
- Exodus 7:6-7	

Lesson #1 – God can still turn you over		
Saul		
David		
- Psalm 32:1-11		
Phases of David's experience:		
A B		
C		
David is a good example of what	can do:	
A		
B		
C		
We have received absolute <b>free will</b> from God which	ch means we can	

The	stories of the Pharaoh, Saul and David demonstrate how our free will operates and the
cons	sequences of our choices.
Abs	olute free will produces:
ა	
Less	son #2 – With God, it's never too late to be
	Aaron
	Moses
	M:1
	Mike
	The lesson here is
Rom	nember that what limits you,
IVEIL	

# 6. Deliverance - 2:

# A Miraculous Staff and 10 Plagues - Part 1

This lesson reviews and explains the meaning and purpose of the 10 plagues that Moses called down upon Egypt and its Pharaoh in order to gain the freedom of the Israelites from Egyptian bondage. (Exodus 7:8-10:29)

Intro	LAGUUS 7.0 10.23)
RAMESES  FEGYPT  RAMESES  The Miracle of the Staff - Exodus 7:8-13	
- Exodus 7:8-9	
- Exodus 7:10-13	
Hardened = =	

Chart Sample:				
Plague	Intensity	gods of Egypt	Notes	Response
1. Water to I	Blood – Exodus 7::	14-25		
1. Water to I	Blood – Exodus 7::	14-25		
1. Water to I	Blood – Exodus 7:	14-25		
1. Water to I	Blood – Exodus 7:	14-25 Notes		Response
	1			Response
	1			Response
	1			Response

2. Frogs – Exc	odus 8:1-15		
Intensity	gods of Egypt	Notes	Response
3. Lice / Moso	quitoes – Exodus 8:16-	19	
Intensity	gods of Egypt	Notes	Response

4. Flies – Exodus	s 8:20-22		
_			
Intensity	gods of Egypt	Notes	Response
5. Livestock - Ex	kodus 9:1-7		
_			
	1	I	
Intensity	gods of Egypt	Notes	Response

6. Boils – Exo	dus 9:8-12		
Intensity	gods of Egypt	Notes	Response
7. Hail – Exod	lue 9·13-35		
7. Hall LAGO	ids 7.10 05		
Intensity	gods of Egypt	Notes	Response

Intensity	gods of Egypt	Notes	Response
9. Darkness –	Exodus 10:21-29		
9. Darkness –	Exodus 10:21-29		
Darkness -	1	Notes	Response
	Exodus 10:21-29  gods of Egypt	Notes	Response
	1	Notes	Response
Intensity	1		Response
Intensity	gods of Egypt		Response

# 7. Deliverance - 2: The Miracle Staff and 10 Plagues - Part 2

In this lesson Mike explains how God used the 10th plague as the event that
brought the Jewish nation into existence. (Exodus 11:1-12:36)

he 10 <sup>th</sup> Pla	gue		
eath of Firs	tborn - Exodus 11:1-1	2:36	
ntensity	gods of Egypt	Notes	Response
. Wealth Trans	fer – Exodus 11:1-3		
Wealth Trans	fer – Exodus 11:1-3		
	fer – Exodus 11:1-3		

B. Moses announces the 10th plague – Exodus 11:4-8	
Res	ult of Plague:
C. Postscri	pt – Exodus 11:9-10
D. The Pas	sover – Exodus 12:1-36
1. E	xodus 12:1-2
God	l gives the Israelites a calendar and a birthday

# The Jewish Calendar

Number of Months		Hebrew Name	Modern Equivalent	Feasts	Agriculture
Sacred sequence 1	Civil sequence 7	Abib (Nisan)	March – April	Passover Unleavened Bread First Fruits	Spring (later) rains; barley and flax harvest begins
2	8	Ziv (lyyar)	April – May		Barley harvest; dry season begins
3	9	Sivan	May – June	Weeks (Pentecost)	Wheat harvest
4	10	Tammuz	June – July		Tending vines
5	11	Ab	July – August		Ripening of grapes, figs and olives
6	12	Elul	August – Sept.		Processing grapes, figs and olives
7	1	Ethanim (Tishri)	Sept. – Oct.	Trumpets Day of Atonement Tabernacles (Booths)	Autumn (early) rains begin; plowing
8	2	Bul (Marcheshvan)	October – Nov.		Sowing of wheat and barley
9	3	Kislev	Nov. – Dec.	Hanukkah (Dedication)	Winter rains begin; snow in some areas
10	4	Tebeth	Dec. – Jan.		
11	5	Shebat	Jan. – Feb.		
12	6	Adar	Feb – Mar.	Purim	Almond trees bloom; citrus fruit harvest
		Second Adar (Adar Sheni)		ry three years so that the lunar onds to the solar years.	

Agricultural calendar	
Sacred calendar	
2. Exodus 12:3-13 – Instructions concerning Passover	
3. Exodus 12:14-20	
Feast of Unleavened Bread	
-	
4. Exodus 12:21-28	

E. The 10th Plague – Exodus 12:29-36
Plunder / Reparations
Lessons
Lesson #1
Hebrews 9:27; John 19:29; Acts 24:25
11cb1cw3 7.27, joint 17.27, fiets 24.23
For example:
Herod – Acts 12:22-23
Ananias / Sapphira – Acts 5:1-9
mamas / supplina nets s.1 /

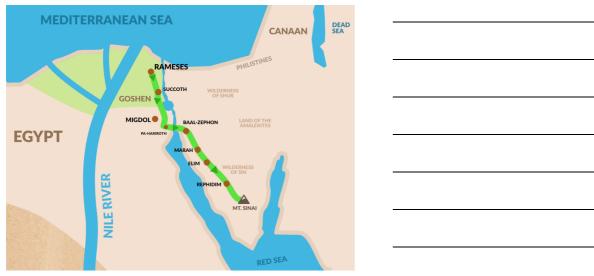
Appl	lications:		
А. – Не	eed	_	
	- Ecclesiastes 7:7		
	-		
B. Pray	у		
	- Matthew 19:26		
	·		
Nothin	ing is	_!	

# 8. The Exodus

In this section Mike reviews the memorialization of the Passover and dynamic departure of the Israelites from Egyptian bondage with special observances and poetry. (Exodus 12:37-15:21)

Intro -	
Departure from Egypt - Exodus 12:37-15:21 - Exodus 12:37-41 - The journey begins.	
A. The 10th Plague Memorialized – Exodus 12:42-51	
B. The Passover	
C. Consecration of the First Born – Exodus 13:1-16	
- Exodus 13:1-2	

	13:3-10			
Exodus	13:11-16			
Tł	nree ordinances given:			
1.				
2.				
3.				
c 11	ads the people - Exodus 13:17	7-22		
. God lea				



Israel's Final Deliverance from Egypt – Exodus 14:1-15:21	Peliverance from Egypt – Exodus 14:1-15:21

- Exodus 14:1-4	
A. Pharaoh Pursues Israel – Exodus 14:5-12	
The people blame Moses:	
1. He was	
2. We told you	
3. We were better	
B. The Sea is Divided – Exodus 14:13-31	
- Exodus 14:13-14	
- Exodus 14:15-18	
1	
2	

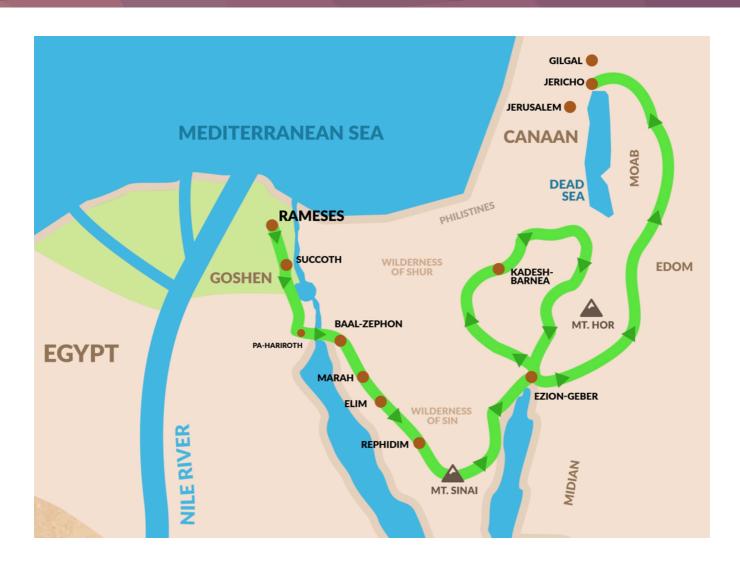
	- Exodus 14:19-29
	Describes the crossing of the Jews and the destruction of the Egyptian king and army.
	1
	2
	3
	4
ር ፕክረ	e Song of Moses – Exodus 15:1-21
C. THE	e song of Moses - Exodus 13.1-21
Sum	mary
Less	
Lesso	n #1 – Leaders
I	n #2 Cod often door
Lesso	n #2 – God often does

# 9. The Exodus: Journey to Sinai

Mike covers the incidents occurring before the Israelites arrive at Mt. Sinai: God purifies the water, God provides quail and manna, the Sabbath is first observed, water from a rock, war with Amalek and Jethro's advice. (Exodus 15:22-18:27)

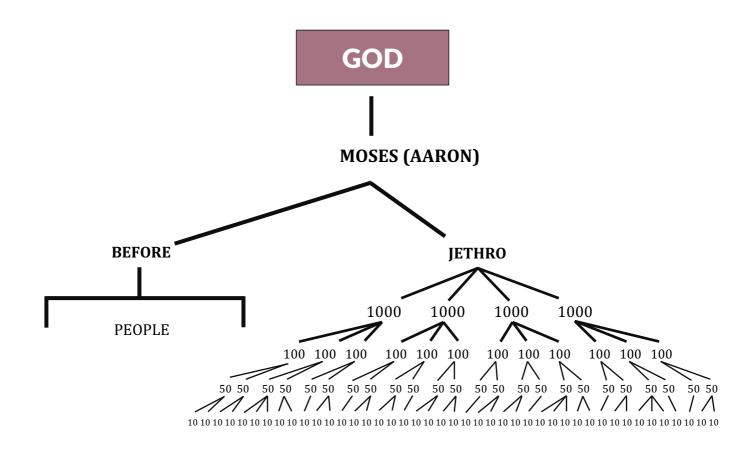
Intro	
	- Exodus 3:15-17
	2.10 4.10 17
Jour	ney to Sinai – Exodus 15:22-18:27
A. The	Lord provides water – Exodus 15:22-27
	- Exodus 15:22-27
God p	rovides in two ways:
•	
<i>-</i>	
R The	Lord provides manna – Exodus 16:1-21
	- Exodus 16:1-3

	- Exodus 16:4
	- Exodus 16:5-21
	Conditions for gathering the manna:
	1. Each morning
	2. The Lord covered the camp
	3. The people grumble
	4. The manna itself
`he	Sabbath given and observed – Exodus 16:22-36
	- Exodus 16:22-26
	- Exodus 16:27-30
	- Exodus 16:31-36
Wat	er from a rock – Exodus 17:1-7



The people have grumbled against Moses four times so far:	
1. Egypt	
2. Red Sea	
3. Marah	

Disputing with Moses was		
The min	racle	
	=Meribah =	
E. Amal	ek and Jethro – Exodus 17:8-18:27	
	1. War with Amalek – Exodus 17:8-16	
-		
-		
<del>-</del>	2. Jethro's counsel – Exodus 18:1-27	
<u>.</u>		
-		
-		
	- Exodus 18:1-2	
-		
-		
_		



# Lessons

Lesson #1 – The people	_
Lesson #2 – If you aspire	_

Lesson #3 – Go	d provides	
Lesson #4 – Go	od leaders	
BONUS		
Great leaders _		

# 10. The Covenant Between God and His People: Given and Received

In this lesson Mike reviews the content of the covenant between God and the Israelites, the manner in which it was given, and how it was ratified between these two parties. (Exodus 19:1-24:18) Intro – The purposes of the Law and Covenant are twofold: - Isaiah 42:6 \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ - Romans 1:16 \_\_\_\_\_ Exodus is Moses' record of God's initial steps in forming a nation and the transfer of information about: A. \_\_\_\_\_

	Exodus
	Leviticus
	Numbers
	Doutonous
	Deuteronomy
Cov	enant Between God and Israel – Exodus 19:1-25
A cov	enant is
3.4	- weath Code w Mt Circle Freedom 10.1.6
Moses	s meets God on Mt. Sinai – Exodus 19:1-6
	s meets God on Mt. Sinai – Exodus 19:1-6

Other books in the Pentateuch provide additional information about these topics:

Moses seven	trips to meet dod on smar.
1. Exodus 19	:3-7
2. Exodus 19	:8-15
	:20-25
	:21-23:33
	:9-11
	:12-31:18
7. Exodus 34	:1-35
- vs. 3b-6 – Fi	irst trip has several precedents:
	d confirms
2. He	now officially
3. God	l proposes a special relationship
5. 400	A
	R
	В
	C
	C
4 II.	
4. He :	sets

_	vs. 7-9
_	
_	
- 7	vs. 10-17
- 7	vs. 18-25
_	
- Exod	lus 20:1-24:18
Evodus	20:1
- Exouus	20.1
Ewodua	20.2.17 Mayo information on the 10 Commandments can be found at the end of this
	20:2-17 – More information on the 10 Commandments can be found at the end of this
esson.	
- Exodus	20:18-21
- Exodus	20:18-21
- Exodus	20:18-21

- Exodus 20:22		
The Book of the Covenant - Exodus 20:23-24:18		
A. Laws of the Book of the Covenant – Exodus 20:23-23:33		
List of Topics in the Book of the Covenant:		
1. Exodus 20:23-26 – Laws		
2. Exodus 21:1-11 – Laws		
3. Exodus 21:12-27 – Laws		
4. Exodus 21:28-36 – Laws		
5. Exodus 22:1-17 – Crimes		
6. Exodus 22:18-20 – Crimes		
7. Exodus 22:21-27 – Laws		
8. Exodus 22:28-31 – Laws		
9. Exodus 23:1-9 – Demands		
10. Exodus 23:10-13 – Laws		
11. Exodus 23:14-17 – Annual		
12. Exodus 23:18-19 – Laws		
13. Exodus 23:20-33 – Epilogue		
- Exodus 23:25-31		
- Exodus 24:1-2		

B. The Ratification Process
1. Moses
2. The words
3. A memorial
4. Sacrifices
5. The book
6. The blood
7. The leaders
C. Moses receives the Law – Exodus 24:12-18
- Exodus 24:12
- Exodus 24:18
Assignment:

# Excerpts taken from "Understanding and Obeying the 10 Commandments" Mike Mazzalongo – BibleTalk.tv

#### The 1st Commandment

The purpose of the 10 Commandments was to expose sin and its consequences (Romans 3:19-20). Their relevance to us as Christians is that they guide us in the process of eliminating sin from our lives and this process is called *sanctification*. And so, non-Christians need the commandments to convince them of sin so they may find Christ; and Christians need the commandments to guide them towards spiritual maturity. In this chapter we begin the actual study of the commandments themselves.

- <sup>1</sup> Then God spoke all these words, saying,
- $^{\rm 2}$  "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.
- <sup>3</sup> "You shall have no other gods before Me.
- Exodus 20:1-3

The Jews are in the desert after having left Egypt and God calls both Moses and his brother Aaron to come up the mountain to hear what God has prepared for them.

- **vs. 1** Note that the Bible takes care to say that God Himself is speaking. These commands are not man's invention or ideas. They are a report of what God has spoken directly to man.
- **vs. 2** God first declares who He is and the power that He has, and where it has been demonstrated. He reveals His name, Jehovah the self-existent, eternal one. The Jews had so much respect for God's name that they did not pronounce it. The Jews were moved to believe who God said He was --The Lord (Jehovah/self-existent and eternal/Thy God Elohim the Supreme God) because of what God did to the Egyptians.
  - Turn a river to blood.
  - Destroy every fist born in the land on a given night.
  - Separate the sea.

The power He demonstrated gave Him credibility, His credibility gave Him the authority to establish and make laws as well as demand that they be kept or face punishment. This is the sequence:

Power  $\rightarrow$  Credibility  $\rightarrow$  Authority  $\rightarrow$  Sovereignty

**vs. 3** - Based on this premise, the first command demands that people have only Him as God. He does not want to be first among many but rather the only one worshiped as God. The Jews had many different gods and this command is a demand to abandon all other gods and worship and obey only the God who gives these commandments; only the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

## Why this is a commandment

What is the reason for this commandment, why would worshiping other gods be harmful?

#### 1. Worshiping other gods offends God.

To recognize something or someone else as the source of life as well as the world is offensive to the one who gives life and created the world. It also robs a person of the opportunity to build a relationship with God, the true God.

#### 2. Worshiping other gods is dangerous.

When people worship something other than God, they are in effect, relying on something that has no power to save them or help them. Sincere and zealous worship of an idol or an idea of god that is false can never replace worship of the true God. Because He is good, God sustains and blesses such people for a time on this earth, but eventually they lose the greater blessing of heaven.

If you do not worship the true God on earth, you will not worship Him in heaven either.

## The 2nd Commandment

<sup>4</sup> "You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup> You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me, <sup>6</sup> but showing lovingkindness to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

- Exodus 20:4-6

Note that there is the prohibition and the consequences. This commandment addresses the "mode" of worship not the "object" of worship.

**vs. 4** - Note that the command does not just say kneel, or pray to, but actually "make" such things. An "idol" is a manmade object that represents what man thinks or imagines God is like. A "likeness" is an object in nature that represents God.

**vs. 5** - You shall not create or make these things for the following purposes:

• Worship purposes - to offer devotion, prayer, trust or love to these objects and what you think they represent. The worship or reverence of Mary or the saints as represented by pictures or statues is a form of idolatry.

• Serving purposes - to serve as priest or disciple in temples or shrines for example.

A lot of people say that they do not worship the statue, they worship what the statue represents, but the second commandment says that we must not ever use a statue or image in worshiping God.

#### The consequences - Exodus 20:5-6

God will punish those who break this command. It's a promise; you cannot do this with impunity. And if you teach your children these things, they also will be punished and the punishment will occur in every generation that this sin is practiced without exception. Those, however, who obey the command, will set into motion a faith that can be blessed and multiplied. The idea here is that the effects of disobedience last only a few generations until these people are cut off altogether, but obedience guaranties life for a people - even to 1,000 generations.

# The 3rd Commandment

There are different opinions as to how the commandments were separated on the tablets. The concept that some commandments were on one stone and the others were on another led many to imagine how they may have been. The custom at the time for the declaration of laws by a king was that two copies were made. One for the king and one for the people.

Scholars are fairly certain that according to the custom of the period, God fashioned two tablets of stone with all 10 Commandments on a single tablet front and back. Both were then put into the ark which symbolized the place where God and man met.

Augustine (4th century theologian) supposed that there were three on one and seven on the other. He was the one who grouped the first and second commands into one command and divided the tenth into two commands - a division Roman Catholics use to this day. Later Protestant theologians (Calvin in the 16th century) as well as modern scholars have grouped them into four and six on respective tablets. This accommodates length, divides the duties to God and man, and also reduces well to two basic commands as Jesus said in Matthew 22:34.

Augustine / Roman Catholic	Calvin / Protestant
God/Images - 1	God - 1
Name - 2	Images - 2
Sabbath - 3	Name - 3
Parents - 4	Sabbath - 4
Murder - 5	Parents - 5
Adultery - 6	Murder - 6
Theft - 7	Adultery - 7
Lies - 8	Theft - 8
Covet Goods - 9	Lies - 9
Covet Wife - 10	Covet - 10

Division notwithstanding, these were not totally new ideas. The commands concerning the treatment of others were already incorporated in Egyptian legal codes. The command to respect God's "name" was also followed by the more enlightened cultures in their religious practice.

What was truly new were the 1st, 2nd, and 4th commands:

- To worship only one God because only one existed this was new.
- To refrain from characterizing God with idols and images this was new.
- To set aside a particular day every week for the worship of God this was new and particular to the Jewish people.

Altogether the commandments summarized the basic moral responsibilities men had towards each other and introduced the true nature of God and an acceptable way of addressing Him. All of this was given to man with the accompaniment of miracles to confirm the truth.

Let us now turn our attention to the 3rd commandment.

You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not leave him unpunished who takes  $\operatorname{His}$  name in vain.

- Exodus 20:7

Note another command that states the ordinance and the punishment for failure to comply.

#### Names in Jewish Culture

To properly understand this command we have to understand the role of names in Jewish and other ancient cultures. For these people (as well as indigenous cultures here in America) a person's name represented his heritage, his character, as well as his role in the community. The name was given with this in mind.

- Eve: "the mother of all living" (Genesis 3:20) or "life-giver"
- Abraham: "father of many nations" (Genesis 17:5)
- Jesus: Greek form of the Hebrew name Joshua which means "Jehovah saves"

This focus on names is less prevalent in our society, but it is nevertheless still important. How many would name your sons Adolph or your daughters Jezebel? How many of you have names that mean something or represent someone we love or remember? Even for us today names are meaningful and important.

#### The Name of God

God revealed His name, Jehovah, to the Jews. This name in Hebrew means "self-existent/eternal." The name implies not only who God is but also denotes His nature, His power and His authority among other things. Because He is what His name represents, the 3rd Commandment requires us to use that name, as well as other references to Him, with respect.

The inference is that to use references (like God's name) without respect is to disrespect God Himself and God promises to punish those who do so. People who have unusual or complex family names can relate. If you make fun of their name, you make fun of them. Because God is supreme and unique as God, anything that lacks respect is an offense to Him.

# The 4th Commandment

Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

- Exodus 20:8

The purpose of the command was to give God's people a specific time to worship God. This would be a time to renew the soul as well as the body, a time to permit the worship of God without the pressure of work. This was a new social concept.

Jewish worship was complex and time consuming and this command allowed the time to perform it. No work was permitted on this day, only caring for the sick, priestly functions or rescue of endangered livestock was permitted. By New Testament times when Jesus appeared (1,400 years after the command was given) this ordinance had become more of a curse than a blessing. Instead of a simple day of worship without the pressure of work, the rabbis (or teachers of the Law) had created so many complications for the "no work" rules that the pleasure and purpose of the day was lost.

There were 39 different categories of things that constituted work and thus were prohibited. For example, a tailor could not carry his needles home on the Sabbath, or one could not walk further than one mile from home.

This type of legalism bred a counter-legalistic mindset in order to get around the rules. For example, a person would walk a mile with his sandals on and then to be in compliance, would remove his sandals to walk further.

Of course this adding of rules and resistance to compliance missed the central idea behind the command.

#### **Principle Behind the Commandment**

The 4th commandment was given because God wants man to honor Him with his time. The first four commands deal with how man is to honor God:

- 1. Honor God by making Him first.
- 2. Honor God by lifting Him above all.
- 3. Honor God with our lips.
- 4. Honor God with our time.

We measure our existence in time. This command required man to honor God with the currency of his existence - time. The Sabbath enabled man to channel his time away from work/business and devote it to God. Man needs sleep, food, exercise, etc. but also needs to worship.

Our sinful nature tends to work and play rather than worship and so this command was given to help man keep the healthy balance between what is physical and what is spiritual. In addition to this, God's perfect and holy nature demands a response from His creation and that response is worship. This command reveals and guarantees that man will receive the blessings of worship.

# The 5th Commandment

The first four commandments lead to peace with God and ourselves, the last six promote peace within society as a whole.

Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be prolonged in the land which the LORD your God gives you. - Exodus 20:12

# Why should we all obey this command?

#### 1. It is right in and of itself

Paul says that this is the right thing to do:

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.

- Ephesians 6:1

There is a natural chain of authority given by God, and parents have been given charge over children. Disobeying parents (in the Lord) is the same as disobeying the Lord, for He is the one giving the authority to parents. In some countries like Canada it is the law.

#### 2. Parents deserve obedience

In most cases parents will or have done more for you than any teacher, mentor or friend. Again, in most cases even poor parents have done more for us than we will ever be able to repay in our lifetimes. We should obey parents from a sense of gratitude if from nothing else.

#### Is it wise to obey parents?

Parents provide wise advice from experience. They usually want what is best for you, even if it is to their disadvantage. They have nothing to gain from your unhappiness and usually want nothing in return for your success. You need all the help you can get.

If you do not learn obedience from your parents, you will eventually have to learn it from someone else (e.g. drill instructor, supervisor, policeman, guard, etc.).

If you want to succeed in life at something (music, business, personal relationships, etc.) you need to learn to follow someone else's instructions and leadership. It is wise to return that love in the form of obedience.

We should not wait until parents are gone to show them respect and love. Some people lose their parents when they are young and would give anything to spend just one hour with them.

# What the 5th Commandment demands from parents

We know from other passages that the instructions to children about parents work the other way as well. Parents have a responsibility also:

#### 1. Discipline

He who withholds his rod hates his son, But he who loves him disciplines him diligently.

- Proverbs 13:24

Parents need to teach children the "art" of obedience and self-control.

#### 2. Training

Train up a child in the way he should go, Even when he is old he will not depart from it.

- Proverbs 22:6

Solomon explains how to conduct oneself in order to produce a happy and fulfilling life (e.g. education, emotional development, social graces, etc).

#### 3. Spiritual Guidance

Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.

Parents need to show their children by word and deed how to please God and save their souls. Children are not very impressed with what we say or even with what we do. They are impressed however if what we say and do consistently match and if we consistently aim high with our thoughts and deeds. They will aim high if we aim high, they will do what they say if we do what we say.

#### The 6th Commandment

You shall not murder. - Exodus 20:13

The 6th commandment refers specifically to the taking of a "human" life. If you kill your cat, you may be cruel but you are not a murderer. There are two purposes behind this command.

- 1. To demonstrate and maintain the nature and value of human life. The sanctity of life is tied to the belief that humans are created by God in His own image. Aggression against another human is also aggression against God and for this reason is wrong.
- 2. To protect human life in our evil world. Those who believe that there is no God can easily be led to believe that human life is only as valuable as the service it renders to society. For example, if you are poor, handicapped or old then your life is not valuable because you do not contribute much.

In nations where belief in God is widespread, every person is considered equally important because of their nature not their productivity. Where there is no belief (e.g. communism), there is also no problem with abortion, killing people who speak out, eliminating people like the poor, the sick and elderly, because they are a burden and no more than just flesh - old flesh.

The danger in our country is the growth of humanistic philosophy in the last 100 years. Humanism is dangerous because it denies the existence of God but uses ideas that come from a belief system that does. For example, they believe that caring for the sick and poor is a good idea since this is the best way to run a society and promote peace.

They do not do it because it is a divine command; rather they do it because they see that a system based on the principle of "loving your neighbor" really works and serves their social goals. The

danger is subtle here but very real. It is not a big step from believing in God with love to disbelieving in God with love to disbelieving in God without love.

If someone comes along and says that they have a better plan for society (do it my way or I will kill you) and they have the power to back it up, there is no moral authority to stop them. This command establishes God as the final arbitrator over life and death, and over how we treat each other - not man.

#### What is the rule?

You shall not murder. That is the unlawful taking of another human life. What does this mean in every day terms?

#### 1. Unlawful physical aggression

One continuous line of unlawful aggression beginning with anger and including violence, rape and murder. Jesus connects anger and murder in the sense that both are on the same continuum.

#### 2. Suicide

We can permit a terminally ill patient to die naturally without keeping them on a support system that might prolong their lives. We cannot kill someone who requests to be killed because of depression or pain. There are many reasons why people kill themselves (depression, substance abuse effects, pain) but these do not justify the act. As Christians we believe that God will not allow us to carry more than we can bear: physically or emotionally.

#### 3. Abuse

This is the taking of unnecessary risks to our or others' lives in order to feed our egos. Our bodies belong to God, not ourselves. Foolish risks to gain fame or approval or excitement are presumptuous before our creator.

So is the abuse of our bodies through consumption of unlawful or harmful substances. This includes tobacco or illegal drugs as well as the overindulgence of food, drink and prescriptions, etc. The commandment also prohibits damaging our bodies with overwork, over-exercise or overdoing. Christians are to bring honor to God with their own bodies and honor the bodies of others as they honor their own.

# What the command does permit

This command does permit killing in certain circumstances.

#### A. Hunting and Fishing

Animals are not human, not made in the image of God and do not face judgment. There is no intrinsic difference in the value of the life of a bird, an elephant, or a whale - only size and species. The issue here is not murder but stewardship. We are the stewards of the earth's resources of animals; are we managing it well and without cruelty?

#### **B.** Capital punishment

The Bible considers life so precious that to unlawfully take one leads to the forfeiting of one's own in many cases (Genesis 9:6; Deuteronomy 19:11-13; Romans 13:1-ff). All murder is killing but not all killing is murder. God gives the State permission to execute criminals. This is seen in both the Old and New Testament.

- Rapist Deuteronomy 22:25
- Kidnappers Exodus 21:16
- Murderers Genesis 9:6; Romans 13:4; Acts 25:1

Of course, there are those that argue that a God of love and mercy would not condone such a thing - and this is a Biblical argument for the other side.

The balance is found in Exodus 23:7:

Keep far from a false charge, and do not kill the innocent or righteous, for I will acquit the guilty.

The goal in the consideration of the death penalty is not to stop rape and murder (these will always be because of sin), the goal is divine justice carried out by God's servant - the State. In doing its job the State must make absolutely sure that justice is carried out fairly in every case because in the end God will demand a reckoning from the accused as well as those carrying out His justice.

#### C. Police Work

 $^{13}$  Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human institution, whether to a king as the one in authority,  $^{14}$  or to governors as sent by him for the punishment of evildoers and the praise of those who do right.

- I Peter 2:13-14

We are not allowed to take the law into our own hands because we have not been given this right by God or the State. Upholding the law is the duty of government and God will judge those who have served in this way. You may have a good reason to want personal revenge, but you have no legal right or spiritual support for it (Romans 12:19).

#### D. Self-Defense

If the thief is caught while breaking in and is struck so that he dies, there will be no blood guiltiness on his account.

Exodus 22:2

God makes provision for us to use legal means to protect ourselves. This extends to national defense as well.

- In Luke 13:14, Acts 10, the soldiers in question were not obliged to give up their roles to follow Christ.
- In Romans 13, Paul speaks of the legitimate right the government has to use force in defending society.

Justified self-defense is where an individual or a country defends itself against unjustified aggression against itself or those it is responsible to protect.

## The 7th Commandment

You shall not commit adultery. - Exodus 20:14

The word "adultery" refers to sex outside of marriage. This command was needed because the human sex drive is an extremely powerful force. Some feel embarrassed or ashamed for merely having the need for and the power of this sex drive within them. There is no need for shame.

We need to understand how God wants us to direct this force within us so that we can use it in the way He has designed, not in the way it has been perverted by sinful men. There are, of course, 2 extremes to avoid:

- 1. Extreme Puritanism where sex and everything connected with it is seen as dirty, base or somehow unworthy.
- 2. Extreme worldliness where sex is everything; where the stimulation and gratification of our sexual appetite is the focus and primary goal.

The Bible teaches us the proper use and role of sex so that it can be enjoyed physically, emotionally and spiritually to its maximum. You see, it is possible to be fully satisfied sexually as women and men. Some might not believe this because it has never happened to them. They always want more or different or newer in their quest for sexual satisfaction.

To be "full" sexually, however, requires that we obey God's commands in the Bible concerning sex. No one ever became sexually satisfied or sexually at peace with themselves unless they obeyed God's will. For example, it has been said that Hugh Hefner (the publisher of Playboy) sleeps with three blonde 20-year-olds. He is in his seventies and he takes Viagra but his actions do not convince me he is satisfied, content or at peace sexually. On the contrary, his conduct points to a pathetic old man still searching for a sexual fix that 50 years of sexual immorality has failed to give him.

#### The Rules about Sex

There are three basic rules that form a triangle within which sex is blessed by God and becomes a blessing and not a curse for us.

#### 1. Sex is for the enjoyment of a husband and wife within marriage only (Genesis).

Marriage is a legal covenant between a man and a woman to live as husband and wife for life. There is no other combination permissible.

- Without the legal component the relationship is not a marriage.
- If it is not a valid marriage in society's eyes, it is not a valid marriage in God's eyes.
- A legal covenant of marriage is accepted and blessed by God regardless of the culture or religion. Marriage is blessed by God, and so is the sexual activity within it.

God created sex to be the unique and exclusive right and pleasure of those who entered into a lifetime marriage agreement with one another.

#### 2. Sex comes after marriage, not before.

It is not the sex that you share that makes you married, it is the covenant or contract that you enter into to live as husband and wife that makes you "married." You are married when you say "I do" and sign the papers, not before. The honeymoon is the privilege shared by married people, not the thing that makes them "married." Otherwise you would be married to everyone you ever had sex with.

Sex before marriage or sex with someone who is not your marriage partner is sin. The first is called fornication; the second is called adultery. Both are deadly in building a good "sex life" within marriage.

Studies confirm that people who live together or have sex together before they marry are twice as likely to encounter marital problems as those who do not. Remember, you cannot be completely fulfilled sexually if you disobey God's rules about sex.

#### 3. God blesses sex within marriage.

Within marriage the couple is free to express themselves sexually without fear or shame. Some people have trouble accepting the sexual freedom God gives them within marriage. Human sexuality is complicated and mysterious. Even Solomon said that it was one of the few things he could not quite understand (Proverbs 30:19).

The exclusive and lifetime nature of marriage gives a man and woman the confidence and time to explore their own and their partner's sexual character. The only instructions about sex within marriage are that it should stay within marriage and that the partners should strive to satisfy each other (1 Corinthians 7). The marriage partners have to work out what that means for themselves.

# The 8th Commandment

You shall not steal.

- Exodus 20:14

The basic command is that you are not to take without permission what does not belong to you. This includes objects, feelings, rights, knowledge, potential, ability, etc.

The key question regardless of the object is, "Does this truly belong to me?" and the key principle is that we should love our neighbor as ourselves. Aside from property violations, stealing is always an act of unkindness towards someone else.

#### How do we break this command?

#### 1. Taking property that is not ours to take.

- Stealing
- Fraud, cheating, borrowing without paying back
- Extortion (threaten for money)

#### **2. Gambling** - the effort to gain without work or honest effort.

- Effort to gain at someone else's loss (many have to lose so one can win big)
- Poor stewardship of one's possessions; risking to gain instead of working to gain
- Gambling is exercising low moral standards

No one is able to witness or exalt Christ through gambling - even non-believers see gambling as a vice (not something Christians should be doing).

#### 3. Failing to give full value.

- Companies that overcharge for their products.
- Employers who do not provide for employees.
- Lazy employees.
- False or misleading claims about the value or effectiveness of products or services.

#### 4. Denying someone else's rights.

- It is a just thing to press for true and equal rights.
- However, not everything is a "right" and not everything we do is right. (for instance it's not our right to yell "fire" in a crowded theatre for fun when this is not true.)
- To deny someone their *true* rights by law, this is a form of stealing.

#### 5. Failing to give to the Lord.

 $^{1}$  Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I directed the churches of Galatia, so do you also.  $^{2}$  On the first day of every week each one of you is to put aside and save, as he may prosper, so that no collections be made when I come.  $^{3}$  When I arrive, whomever you

may approve, I will send them with letters to carry your gift to Jerusalem; - I Corinthians 16:1-3

God commands us in His Word to provide a generous portion of what we have been prospered with to the Lord. When we fail to do so, we fail to recognize who it is that provides us with everything. We are stewards for Christ and should be able to make a good witness with our offering to God. Make no mistake, no one is impressed with a stingy Christian, no matter how much Bible he knows. If Christ gave His life for us, how can we hold back in the giving of money so that others can be saved by Him?

There are other aspects to this commandment, but these few give you an idea of the many ways we break it in relationship to others and how we break it before God.

## The 9th Commandment

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. - Exodus 20:16

This command prohibits a false witness against someone else, especially in a court of law. It uses a serious legal application to put forth the everyday need to tell the truth - not just in court, but in everyday affairs as well.

#### Some Types of Lies

- 1. **Perjury.** Lying under oath; falsifying legal records. Peter denying Jesus with an oath (Matthew 26:7).
- **2. Concealment.** Holding back information that causes a false impression. Reporting an accident but neglecting to report that alcohol was in use. Abraham only saying that Sarah was his sister (half true / half-sister) and holding back that she was also his wife (Genesis 12:11-19).
- **3. False Accusation.** When we accuse others of things based solely on suspicion, gossip or prejudice. Jesus was accused of being a glutton, a drunk, a rebel, a blasphemer and a devil.
- **4. Conspiracy.** When several people unite to plot or cover up something so that truth will not come out. Rebekah and Jacob conspired to fool Isaac (Genesis 27).
- **5. False Witness.** An exaggeration or outright lie concerning the value or integrity of something or someone. Satan's lie about the power of the forbidden fruit (Genesis 3:4-5).
- **6. Hypocrisy.** To say one thing and knowingly do another. A good example is Peter the Apostle refusing to eat with Gentile Christians when Jewish Christians were around (Galatians 2:11).
- 7. False Teaching. Those who promote and teach what is essentially incorrect, inaccurate or untrue. Those teaching a different gospel than the Apostles (Galatians 1:6-8, Colossians 1-4).
- **8.** Lying. Knowingly telling or suggesting a falsehood. Ananias and Sapphira who lied about the true amount of money they received for their land and gave to the Lord (Acts 5:1-10).

There may be other manners of dishonesty and lying but these eight are the most practiced types of deception.

## The Principle Behind the Command

**Not to lie** is the desired effect, but why? Why is lying a sin? What is the principle that supports this command?

#### 1. There is one truth about everything.

- It is God's truth (what He sees and judges this is true) Psalm 117:2; Psalm 33:4.
- His truth is everlasting (nothing changes His truth) Psalm 117:2b.
- His truth is contained in the Word. What is true about all life and morals and the universe and the spiritual world. John 17:17.

Today we are taught that truth is relative, whatever you see as truth is truth for you. If it works for you, feels good, does not hurt anyone, does not stop anyone else from pursuing his or her truth - this truth is true for you now. This idea of truth is seen everywhere in our society:

- Cannot censor anything, everyone is free to say anything.
- Equal rights for everyone, even those who are in prison or who are here in this country illegally.
- We are afraid to judge a student's work because it may lead to one thinking he is wrong and we want everyone to feel good about themselves, even if they fail basic skill tests!
- Politicians lie and call it something else, disinformation/dysfunctional statement

As Christians we may feel out of sync because we hold to the notion that:

- There is a standard of truth by which people and things can be measured.
- We can know this standard of truth that gives us the power to make accurate evaluations of things.
- They call this quality enlightenment (John 8:32).

Lying and falsehoods, therefore, do two things to this principle:

- 1. It denies or hides the truth, which in essence is like trying to hide or deny God Himself it is a form of blasphemy.
- 2. It darkens our own minds to the extent that we separate ourselves from the light of truth and salvation we end up condemning ourselves (II Thessalonians 2:12).

#### 2. Truth = Integrity

How do we place value on something?

- Beauty = Usefulness
- Rarity = Purity

How do we estimate the value of a person?

Outwardly we look for beauty, strength, talent, intelligence, but inwardly his value is determined by his purity or integrity. Integrity means wholeness, freshness, purity of character. The greater degree of integrity, the more valuable the individual. The degree of our integrity is valued mainly by how honest we are, in comparison to God who is totally pure and truthful.

Every time you are involved in falsehood your value (integrity) is lessened. It is not one big lie that makes you worthless, it is the thousands of little ones that ultimately make you bankrupt in personal integrity. Every time we tell the truth we are contributing to the value of our personal worth, every time we lie we are decreasing our worth.

# The 10th Commandment

The best source of good deeds is good desires. The 10th commandment deals with man's desires and how they determine the type of life he will experience.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife or his male servant or his female servant or his ox or his donkey or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

- Exodus 20:17

## **Word Study**

The word "covet" means, "enthusiastic desire," and by itself is neither good nor bad. Our enthusiastic desire becomes the sin of coveting when we desire something or someone that is not permitted or something gained unjustly. For example, David the psalmist and king who desired a woman not permitted him because she was married.

It is okay to desire a woman, but not if you are married or the woman you desire is. We see that David did not control his desire and it led to adultery, murder and deception. His first sin was not adultery (this was his second sin) - no, his first sin was covetousness - the desire for something forbidden (another man's wife).

#### The Evil in Covetousness

The core of evil in covetousness is selfishness. This is what separates a normal and healthy desire for something from the sin of coveting.

Proverbs 21:25-26 describes the opposite virtue of covetousness - generosity.

25 The desire of the sluggard puts him to death,
For his hands refuse to work;
26 All day long he is craving,
While the righteous gives and does not hold back.

Empty desire, the bottomless yearning of the lazy, the selfish desire of the immature, these are the elements that create coveting. A covetous person desires to gain without effort or to gain merely to spend on self without any thought of serving others or glorifying God. For example, the person who covets your success usually wants it for free and for his own gratification only.

## The Destructiveness of Covetousness

Remember, God forbids things because they are destructive to us. Covetousness is especially destructive because:

## 1. It destroys our relationship with others

As individuals we suffer when we covet because coveting leads us to judge everything in life from the perspective of how it will affect or benefit self. Covetous people ask the same question:

- How will this profit me?
- How will this give me enjoyment?
- How can I make this last?

Instead of asking the important questions like:

- How will this affect others?
- How will this build up the church?

This egocentric thinking creates isolation because it blinds a person to the needs of others and leads one to lose human contact that in turn develops into loneliness, depression, disorientation and depression.

Greedy people as a group engender hatred. Individuals, or nations, who because of this unconscious covetousness, amass supplies of essential products to artificially keep prices high and cause hardship on other groups create hatred and strife. This is one reason there are famines, wars, strikes and social unrest. If there was less covetousness among nations and true generosity, there would be less hatred and consequently less war and death. Aside from alienating us from others individually and collectively, covetousness also:

#### 2. Destroys our relationship with God

God tells man (in His Word) that if man keeps God as his number one priority in life (Matthew 5-6), man will have peace and salvation. When we sin through covetousness, we replace God with our own desires. This is why Paul refers to covetousness as idolatry in Ephesians and Colossians.

For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous man, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God.

- Ephesians 5:5

Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.

- Colossians 3:5

When our desire for things (forbidden or simply selfish) replaces our service to God and others, we lose the reward of joy and satisfaction that come from serving the Lord with our time, goods and money. Those who do not make the Lord and His service a priority begin a vicious cycle:

- The less they serve, the less they give
- The less they serve and give, the less they rejoice
- The less they rejoice and receive from God, the less they believe, the less they serve and give, etc.

You know you are in this cycle because you do more complaining than rejoicing; more doubting and depression than service; more of the world and its activities than the kingdom and its influence. In the end we do not know what we want - we just want but are never satisfied. This is the end result of covetousness - empty materialism.

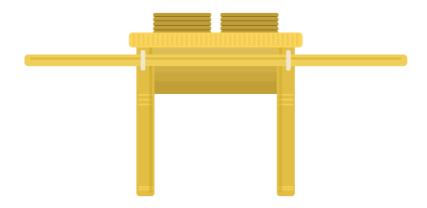
# 11. The Covenant Between God and Israel: God Gives Moses the Plans for the Tabernacle - Part 1

Moses describes the plans for the Tabernacle complex, how it is to be laid out as well as the objects that will later be used by the priests in their practice of the sacrificial system. (Exodus 25:1-31:18)

Intro – Review
1
2
3
A
В
The covenant relationship was to be the basis upon which Jewish life was to be lived.
The Commission - Evadue 25.1 10
The Commission – Exodus 25:1-19
mi : 1 11 .: 4 7
The special collection – vs. 1-7
A. Freewill
B. Valuable
C ml
C. There were used

- vs. 8-9 – The purpose of the collection
1. Build a sanctuary
2. The pattern provided
Plan for Tabernacle Complex - Exodus 25:10-31:11
God gives instructions beginning with
1. The Ark of the Covenant – Exodus 25:10-22
Mercy Seat

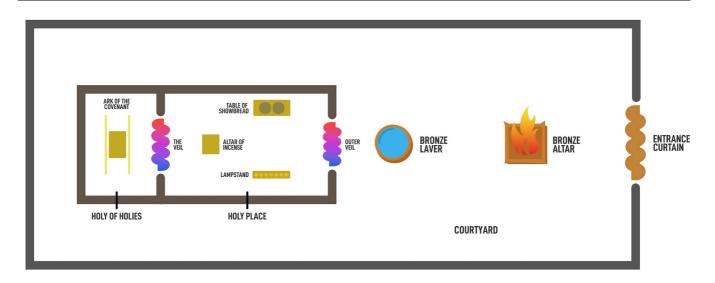
2. The Table of Showbread – Exodus 25:23-30



3. The Golden Lampstand – Exodus 25:31-40



# 4. Curtains, Boards, Sockets, Veil and Screen – Exodus 26:1-37



The "tent" portion was covered with the following:

A. Linen cloth			
B. Goat's skin			
C. Ram's skin			
D. Porpoise skin			
E. Veil			
F. Veil			



6. T	ne Court	of the	Tabernacle -	<b>Exodus</b>	27:8-2	19
------	----------	--------	--------------	---------------	--------	----

7. The Oil for the Lamp – Menorah – Exodus 27:20-21

# **Summary - Lesson**

 $^{7}$  but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.  $^{8}$  If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us.  $^{9}$  If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. - I John 1:7-9

We now offer living sacrifices to God:

Hebrews 13:15		
Hebrews 13:16		
Romans 15:13		
Romans 12:1-2		

# 12. The Covenant Between God and Israel: God Gives Moses the Plans for the Tabernacle - Part 2

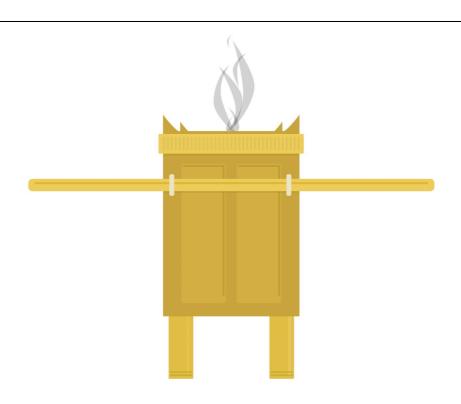
Mike reviews the priestly garments, the consecration process, types of sacrifices and God's final summary and instructions to Moses. (Exodus 25:1-31:18)

Intro – The Tabernacle Comple	X:	
1	5. <u></u>	
2	6	
3	7	
4		
The Garments of the P	iests – Exodus 28:1-43	
The Garments of the P	iests – Exodus 28:1-43	
The Garments of the Partified -		
A. The Priests Identified -	Exodus 28:1-5	
A. The Priests Identified -	Exodus 28:1-5	
A. The Priests Identified -  High Priest's (Aaron) Garments  1.	Exodus 28:1-5	
A. The Priests Identified -  High Priest's (Aaron) Garments  1	Exodus 28:1-5	
A. The Priests Identified -  High Priest's (Aaron) Garments  1	Exodus 28:1-5	
A. The Priests Identified -  High Priest's (Aaron) Garments  1	Exodus 28:1-5	

Aaro	on's Sons:	
Nada	ab	
	nu	
Ithar	mar	
	zar	
The j	priests were Levites but	
D C	Consequetion of Driggts and Offerings - Evadue 20:1-42	
ь. С	Consecration of Priests and Offerings – Exodus 29:1-43	
1. Th	he priestly garments - Exodus 29:1-9	
O TI	ha canacanation community. Fine due 20:10:27	
<b>2.</b> 11	he consecration ceremony – Exodus 29:10-37	
	A. Presentation	
	D 14/1-:	
	B. Washing	
	C.M	
	C. Moses	

E. Aa	aron's	
F Of	ffering and Consumption	
	1. The Bull	
	2. The First Ram	
	3. The Second Ram	
	4. This offering	
es of	f Sacrifices	
A. Sii	n Offering	
 В. Ви	urnt Offering	
	rain or Meal Offering	

	D. Fellowship or Peace Offering
	E. Wave or Peace Offering
4. The	Daily Offerings – Exodus 29:38-42
5. The	Results
The /	Altar of Incense – Exodus 30:1-38
1. The	Altar of Incense – Exodus 20:1-10



2. Required Tax – Exodus 30:11-16		
3. The Bronze Laver – Exodus 30:17-21		
4. The Anointing Oil – Exodus 30:22-33		

5. The Incense – Exodus 30:34-38	
Procedure:	
A	
В	
C	
D	
E	
Final Instructions – Bezalel and Oholiab =	
Lesson	
<b>Lesson</b> Christians need to understand and accept the fact that _	
Christians need to understand and accept the fact that	
Christians need to understand and accept the fact that	
Christians need to understand and accept the fact that	

# 13. Aaron's Sin: Apostasy, Restoration, Completion and Consecration

Mike completes the series by summarizing the final building of the Tabernacle while telling the story of the first person to need the purpose for which it was built - Aaron. (Exodus 32:1-40:38) Intro -The Apostacy - Exodus 32:1-35 A. Aaron - The First High Priest - Summary B. Aaron's Failure - Exodus 32:1-4 - Exodus 32:1-16 Aaron takes action to pacify the people.

C. Moses Intervention - Exodus 32:7-29	
- vs. 7-10	
vc 11 10	
- vs. 11-18	
God can change His mind	
40.04	
- vs. 19-24	
Aaron's excuses:	
1	
2	
3	
- vs. 25-29	
Consequences:	
1	
2	

Aaron's failure
D. Restoration - Exodus 32:30-35
Punishment included:
1.
2
3
The Journey Resumes - Exodus 33:1-35:3
A. Moses intercedes – Exodus 7-23
B. Moses receives renewed instructions – Exodus 34:1-35:3

C. The Tabernacle is built – Exodus 35:4-40:11	
Bonus Material: BibleTalk.tv/tabernacle	
Aaron's Consecration – Exodus 40:12-38	
- Exodus 40:12-16	
- Exodus 40:34-38	
Laccome	
Lessons  1. Even great	
1. Even great	
2. Our failures	
2. Ecilum lava	
3. Failure lays	

From start to finish the Bible tells the story of man's failure at obeying God.		

# 1st Time

Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

- Acts 2:38

## **50th Time**

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

- I John 1:9

# BibleTalk.tv is an Internet Mission Work.

We provide textual Bible teaching material on our website and mobile apps for free. We enable churches and individuals all over the world to have access to high quality Bible materials for personal growth, group study or for teaching in their classes.

The goal of this mission work is to spread the gospel to the greatest number of people using the latest technology available. For the first time in history it is becoming possible to preach the gospel to the entire world at once. BibleTalk.tv is an effort to preach the gospel to all nations every day until Jesus returns.

The Choctaw Church of Christ in Oklahoma City is the sponsoring congregation for this work and provides the oversight for the BibleTalk ministry team. If you would like information on how you can support this ministry, please go to the link provided below.

# bibletalk.tv/support

# GG

BibleTalk.tv is one of the **most-prolific uploaders** on Amazon Prime Video with more videos than any major Hollywood studio except Paramount Pictures.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.