**Moses on the Mountain - Obeying God's Commands**

**Text - EXODUS 20:1--18**

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

20 Then God spoke all these words, saying, **2**“I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EXODUS+20%3A1--18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-2054a)]slavery. **3**“You shall have no other gods [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EXODUS+20%3A1--18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-2055b)]before Me. **4**“You shall not make for yourself [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EXODUS+20%3A1--18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-2056c)]an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth. **5**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, **6**but showing lovingkindness to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments. **7**“You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EXODUS+20%3A1--18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-2059d)]leave him unpunished who takes His name in vain. **8**“Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. **9**Six days you shall labor and do all your work, **10**but the seventh day is a sabbath of the Lord your God; *in it* you shall not do any work, you or your son or your daughter, your male or your female servant or your cattle or your sojourner who [[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EXODUS+20%3A1--18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-2062e)]stays with you. **11**For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and made it holy. **12**“Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be prolonged in the land which the Lord your God gives you. **13**“You shall not murder. **14**“You shall not commit adultery. **15**“You shall not steal. **16**“You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. **17**“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.” **18**All the people perceived the [[f](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EXODUS+20%3A1--18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-2070f)]thunder and the lightning flashes and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking; and when the people saw *it*, they trembled and stood at a distance.

**Overview**

God is not a selfish dictator. He knows what is best for us and does everything He can to guide us in the right ways. He has abundantly proven His love, and we should respond to that love with trust and obedience.

**Lesson Goals**

At the conclusion of this lesson, students should:

1. Understand that we have a relationship with God that involves mutual responsibilities.

 2. Realize that God's commandments are absolute and are for our good.

 3. Decide to obey the commandments, statutes, and precepts of God wholeheartedly.

**Teaching Outline**

**I. The Mutual Commitments**

* A. God made a pledge to the people.
* B. The people made a pledge to God.

**II. The Mighty Commandments**

* A. They listed man's duties to God.
* B. They listed man's duties to other men.

**III. The Moral Codes**

* A. The precepts were revealed.
* B. The promises were repeated.

**Exodus 19:3-6 - 3**Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob and tell the sons of Israel: **4**‘You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and *how* I bore you on eagles’ wings, and brought you to Myself. **5**Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EXODUS+19%3A3-6&version=NASB#fen-NASB-2032a)]own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; **6**and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel.”

**Leviticus 19:2 - 2**“Speak to all the congregation of the sons of Israel and say to them, ‘You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.

**Leviticus 20:26 - 26**Thus you are to be holy to Me, for I the Lord am holy; and I have set you apart from the peoples to be Mine.

**1 Peter 1:15--16 - 15**but [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+PETER+1%3A15--16&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30390a)]like the Holy One who called you, [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+PETER+1%3A15--16&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30390b)]be holy yourselves also in all *your* behavior; **16**because it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.”

**1 Corinthians 2:9 - 9**but just as it is written, “Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, And *which* have not entered the heart of man, All that God has prepared for those who love Him.”

**John 14:21 - 21**He who has My commandments and keeps them is the one who loves Me; and he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and will disclose Myself to him.”

**Exodus 19:8 - 8**All the people answered together and said, “All that the Lord has spoken we will do!” And Moses brought back the words of the people to the Lord.

**James 2:10--11 - 10**For whoever keeps the whole [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=JAMES+2%3A10--11&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30304a)]law and yet stumbles in one *point*, he has become guilty of all. **11**For He who said, “Do not commit adultery,” also said, “Do not commit murder.” Now if you do not commit adultery, but do commit murder, you have become a transgressor of the [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=JAMES+2%3A10--11&version=NASB#fen-NASB-30305b)]law.

**Mark 12:29-31** - Jesus answered, “The foremost is, ‘Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is one Lord; **30**and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ **31**The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”

**Isaiah 45:18 -** 18For thus says the Lord, who created the heavens (He is the God who formed the earth and made it, He established it *and* did not create it [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=ISAIAH+45%3A18&version=NASB#fen-NASB-18580a)]a waste place, *but* formed it to be inhabited), “I am the Lord, and there is none else.

**2 Chronicles 36:14-16 -** 14Furthermore, all the officials of the priests and the people were very unfaithful *following* all the abominations of the nations; and they defiled the house of the Lord which He had sanctified in Jerusalem. 15The Lord, the God of their fathers, sent *word* to them again and again by His messengers, because He had compassion on His people and on His dwelling place; 16but they *continually* mocked the messengers of God, despised His words and scoffed at His prophets, until the wrath of the Lord arose against His people, until there was no remedy.

**Romans 13:7 -** 7Render to all what is due them: tax to whom tax *is due*; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honor to whom honor.

**Leviticus 24:16 -** 16 Moreover, the one who blasphemes the name of the Lord shall surely be put to death; all the congregation shall certainly stone him. The alien as well as the native, when he blasphemes the Name, shall be put to death.

**Hebrews 10:25 -** 25not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

**Ephesians 6:1-**2 -  Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2Honor your father and mother (which is the first commandment with a promise),

**Colossians 3:20 -** 20Children, be obedient to your parents in all things, for this is well-pleasing [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=COLOSSIANS+3%3A20&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29538a)]to the Lord.

**2 Timothy 3:1-5 -** 3 But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. 2For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+TIMOTHY+3%3A1-5&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29857a)]haters of good, 4treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, 5holding to a form of [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+TIMOTHY+3%3A1-5&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29859b)]godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these.

**Genesis 4:8--12 -** 8Cain [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=GENESIS+4%3A8--12&version=NASB#fen-NASB-88a)]told Abel his brother. And it came about when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him. 9Then the Lord said to Cain, “Where is Abel your brother?” And he said, “I do not know. Am I my brother’s keeper?” 10He said, “What have you done? The voice of your brother’s blood is crying to Me from the ground. 11Now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand. 12When you cultivate the ground, it will no longer yield its strength to you; you will be a vagrant and a wanderer on the earth.”

**Genesis 9:6 -** “Whoever sheds man’s blood, By man his blood shall be shed, For in the image of God He made man.

**Genesis 2:21-24 -** So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then He took one of his ribs and closed up the flesh at that place. 22The Lord God [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=GENESIS+2%3A21-24&version=NASB#fen-NASB-53a)]fashioned into a woman the rib which He had taken from the man, and brought her to the man. 23The man said, “This is now bone of my bones, And flesh of my flesh; [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=GENESIS+2%3A21-24&version=NASB#fen-NASB-54b)]She shall be called [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=GENESIS+2%3A21-24&version=NASB#fen-NASB-54c)]Woman, Because [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=GENESIS+2%3A21-24&version=NASB#fen-NASB-54d)]she was taken out of [[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=GENESIS+2%3A21-24&version=NASB#fen-NASB-54e)]Man.” 24For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.

**Matthew 19:4-6 -** And He answered and said, “Have you not read that He who created *them* from the beginning made them male and female, 5and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’? 6So they are no longer two, but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let no man separate.”

**Genesis 3:19 -** 19 19By the sweat of your face You will eat bread, Till you return to the ground, Because from it you were taken; For you are dust, And to dust you shall return.

**Ephesians 4:28 -** He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have *something* to share with [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EPHESIANS+4%3A28&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29301a)]one who has need.

**Matthew 6:33 -** 33 But seek first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

**2 Thessalonians 3:10--12 -** 10For even when we were with you, we used to give you this order: if anyone is not willing to work, then he is not to eat, either. 11For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies. 12Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread.

**John 4:24 -** 24God is [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=JOHN+4%3A24&version=NASB#fen-NASB-26181a)]spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

**Leviticus 19:11 - 11**‘([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=LEVITICUS+19%3A11&version=NASB#cen-NASB-3293A))You shall not steal, nor deal falsely, ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=LEVITICUS+19%3A11&version=NASB#cen-NASB-3293B))nor lie to one another.

**Proverbs 10:18 - 18**One ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=PROVERBS+10%3A18&version=NASB#cen-NASB-16675A))who conceals hatred *has* lying lips, And one who spreads slander is a fool.

**Psalm 15:1-3 -** Lord, who may reside ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=PSALM+15%3A1-3&version=NASB#cen-NASB-14089A))in Your tent? Who may settle on Your ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=PSALM+15%3A1-3&version=NASB#cen-NASB-14089B))holy hill? **2**One who ([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=PSALM+15%3A1-3&version=NASB#cen-NASB-14090C))walks with integrity, practices righteousness, And ([D](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=PSALM+15%3A1-3&version=NASB#cen-NASB-14090D))speaks truth in his heart. **3**He ([E](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=PSALM+15%3A1-3&version=NASB#cen-NASB-14091E))does not slander [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=PSALM+15%3A1-3&version=NASB#fen-NASB-14091a)]with his tongue, Nor ([F](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=PSALM+15%3A1-3&version=NASB#cen-NASB-14091F))do evil to his neighbor, Nor ([G](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=PSALM+15%3A1-3&version=NASB#cen-NASB-14091G))bring shame on his friend;

**Ephesians 4:31-32 - 31**([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EPHESIANS+4%3A31-32&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29291A))All bitterness, wrath, anger, [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EPHESIANS+4%3A31-32&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29291a)]clamor, and slander must be ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EPHESIANS+4%3A31-32&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29291B))removed from you, along with all ([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EPHESIANS+4%3A31-32&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29291C))malice. **32**([D](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EPHESIANS+4%3A31-32&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29292D))Be kind to one another, compassionate, forgiving each other, ([E](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EPHESIANS+4%3A31-32&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29292E))just as God in Christ also has forgiven [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EPHESIANS+4%3A31-32&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29292b)]you.

**Luke 12:15-21 - 15**But He said to them, “([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=LUKE+12%3A15-21&version=NASB#cen-NASB-25468A))Beware, and be on your guard against every form of greed; for not *even* when one is affluent does his life consist of his possessions.” **16**And He told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man was very productive. **17**And he began thinking to himself, saying, ‘What shall I do, since I have no place to store my crops?’ **18**And he said, ‘This *is what* I will do: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and I will store all my grain and my goods there. **19**And I will say to [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=LUKE+12%3A15-21&version=NASB#fen-NASB-25472a)]myself, “([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=LUKE+12%3A15-21&version=NASB#cen-NASB-25472B))You have many goods stored up for many years *to come*; relax, eat, drink, *and* enjoy yourself!”’ **20**But God said to him, ‘([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=LUKE+12%3A15-21&version=NASB#cen-NASB-25473C))You fool! This *very* night [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=LUKE+12%3A15-21&version=NASB#fen-NASB-25473b)]([D](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=LUKE+12%3A15-21&version=NASB#cen-NASB-25473D))your soul is demanded of you; and ([E](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=LUKE+12%3A15-21&version=NASB#cen-NASB-25473E))*as for all* that you have prepared, who will own *it now*?’ **21**Such is the one who ([F](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=LUKE+12%3A15-21&version=NASB#cen-NASB-25474F))stores up treasure for himself, and is not rich in relation to God.”

**1 Timothy 6:5--10 - 5**and constant friction between ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+TIMOTHY+6%3A5--10&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29781A))people of depraved mind and deprived of the truth, who ([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+TIMOTHY+6%3A5--10&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29781B))suppose that [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+TIMOTHY+6%3A5--10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29781a)]godliness is a means of gain. **6**([C](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+TIMOTHY+6%3A5--10&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29782C))But godliness *actually* is a means of ([D](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+TIMOTHY+6%3A5--10&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29782D))great gain *when* accompanied by ([E](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+TIMOTHY+6%3A5--10&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29782E))contentment. **7**For ([F](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+TIMOTHY+6%3A5--10&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29783F))we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it, either. **8**If we ([G](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+TIMOTHY+6%3A5--10&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29784G))have food and [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+TIMOTHY+6%3A5--10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29784b)]covering, with these we shall be content. **9**([H](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+TIMOTHY+6%3A5--10&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29785H))But those who want to get rich fall into temptation and ([I](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+TIMOTHY+6%3A5--10&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29785I))a trap, and many foolish and harmful desires which plunge people into ruin and destruction. **10**For ([J](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+TIMOTHY+6%3A5--10&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29786J))the love of money is a root of all [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+TIMOTHY+6%3A5--10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29786c)]sorts of evil, and some by longing for it have ([K](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+TIMOTHY+6%3A5--10&version=NASB#cen-NASB-29786K))wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+TIMOTHY+6%3A5--10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29786d)]griefs.

**Exodus 24:3, 7 - 3**Then Moses came and reported to the people all the words of the Lord and all the [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EXODUS+24%3A3&version=NASB#fen-NASB-2181a)]ordinances; and all the people answered with one voice and said, “([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EXODUS+24%3A3&version=NASB#cen-NASB-2181A))All the words which the Lord has spoken we will do!”

**7**Then he took ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EXODUS+24%3A7&version=NASB#cen-NASB-2185A))the Book of the Covenant and read *it* [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EXODUS+24%3A7&version=NASB#fen-NASB-2185a)]as the people listened; and they said, “([B](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=EXODUS+24%3A7&version=NASB#cen-NASB-2185B))All that the Lord has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient!”

**Exodus 19:8 - 8**Then ([A](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Exodus+19%3A8&version=NASB#cen-NASB-2035A))all the people answered together and said, “All that the Lord has spoken we will do!” And Moses brought back the words of the people to the Lord.

**Quotes**

"Content makes poor men rich; discontent makes rich men poor" - Benjamin Franklin

"It's easier to suppress the first desire than to satisfy all that follow it" -Benjamin Franklin

**Memory Verses**

*15"but like the Holy One who called you, be holy yourselves also in all your behavior; 16 because it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.”*

(1 Peter 1:15-16)

**Study Questions**

1. What pledge did God make to His people in Exodus 19?

2. What pledge did the people make to God in return?

3. How did the Lord Jesus Christ summarize the Ten Commandments?

4. List some of the topics covered in the moral precepts God gave His people in the chapters following the giving of the Ten Commandments.

5. Tell about a time God definitely blessed a specific act of obedience on your part.

6. How would we as Christians apply the commandment, "Thou shalt have no other gods before me?

7. Although we may not have bondservants or oxen today, how could we apply personally some of the moral codes found in Exodus 21--23?

8. Why should partial obedience be considered disobedience?