

Answers to Sermon Notes

The Ten Words: An Introduction

Deuteronomy 5

6/12/22

1. Today we embark on a series on the **Ten Commandments**.
 - a. Or, as the **scriptures** refer to them, The Ten Words.
2. There are three main reasons for this series.
 - a. That we might be more **informed** regarding this central piece of teaching.
 - i. It is the only teaching we have **written** by the **finger** of God.
 - ii. That our **monthly** use of it in our time of **confession** might be more profitable.
 - b. That we might better understand the **logo** that our church **adopted** a number of years ago.
 - i. That when we see it we might be **reminded**.
 - c. That we might have an **answer** to the **question** posed in Psalm 4:6.
 - i. “There are many who say, ‘Who will **show** us any **good**?’”
 - ii. These Ten Words encapsulate the **good** that we must **show** to the world around us.
3. This morning we want to begin with:
 - a. An introduction **to** the Ten Commandments, and
 - b. A look at the introduction **of** the Ten Commandments. (vs. 6)
4. An Introduction **to** the Ten Commandments
 - a. They are the **terms** of the (Sinai) **covenant**.
 - i. Written on **stone** and placed within the **ark** of the covenant.
 - ii. The relationship between God and his people is **held together** as these are followed.
 - b. They are of both two **tablets** and two **tables**.
 - i. Two tablets of **stone** upon which God himself **wrote** them.
 - ii. Two **tables** of content. (Corresponding to Jesus’ summary of the law)
 - a. Relationship with **God** (commandments 1-4)
 1. Our, “**religious**,” life.
 - b. Relationship with **others** (commandments 5-10)
 1. Our, “**civil**,” life.
 - c. They are a defining **summary** of God’s **will** for man *in this world*.
 - i. “That it may go **well** with you,” and, “that you may **live long** in the land...”
 - a. A will that brings **good** – that brings **blessing**.
 - b. They are given **twice**, once in Exodus 20 at Sinai and once in Deuteronomy 5, just before they enter the **land**.
 - ii. **Comprehensive** in its scope.
 - a. Each commandment representing an **area** of life by its **chief** example. (synecdoche)
 - b. Each commandment, then, could have its own **series** of **messages**.
 - d. They are the prototype of the **law** of the **Spirit** of life. (Romans 8:1-4)
 - i. From the external force of **law** to the internal force of **love**.
 - a. Essentially the **same** but achieved differently.

- ii. Deepened, Widened and Transformed by **Christ**.
 - iii. From the **law**, to the **cross**, and back to the **law**. (HC, Q&A 2)
 - a. Our church **logo**.
- 5. The introduction **of** the Ten Commandments. (vs. 6)
 - a. The contents of verse 6 are referred to as an **historical** prologue.
 - i. Their history together is the **grounds** of their future together.
 - ii. All of the “you’s” are in the **singular**.
 - b. There are **three** parts to this historical introduction.
 - i. “I am the LORD (Jahweh) **your God**...”
 - a. Founded on the promise God made to **Abraham** over **600** years earlier.
 - 1. “To be **God** to you and to your **descendants** after you...”
 - 2. “**Who** shall I say sent me?” Exodus 3:15
 - b. They had been **chosen** long before they had been **born**.
 - 1. They are part of God’s grand **plan** and **promise**.
 - ii. “...who brought you... out of the **house** of **slavery**.”
 - a. “Though I am your God by **my** choice, I am also your God by **your** choice.”
 - 1. “You **called** to me and I **answered** you.” (Exodus 2:23-25)
 - 2. “I delivered you from your bondage through an act of **unimaginable greatness**.”
 - i. **The Red Sea**.
 - ii. **Complete destruction** of your enemy.
 - iii. “...who brought you out of the **land** of **Egypt**...”
 - a. The problem was not just their **slavery**, but rather their **identity**.
 - b. “My plan is not to make you, ‘**free Egyptians**,’ but to make you my own.”
 - 1. “You shall not **go back** that way again.”
 - 2. The ways of Egypt represent the **ways** of the **world**.
 - c. It was the desire to go back to Egypt out of **fear** of the **call** of God that caused the previous generation to **die** in the desert. (Numbers 14)
 - d. It isn’t simply, “I saved you so I get to **tell you** what to do,” but rather, “I saved you in order to **make you** into my treasured possession, and bless you abundantly.”
- 6. Hopefully, the **connection** to these things for those who are in Christ Jesus is **clear** enough to see.
 - a. You have a very similar **history** with God as you approach these things.
 - i. “I am the LORD **your** God...”
 - a. He was your God **before** you were **born**.
 - ii. “...who brought you...out of the **house** of **slavery**.”
 - a. You called to him and he delivered you from your bondage through an act of **unimaginable greatness**.
 - iii. “...who brought you out of the **land** of **Egypt**...”
 - a. His plan was not to make you a **free sinner**, but to make you his own.
 - b. **In this world**.
- 7. You must hear these things, **understand** these things, and **embrace** these things.
 - a. The **Ten Words**.