

Rabbi's Reflections - Wednesday, April 8, 2026
Shalom {{firstName}},

Day 4 of counting the Omer

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוֵּנוּ עַל סְפִירַת הָעֹמֶר

Baruch Atah Adonai Elohenu Melech Ha-Olam, Asher Kid'shanu
B'mitzvotav, Vitzivanu Al Sefirat Ha-Omer.

Blessed are You O Lord our God, King of the universe, who has sanctified us by his commandments and commanded us about the counting of the Omer. Today is zero weeks and four days of the counting of the Omer.

Follow up that prayer by remembering a blessing from the Lord and give Him thanks. **2Corinthians 9:10 Now the One who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed and increase the harvest of your righteousness.**

Psalms Psalm 50:16-21 – Part 11

Psalm 50:16 But to the wicked, God says: “What are you doing, reciting My laws and taking My covenant in your mouth? 17 For you hate discipline, and you cast My words behind you. 18 When you see a thief, you are pleased with him, and your portion is with adulterers. 19 You have unleashed your mouth for evil and harnessed your tongue for deceit. 20 You sit, speaking against your brother, slandering your own mother’s son. 21 These things you have done— Should I keep silent? You thought I was just like you—but I reprove you, and set the case before your eyes.

How many of the Ten Commandments is God addressing to the wicked in these few verses? The first reference is to “My laws.” God follows that with “My covenant.” The wicked have no trouble “reciting” or speaking (“taking... in your mouth”). However; the wicked are haters of correction (discipline), throwing off (casting) God’s words.

Back to our original questions. How many commandments? Our response to theft is addressed. **Psalm 50:18a When you see a thief, you are pleased with him....** That's the eighth commandment. The second part of verse 18 addresses the seventh commandment.... **Psalm 50:18b ...your portion is with adulterers.**

Then, in the next verse, transgression of the ninth commandment is condemned. **Psalm 50:19 You have unleashed your mouth for evil and harnessed your tongue for deceit.** In the Hebrew, it literally says, "You send your mouth for evil." In verse 20, God says this is even happening within families, yet another violation of God's commandments.

1John 4:20 If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar. For the one who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. 21 And this commandment we have from Him: that the one who loves God should also love his brother.

The Psalmist is addressing a disconnect between what we know to do and what we actually do do (yes, I said that). Paul says as much in agreement with the Psalm... **Romans 2:21 you then who teach another, do you not teach yourself? You who preach not to steal, do you steal?** The lesson is made clear throughout the Scriptures. Yeshua's own words make it clear that it is a "heart thang." **Matthew 5:37 "But let your word 'Yes' be 'Yes' and your 'No,' 'No'—anything more than this is from the evil one."**

But wait, Rabbi, I thought this was a "mouth thing." **Matthew 15:18 But the things that proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart, and those things make the man unholy.** Let's give Yeshua the last word today.... **Matthew 6:22 "The eye is the lamp of the body. Therefore if your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light.** Let's keep our eyes on Him, our hearts pure and speak no evil. Shalom shalom.

Day 4 of the Omer

Daily Bread, reading plan by Lars Enarson (<https://www.thewatchman.org/>)

Wed 8-Apr-2026 21st of Nisan, 5786 Pesach VII

Ex 13:17-15:26, Nu 28:19-252 Sa 22 1 Co 10:1-4