

Ten Commandments Study #1 — September 13, 2026

“And God spoke all these words, saying, ‘I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.’” - Exodus 20:1–2

1. The LORD Has Freed His People from Slavery- Remember

Israel was not responsible for delivering itself. **God delivered His people.** The Passover was a reminder of that redemption and to point forward to Christ.

The LORD continued to remind His people of His deliverance of them from Egypt:

- Leviticus 26:13
- Psalm 81:10
- Hosea 13:4
- Jeremiah 31:31–32
- Hebrews 8:8–9

WSC- Q. 43. What is the preface to the Ten Commandments?

A. *“The preface to the Ten Commandments is in these words, I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.”*

2. The LORD Has Called His People to Live as a Free Community

True freedom means being liberated from slavery so that we can live as God created us to live—with Him and with one another and not go back to a new slavery.

God's commandments are not designed to take away our freedom. They teach God's redeemed people how to live together in the freedom He has given them.

The commandments establish the boundaries necessary for a community to flourish

3. Obedience to the Ten Commandments Is the Will of God

Exodus 19 ends with Moses saying nothing and God speaking. **“God spoke all these words”**

These are not merely Moses' ideas. **God Himself spoke.** Therefore, the commandments reveal the will of God for His people.

WSC- Q. 44. What doth the preface to the Ten Commandments teach us?

A. *“The preface to the Ten Commandments teaches us, that because God is the Lord, and our God, and Redeemer, therefore we are bound to keep all his commandments.*

Romans 12:1–2 “I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.”

Paul begins with **“the mercies of God.”** Then comes the call to obedience. God's mercy is the motivation for our obedience. The gospel comes before the command. Paul goes on to say that we are to discern **“what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.”**

The same pattern we see in Exodus 20 appears throughout the Christian life: **God saves us by His grace, gives us freedom in Christ, and then calls us to live freely according to His will.**

Applications

A. You have been freed — so live free.

The commandments are not merely a list of things we are forbidden to do. They show us what life looks like when God's people live together according to His design.

The commandments do not merely restrain evil. **They teach us how to love God and love our neighbor in the freedom we have in Christ.**

B. See obedience as the pathway to enjoying and glorifying God.

The commandments are not God's way of putting us back into bondage. They are God's way of teaching His redeemed people how to live in freedom.

Obedience is the pathway to enjoying the freedom God has given us.

C. See the gospel and Jesus in the commandments.

Jesus obeyed every commandment perfectly. Where we have failed, **Christ succeeded.**

He has taken our failures and slavery and given us His righteousness and freedom.

As we begin our study, let's continue to ask this question:

How do God's commandments teach us more about the LORD (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit) and how to live in freedom with one another?