

Back to the Future

The Ten Commandments

Introduction

Two thousand twenty was supposed to be a year of vision and propulsion into a great future. Instead, it was a year in which we experienced life unlike the majority of us have ever seen.

Though it was a challenging and difficult year for us all, the Lord moved in powerful ways, teaching us a number of great spiritual lessons along the way.

Perhaps the biggest lesson is the summons to return to the foundational principles of faith. Unless we go back to what is essential, we will not move forward into the future He has for us. The reset that last year provided us is exactly what is needed to ensure our alignment with God in the future.

Live as Redeemed People (Exodus 20:1-2).

When the children of Israel were drawn out of slavery in Egypt, they entered into the process of being formed into the people of God. At the core of their formation was the moral code that God instructed them to follow.

As followers of Jesus under the New Covenant there is a temptation to overlook the Ten Commandments as irrelevant in the season of grace in which we are now living.

Exodus 20:1-2, which serves as the preamble to the Ten Commandments, puts life in perspective.

- I am the Lord YOUR God.
- Who brought you out of slavery.

The Lord is calling us to live as the redeemed people that we are through Jesus.

Living in Faithfulness to Our Redeemer (Exodus 20:3).

Redeemed people live in faithfulness to God as a constant priority.

Because the children of Israel were freed by God, they were obligated to God, as the One who gave them a new life. The same is said for those who have been saved by grace, through faith, in Jesus. The One who gives life is the only One who can sustain life.

The first commandment calls redeemed people to faithfulness.

Though there is no comparison between the one true living God and false gods, there is the existence of other deities that people conjure in their minds. There are a number of gods that we encounter today just as there were for the children of Israel as they entered the promised land. Each of these gods fight for our devotion.

Conclusion

It will take years to see the full impact that 2020 has had on the church. However, because God loves us enough to move through the difficulties to get our attention, we have been given space to go back in order to move into an even brighter future.

Though our current circumstances are not likely to change any time soon, we can position ourselves to experience God's peace, power, and presence when we live as the redeemed people we are.

In order for us to be all that we can be we must cultivate a worthy faith in Him.

- Focus on godly priorities and expectations.
- Accept the need for change where God deems it necessary.
- Increase church attendance, serving, and giving.
- Turn away from the fear of external situations beyond our control.
- Have God's heart for others.

As we fight to be faithful to our Redeemer we will reach the future the Lord has for us and others around us.