The Ten Commandments (Part 1). Significance of The Ten Commandments in Human History. Presented on 1/22/2022

The following text is a message from Corner Fringe Ministries that was presented by Daniel Joseph. The original presentation can be viewed at <u>https://www.cornerfringe.com/media/kj3x6wb/the-ten-</u> <u>commandments-part-1</u>

*Portions of this document have been edited from the video message to better present a comprehensive, written document. Special attention was given to preserving the original context, but this document is <u>not verbatim</u>. Scripture verses are in the red text with other quotes in blue. Therefore, it is recommended that this document is printed in color. The Hebrew words are generally accompanied by the transliterate, English word. In most cases, the Hebrew is to be read from right to left.

(Opening video montage)

(Video clip 1)

A federal judge has ordered county officials to remove a statue of the Ten Commandments from the county courthouse. As Whitney Ray tells us from our exclusive capitol bureau, officials have less than a month to find a new location for their commandments.

(Whitney Ray) - Cross City, Florida, is home to 1800 people. There are more churches in the town than gas stations, and at the entrance of the Dixie County Courthouse, engraved in stone, are the Ten Commandments.

(Darcy Patterson) - It's our religion; it's our Lord.

(Whitney Ray) - Darcy Patterson says the commandments belonged at the courthouse, but a federal judge disagrees. The judge ruled last week that the commandments had to go because they violated the separation of church and state laid out in the U.S. Constitution.

(Darcy Patterson) - It has nothing to do with the courthouse. It's our God, our maker.

(Whitney Ray) - Dixie County residents are furious:

(Resident 1) - If they're going to take it down, we should all picket.

(Resident 2) - The federal judge doesn't come down here every day and see this.

(Resident 3) - It should stay it's not hurting anything.

(Whitney Ray) - The court battle to remove the statue began in 2007 after the ACLU filed suit. This statue is actually owned by a private citizen. That's the case Dixie County made in court. They also put up a plaque saying the views and opinions expressed in this area aren't necessarily the views of the county, but it wasn't enough to appease the judge. Now county officials have until August 14th to get rid of the statue. Lifelong Dixie County residents, Richard and Elton, are sad to see it go.

(Richard) - If people don't want to see it, they should turn their heads and not look at it.

(Elton) - Yeah. Come in the back door.

(Whitney Ray) - Residents are asking the owner to place the commandments on private property as close to the courthouse as possible.

In Dixie County, this is Whitney Ray, WPTV News Channel 5.

(Video clip 2)

(Narrator 1) - A massive Ten Commandments monument that has been outside a Pennsylvania public school for 60 years is now being removed.

(Narrator 2) - The reason is because of one complaint from an atheist mother who filed a federal lawsuit. Fox News radio host, Todd Starnes, is live for us in D.C. with his take on the controversy in his one-minute commentary. Good morning, Todd.

(Todd Starnes) - Well, good morning, guys. Yeah, the Ten Commandments are getting the heave-ho from a high school near Pittsburgh. The New Kensington, Arnold School District has 30 days to remove the giant monument from the front lawn of Valley High School. It's all part of the settlement in a federal lawsuit filed by an aggrieved atheist. She tells the local newspaper the monument was a violation of the Constitution. She also said the commandments were offensive.

(Video clip 3)

(Narrator) – And a bronze plaque with the Ten Commandments is no longer on view at the Saint Louis County Courthouse in Hibbing. Property management removed the plaque at the direction of county administration on Monday. A county spokeswoman says officials consulted with the county attorney's office, which recommended removing the Ten Commandments based on past court decisions. The Wisconsin-based Freedom from Religion Foundation questions about the plaque which had hung at the courthouse for decades. I am Dwayne Etienne, reporting for rjbroadcasting.com

(Video clip 4)

(Mark Sovel) - Writers at the Christian Post are very upset that a federal judge appointed by Ronald Reagan ruled in favor of Wiccans in a case involving the display of the Ten Commandments at the city hall of Bloomfield, New Mexico. Now, Wiccans Jane Felix and Buford Cohn of the Order of The Cauldron of the Sage felt offended by the monument, contacted the ACLU, and asked them to have it removed. Now Wiccans -- don't call them witches --they're Wiccans Okay. They get very upset when you call them witches. See now, this is why the Christian posts are all upset. They think that the judge ruled in favor of witches, but, no, they're just Wiccans.

(Lissette Padilla) - They're in favor of freedom of religion. Right. That's what they're in favor of, and we should not have a government entity or even a building related with our government promote a particular religion over another. This is a Christian set of commandments, it's not...

(Mark Sovel) - Well, it's also Hebrew. Let's not forget that, (laughter) but Alexandra Smith, the legal director and attorney for the ACLU of New Mexico, said this: "Our clients, who are not Christian, they took issue with this, and it made them feel alienated from the community. One of the commandments is "Thou shalt put no god before me," and this is clearly not a historical document, but it is, in fact, a religious doctrine."

(Lissette Padilla) - It looks like she forgot about the Hebrews too. She just mentioned the Christians. Well, I think it's just because the majority of people in the U.S. who are religious are Christian, and that's a predominant religion.

(Mark Sovel) - But they were given to Moses. Let's not forget they're in the exodus, but that's just beside the point, apparently. U.S District Judge James A. Parker, when he ruled, said this, "In view of the circumstances surrounding the context history and purpose of the Ten Commandments monument, it's clear that the City of Bloomfield has violated the Establishment Clause because its conduct in authorizing the continued display of the monument on city property has had the primary or principal effect of endorsing religion." And that's fine because the other monuments on their property are the Declaration of Independence and various government documents and not documents associated with religions. And so, they want the Christian posters out of their minds because Wiccans won this and are having the Ten Commandments removed from display.

[The Ten Commandments Intro Music]

(Daniel Joseph)

All right. Let's get started. It is clear to me that everything that we see happening in this nation right now, and it's been building for some time, can be defined as an all-out war. Darkness is creeping over this land, and it's going to rise up against the light. It wants to remove the light. We have chaos and lawlessness coming out with a vengeance to come against the Law of God. This is what is happening right now, and I'm reminded of Paul's words in **Ephesians 6:12** - ... we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, and powers and spiritual hosts of wickedness, and the rulers of darkness of this evil age.

We are literally in the throes of war right now. It is as hot and as intense as it could possibly get. And because of what we see happening right now, we're going to start a new series on the Ten Commandments.

I'm going to tell you, I'm a little hard-headed, but I admit my failures and faults. There have been times that the Spirit of the Lord has moved me to do things, to teach on certain things at certain times, and I'll be honest, it takes a while, sometimes many years, to discover that it's best to always listen to the Spirit.

But the Spirit has moved on me to go in this direction, and this is not where I wanted to go. I actually had something completely different planned, and I was excited about it, but I'm not supposed to go there. This is where we're supposed to go. There's a prophecy in Isaiah 40:3 - 'Prepare ye the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'

We are at that juncture right now. Where the literal spirit of Elijah needs to go forth and speak through the Holy Spirit, inspired prophets of today. Like it did in the holy scriptures through the Holy Spiritinspired prophets of old. Amen.

Before we begin this new series, let me preface today's message by stating that today is just an introduction. We're not even going to be getting to the commandments yet. I mentioned that to my wife this week, and she rolled her eyes but wasn't surprised. I'm after one thing today: I want to bring to the table a little bit of awareness. I want to bring to the table some perspective so that you can appreciate the magnitude of what we are about to embark on. It is going to be instrumental.

With that said, let me begin with the following statement: the Ten Commandments are without question, without exaggeration, and hands down, the most important legal document, or legal set of principles the world has ever known. Period.

That's a bold statement. There is no other document in history that has accomplished what she has done. There's no other accomplished document that has so influenced men for the greater good. Whether in cities, in states, or in countries, nothing has had the impact that this document has had. I am reminded of a verse in Proverbs 14:34 - Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.

Righteousness exalts. What does that mean? It means that when a people, when a society, when a state, when a country embraces righteousness; when they exalt her, when they promote righteousness amongst them; what happens? Blessing. The gates of heaven are opened. The favor of God comes upon them. The protection of God comes upon them. The wisdom and understanding of God come upon them. And you can take it a step further by defining righteousness, which scripture does in Psalm 119:172 - ...all your commandments are righteousness.

All of them. Your commandments are righteousness. And when you have peoples and societies, when you have nations, when fathers and mothers in their own homes, grabbing hold of the commandments, the Word says that the Lord will raise you up. The Lord will honor you. The Lord will bless you for that. Amen.

That's a reality. A perfect example of what I'm talking about is America. I look at America, which is considered by some to be the greatest nation that has ever existed, apart from Israel. America has been blessed with military might, with power and pomp, and the sheer blessing of riches surpassing even that of Rome. It's an incredible thought to consider how we got here. And I will tell you how. It is because, believe it or not, we were once a nation that valued, that cherished, that honored, that favored, that exalted, and promoted the Ten Commandments.

I'd like to continue by providing you with some evidence to support that. I would like to introduce you to a gentleman by the name of Noah Webster; a prolific author and political writer. Mr. Webster is considered to be the father of American scholarship and education and is truly a scholar's scholar. This takes us back to the 1700s. This man was alive during the American Revolution, and it's important to get an idea of the mindset of influential American men like Webster. Here is a sample of something Noah Webster said: "Education is useless without the Bible." Notice it's not any other document of any other religion. "Education is useless without the Bible. The Bible is America's basic textbook in all fields. God's word, contained in the Bible, has furnished all necessary rules to direct our conduct. " The meaning of this statement is that the basis of academia was the word of the living God.

Think about that, this is American history, this is Americana back in the 1700s and 1800s. This is how they thought. They believed that these were the rules they needed to submit to. These were the rules they needed to be governed and educated by. Why did they do this back then? Because they understood Proverbs 14. They believed that through these things they would be exalted and that they would be blessed. They believed it, and they believed in the Word.

I'd like to continue to build on this and introduce you to another individual whose name was Joseph Story. Joseph Story was a man who had a tremendous impact on shaping American jurisprudence. He's known for rendering famous opinions, such as his opinion in the Amistad Case, which hardly needs an introduction. This man left a dramatic historical mark in the legal arena of American society. Mr. Story's dad was involved in the Boston Tea Party. Joseph Story also co-founded Harvard Law School along with a Jewish gentleman by the name of Simon Greenleaf. And so here is a man who left his mark on American history.

Simon Greenleaf also has a fascinating story. When you look back into history and see all the men who helped shape and develop this country, you begin to understand how mind-blowing their stories are. Simon Greenleaf's story was such that he was a skeptic of the resurrection of Jesus. Not uncommon amongst Jewish people. Right? He was a skeptic. One of the things Mr. Greenleaf is known for, even today, was his development of the Treatise of the Law of Evidence. One day, three of Mr. Greenleaf's students came to him and challenged him to apply the principles of his own treatise, to the gospels and the resurrection. Simon Greenleaf does this through a cross-examination of the witnesses of the resurrection and concludes and confesses that the resurrection of Christ is legitimate. He then gives his life to the Lord. It's interesting. After that, he wrote another book called, The Testimony of the Evangelist," and you can still buy that book today.

There are some other things that Joseph Story said that I want us to be aware of also. Let me say this, just to put this into context, this man is known for developing American jurisprudence. This man sat on the Supreme Court for three decades. If one wants to take a snapshot of history in the 1800s and understand how people were thinking, studying, Joseph Story, and how a supreme court justice interpreted the law in relationship to the Bible and to Christianity, is a good place to start. This is what we read: "I verily believe Christianity necessary to the support of civil society..." In other words, he's saying to actually have a civil society, Christianity is not an option. You need this textbook, you need the commandments, and you need its wisdom. He continues: "One of the beautiful boasts of our municipal jurisprudence is that Christianity is a part of the Common Law."

Let that sink in. A supreme court justice literally saying it's interwoven. That alone tells you that this book, the reality of this book, and God's commandments, are part of our identity and part of our heritage.

He then says this: "There never has been a period...in which the Common Law did not recognize Christianity as lying...its foundations." It is the very basis.

Let me jump ahead to his commentaries on the Constitution, which you can find online. These commentaries are some of the most interesting historical reads that you'll find. Mr. Story says this: "In fact, every American colony, from its foundation down to the revolution, with the exception of Rhode Island, (if, indeed, that state be an exception,) did openly, by the whole course of its laws and institutions, support and sustain, in some form, the Christian religion;..."

It's almost hilarious, if the topic wasn't so serious, to hear people talk about the separation of church and state and how they interpret that. The state is not supposed to lean or promote, as you saw and heard in the videos, one religion over another. That is absolutely not our history; not at all. As we just read: "...and support and sustain, in some form, the Christian religion;" (No other religions), "...and almost invariably gave a peculiar sanction to some of its fundamental doctrines. And this has continued to be the case in some of the states down to the present period, without the slightest suspicion, that it was against the principles of public law, or republican liberty."

In other words, what he's saying is that Christianity is not the antithesis to liberty and freedom, it's the source. It's the source, and there was no debate about it. There was no conflict between law and the Word because they're interwoven. This is how they seem.

Continuing: "Massachusetts, while she has promulgated in her BILL OF RIGHTS the importance and necessity of the public support of religion, and the worship of God, has authorized the legislature to require it only for Protestantism. The language of that Bill of Rights is remarkable for its pointed affirmation of the duty of government to support Christianity, and the reasons for it."

That is an official statement, and you've got to think about this. Supreme Court Justice Joseph Story is stating that Christianity was being promoted. Not any other religion, but Christianity.

Let me take this a step further. I'm going to introduce you to another Supreme Court Justice, David Brewer, who also has an interesting story. Equally as brilliant as Joseph Story, Mr. Brewer actually comes from parents who were missionaries. He wasn't even born in the United States; he was born in Smyrna. This is the actual Smyrna that's mentioned in the book of Revelation; the second church of the seven churches described.

Justice Brewer, who also sat on the Supreme Court for over two decades, has rendered some historic opinions as well. I'm going to share some commentary with you which was written by Professor Jane Rainey about an opinion rendered by Justice Brewer: Church of the Holy Trinity v. United States, 143 U.S. 457 (1892) - involving the application of federal law forbidding the importation of foreign contract laborers. In other words, there are laws on the books forbidding the hiring of cheap, foreign labor. "...is notable for Justice David J. Brewer declaring that the United States is a 'Christian nation'."

In as late as 1892, we see a Supreme Court Justice rendering an opinion on a Supreme Court case that says the United States is a Christian nation. Where is that talk now by your supreme court justices? Where is this kind of understanding now?

We continue: Brewer added that a legislature representing a religious people would certainly not take action against religion. It is believed the backdrop to the case was that the Holy Trinity Church went out and hired an Anglican priest from England to work and serve as a minister. This is where you get into the controversy of the letter of the law versus what is the intent of the law. This is the depth that David is uncovering. He is stating that the law that was set in place to forbid the importation of foreign contract laborers is not applicable to a church hiring an Anglican priest from England. The law was not meant for that.

This statement is huge. This tells me that in 1892, this supreme court justice looked out and recognized the point of our legislators was to work on behalf of religious people, and when it says religious, it doesn't mean all religions; it means one, Christianity. This is what he saw.

Professor Rainey continues: Church of the Holy Trinity v. United States - He (Judge Brewer) provided an overview of references to God in official documents from U.S. history beginning with the commission to Christopher Columbus and continuing through colonial charters, state constitutions, and oaths of office.

In other words, Brewer, as he's rendering this opinion, goes back and presents a mountain of evidence to support what today would be called an insane, radical statement. That the United States is a Christian nation. He goes back and shows all this evidence to support every step of the way. He wanted people to note there is actual proof.

Then he moves on and he says this: Turning to the Constitution he offered the First Amendment and the "Sundays excepted" provision in Article I as evidence of the importance of religion in the United States.

Again, this is talking about Christianity. He just keeps building and building: He also found throughout American life - From its laws to its businesses, customs, and multitudes of churches, charitable organizations, and missionary associations - further evidence that "this is a Christian nation." He is saying, let's just go look at how people live. There is your proof. That's an amazing insight. You want some perspective on how our society used to function? Let all this history, this real history, sink in.

I'm going to take this a step further, and I want to introduce you to the second President of the United States, John Adams. This is going back to the early 1800s. One of my favorite quotes by any president ever is the one I'm about to show you. Look at the insight and the wisdom that this man possessed. John Adams says this: "I will insist that the Hebrews have [contributed] more to civilize men than any other nation. If I was an atheist and believed in blind eternal fate, I should still believe that fate had ordained the Jews to be the most essential instrument for civilizing the nations."

What is he talking about? Where is he getting this from? From what context is he making this statement? Do you know what he was referring to? He was referring to what the Jewish people were given at Mount Sinai. They were given the Ten Commandments. They were given the Book of the Law. They were given wisdom and understanding. And when you read Deuteronomy, what we're told is that the Lord separated them from all the nations. He exalted them, and that exaltation was because of what God had given them. He had given them a special set of laws that they were to live by that no other nation had. Do you understand that this is what John Adams recognized? And then go to the end of Matthew 28 and you get the Great Commission as Yeshua commissions his Jewish apostles to go out and proclaim the gospel, baptizing men in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. And then he says this. "Teaching them to observe all the things that I have commanded you." This is what John Adams understood; this is what he knew. This is why he's making such a radical statement.

He goes on and says this: "They are the most glorious nation that ever inhabited this Earth. The Romans and their empire were but a bubble in comparison to the Jews. They have given religion to three quarters of the globe and have influenced the affairs of mankind more and more happily than any other nation, ancient or modern."

Yes, it is true. If you want life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, you must go and get what the Jews received. You have to get the gospel; you have to get those commandments that the Jewish people were given. Righteousness will exalt a nation. We are a long way from home. We're nowhere near hearing people talk like the men that I've just shown you, and what I've just shown you are just a microcosm. We could go down this road for months. We can readily admit today that we are not a Christian nation, but make no mistake, where we were, where our roots were, and why this nation was blessed all go back to our reverence for the big ten. To our reverence for God's word, to our confession that Jesus is the Messiah, that there's salvation, that there's forgiveness, there's mercy with Him. That's our heritage of blessing in this nation and that cannot be debated.

I want to share another quote with you, but I'm not going to tell you who this is yet. I want to see what you think about this. Pay close attention to what is said: "The day will come when I shall hold up against these (Ten) Commandments, the tables of a new law. And history will recognize our movement as the great battle for humanity's liberation..." (Meaning we're being oppressed) "...a liberation from the curse of Mount Sinai. This is what we are fighting against: the masochistic spirit of self-torment, the curse of so-called morals, idolized to protect the weak from the strong...Against the so-called Ten Commandments, against them, we are fighting."

To this person, the enemy is the Ten Commandments. Who made this statement? Adolf Hitler. Do you understand? To him, this was public enemy number one. What burned in Hitler's heart was hatred for the Ten Commandments.

Do you understand? Are you seeing what I'm seeing? Do you understand the power that is in the Ten Commandments and the threat that this poses to the kingdom of Satan and to the Spirit of the Antichrist? You need to understand it. Hitler recognized that there is a great power here. It was a threat to him. He loathed it. The Spirit of the Antichrist is the spirit that goes out against the Ten Commandments. Understand something, every time you see anyone, whether they're Wiccans, Satanists, the ACLU, or whoever is demanding that the commandments of the Living God, the Ten Commandments, be ripped out from public places, that is the Spirit of the Antichrist. It's the very definition. This is the work of evil; it's absolutely demonic.

However, we know this, the Commandments are very powerful. It says in Hebrews: Hebrews 4:12 - For the word of God is living and powerful, sharper than any two-edged sword piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. The word of God prepares you for war, it protects you against deception, and Satan can't have that. If the Antichrist wants to have his way in your life, he's got to rip that out. He's got to get rid of that; you cannot be seeing the Ten Commandments.

Hitler goes on and says this: "The Ten Commandments have lost their validity...Conscience is a Jewish invention. It is a blemish like circumcision." – Adolf Hitler.

It's always fascinated me how Hitler directly correlates conscience with the Ten Commandments. This is what he says, let it sink in because it is a direct correlation. It's amazing. Why? Because the Ten Commandments have the power to speak to your heart and to transform your life. There's power there. We're told in Ecclesiastes 8: Ecclesiastes 8:4 - Where the word of a king is, there is power."

Don't be mystified as to why they're trying to move/remove all the Ten Commandments displays. These are not simply just monuments. This is not simply freedom of speech. Oh my goodness! It goes way beyond that. This is war. The darkness does not want the light to be seen, and the darkness does not want the light to be heard. And what is even scarier than all that, what troubles me the most, is the statement the Ten Commandments have lost their validity. That's the very narrative that has crept into the churches. Think about it. The very narrative that is creeping into the churches in this generation is, "We don't have to do them; we don't have to keep the commandments."

Let me share with you a few screenshots with questions that were asked of Christians. The first question is, "Which of the Ten Commandments are outdated?" The answer: All Ten Commandments became

outdated when Jesus gave us the two greater commandments and when he died on the cross. This is because there is no longer any atonement for the transgression of the Ten. This stopped when the animal sacrifices were ended. Jesus became the atonement for the "two" that he gave us which fulfills all the law and the prophets.

See, the Ten Commandments have lost their validity. Now this is mind-blowing. I've got to engage in some mental gymnastics just to understand what he's trying to convey. But essentially what he's saying is that the animal sacrifices atoned for the sins that were committed when the Ten Commandments were broken. Okay? But when Jesus came on the scene, He taught two commandments, and it's for those two commandments that he died. And because there are no more animal sacrifices, there's no more atonement for the Ten. They certainly can't apply to us, there's only atonement for the two commandments. Do you see the insanity here? Do you see the confusion that the enemy is causing?

Here's another screenshot; you've got to love this: The Ten Commandments are the Old Covenant that was abolished at the cross. False doctrine hits the mat. The logic is irrefutable:

- 1. The Ten Commandments are the Old Covenant: Ex 34:27-28
- 2. The Old Covenant was abolished: Heb 8:13
- 3. The Ten Commandments are therefore abolished!

It's a simple deduction. Said Hitler so. This is a Hitlerian speech, and let's be clear, the spirit of the Antichrist moved through Hitler. You might want to pay attention to some of the things that he said, especially in regard to the Ten Commandments and how he was obsessed with making sure they were destroyed. Yet this is in the church.

Let me take it a step further. Here you have 2/42 Community Church with a screenshot from their website: "The Ten Commandments are obsolete." Then we read this; here's just some of what was written:Here is what the writers of the New Testament say about the law of Moses. (Which includes the Ten Commandments) By calling this covenant "new," he has made the first one obsolete, and what is obsolete and aging, will soon disappear. Hebrews 8:13.

Thank you, Lord, for making me go through the Book of Hebrews because one of the most important things that I mentioned in that series, and it is so imperative, is that the problem with the church today is that they do not understand the difference between the New Covenant and the Old Covenant. They don't understand what has stayed and what has gone. They do not understand what the New Covenant, in and of itself, is let alone knowing what the old covenant is, and the differences. They don't understand. And do you know what the devil's doing? He's taking advantage of the situation.

And then, of course, we have someone who's becoming quite notorious around here: Andy Stanley. Andy Stanley asks, "Why do Christians want to post the Ten Commandments and not the Sermon on the Mount?" As though the Sermon on the Mount is a completely different message than the Ten Commandments. That's what's being alluded to here. Listen to me. Have you ever read the Sermon on the Mount? As Yeshua teaches, he draws out from the Ten Commandments. He's quoting them! It's unbelievable!

The Sermon on the Mount is the greatest exegesis, the greatest discourse on Law you will find anywhere in scripture. It's all about Law. You get through the beatitudes and then immediately you're confronted with Matthew 5:17 - Don't think that I came to destroy the Torah.

You are instructed not to even think that. And after talking about the commandments and what they really mean, then He goes to Matthew 7, where we have a bunch of believers thinking they're getting into the kingdom saying, "Lord, Lord, open to us." And He said, "I never knew you, depart from me you who practice lawlessness." The whole discourse of the Sermon on the Mount is on the Law. It's unbelievable. This is how far away from reality the church is getting.

Within this, we read the following: You've heard the story before. A group of Christians puts up a monument of the Ten Commandments in a public space or on government property. Someone says it violates the separation of church and state.

Now everything he's saying here is right on. I agree; this is the debate. But then he says this: The Christians say taking it down would violate their freedom of speech. There's some back and forth in court and both sides say some not-so-great things about the other. Rinse and repeat.

The big problem I have with this statement is right here, "The Christians say taking it down would violate their freedom of speech." Please hear me: you might have some Christians that say, "Hey, I want the right to exercise my freedom of speech. I'm concerned about my freedoms being impeded on here," however, posting the Ten Commandments is not about making sure I exercise my freedom of opinion. That's not what it's about. It's about eternal life; that's what it's about. That's how important these are. It's about bringing light into a dark place. It's about bringing conviction. It's about giving wisdom. It's about giving understanding. It's life and death. This is not simply about my right to express my opinion. Posting the Ten Commandments matters!

We continue with Andy Stanley: But how many times have you seen Christians trying to post the text of the Sermon on the Mount in a public place? (I would be happy to.) Or the all-encompassing commandment Yeshua gave us? "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." – John 13:34 The one commandment! (I agree with the exclamation point here.) Doesn't have the same ring to it, does it? But if we're going to create a monument to stand as a testament to our faith, shouldn't it at least be a monument to something that actually applies to us?

You see, he's coming out and saying that the Ten Commandments don't apply to Christians. And again, I remind you of Hitler's words when he said that the Ten Commandments have lost their validity.

Moving on: The Ten Commandments are from the old covenant. He's going to give us this reasoning: The Ten Commandments played a significant role in God's creation of the nation of Israel. Agreed. It gave them moral guidelines and helped separate this new nation from their neighbors. Agreed. This was part of the formal agreement (or covenant) God created with his people, but Yeshua's death and resurrection signaled the end of that covenant and all the rules and regulations associated with it. Yeshua issued his new commandment as a replacement for everything in the existing list. Including the big Ten.

So you need to understand: this is where we're at. This is the narrative that is not just being peddled by the ACLU or being held by Satanists. This is a narrative that's being peddled by the church. The church is saying the exact same thing Hitler once said.

I want to build on this. We're going to go global. I want to take you to China, where we find a headline that reads as follows: **Xi Jinping's quotes replace the Ten Commandments in churches.** The Ten Commandments are the basis of the Christian moral code, an essential part of believers' life throughout the world. But in atheist China, they have become an eyesore for the country's dictator and are eliminated from places of worship.

Then we move on, here we go: Even though a state-run Three-Self church in the county of Luoyang City in the central province of Henan, has replaced the Ten Commandments with President Xi Jinping's quotes after repeated demands. It didn't escape reprimands from the government. The Party must be obeyed in every respect. (The Chinese Communist Party is what's being referred to.) You have to do whatever the Party tells you to do. If you contradict, your church will be shut down immediately, according to a believer who asked to remain anonymous. Against the will of believers, the Ten Commandments have been removed from nearly every Three-self church and meeting venue in the country and replaced with quotations from Xi Jinping.

We're starting to see that whether it's Hitler going after the Ten Commandments or communism going after the Ten Commandments, this broken record plays over and over again. The Ten Commandments are a threat.

Please think about Satan when he was in the Garden of Eden and went to deceive Eve. What did he go after? The commandment. "Did God really say?" God spoke the commandments to Adam and Eve, and Satan comes in and calls into question, "What did God really say?" What does Satan want? What is the goal? The goal is for us not to listen to God's word." Satan wants us to slide that aside and receive his words." What is President Xi Jinping saying? He is saying, "Move the voice of God aside, move the commandments aside, and listen to <u>my</u> words." This is the devil in the making.

Moving on we read Xi Jinping's Quotes replace the Ten Commandments in churches: Like excerpts from his speech at a Central United Front Work Department working meeting on May 18, 2015: (This is a quote from Xi Jinping, so what we're about to read is what he wants in the churches.) "The core socialist values in Chinese culture will help to immerse various religions of China. Support the religious community in interpreting religious thought, doctrines, and teachings in a way that confirms with the needs of the progress of the times."

In other words, he is saying, "Guess what, oh church, oh blessed church, amongst the Chinese people. Know this. We're going to immerse your churches in communism. We're going to help you so that you can keep up with the times. So that we can make sure that your churches are doing what is best for all mankind, and what is best for humanity."

This is the mindset. And don't think for one second we're not seeing this mindset right here in our own country today. This is the mindset we are seeing.

The believer also revealed that some Three-Self churches had been shut down for not implementing the government's demand to replace the Ten Commandments with the president's quotes.

It's simple. You will do what we say or we're coming after you. We will shut you down. It's amazing, I just think of over the last year and a half regarding the COVID pandemic and what churches went through. We're shutting you down. If you don't shut down, we're going to make you pay. How many churches got fined for keeping their doors open?

You can't even make that up. Massive fines in the hundreds of thousands because they would not stop meeting to give Yeshua glory. It was unacceptable. It's unacceptable in communist ideology.

Some congregations have been threatened to be blacklisted by the government, meaning that their travels will be restricted and schooling and future employment of their offspring will be impeded if they refused to overhaul their churches according to the current national policies. In other words, if you don't let that devil into your church and rip the holy word of God down from your walls, your kids are going to pay. We will see to it.

I want you to think about that. We are not ignorant of Satan's devices. Are you guys ready to stand? Are you guys ready to cling to the commandments of God at all costs? Will you hold the line when this pressure comes down on you? This is a reality.

The government's first step is to prohibit religious couplets. You can't have any religious literature flittering about with hope, encouragement, and the ways of wisdom. You can't have any of that. Then it dismantles crosses... So, any symbol that would take you back to the Bible or even make people think about Jesus is unacceptable. ...and starts to implement the 'four requirements' by ordering the national flag and 'core socialist values' to be placed in churches. Surveillance cameras to monitor believers in religious activities are then installed. I'm really excited about that. The last step is to replace the Ten Commandments...

And now the crescendo: The last step is to replace the Ten Commandments with Xi Jinping's speeches, the preacher gave his analysis of the situation in Three-Self churches. Listen to this: The Communist Party's ultimate goal is to 'become God.'

And there it is. Listen to me. This activity that you see happening to eradicate the word, the voice, and the power of God, is the enemy coming in to take the throne. He wants to be worshiped. The communists want to be God. There's no debate on that.

Let me share with you a not-too-recent headline. This is a screenshot: YouTube blocks PragerU Ten Commandments videos, and restricts to "mature audiences." (by Michael Gryboski, Christian Post Reporter).

Listen to this: YouTube is restricting access to PragerU's videos on the Ten Commandments, labeling it as mature content that's "inappropriate" for "sensitive" audiences. But never mind the fact that your eight, nine, and ten-year-old kids have free, uninhibited, access to porn. Never mind that. YouTube is more worried about unrestricted access to the Ten Commandments. Do you guys understand what the target is that the enemy is hovering over? The Ten Commandments are the ultimate target. We've got to be aware of this. We need to wake up as to what's going on.

I want to take you to Jeremiah 6. I'll read it, and then I'll comment: **Jeremiah 6:10** - To whom shall I speak and give warning, that they may hear? Indeed, their ear *is* uncircumcised, and they cannot give heed. Behold, the word of the LORD is a reproach to them; they have no delight in it.

Look at what's happening in our nation right now. They have no delight. It's offensive just to see a monument of the Ten Commandments anywhere. It's repulsive to the inhabitants of this country right now. You have people literally driving cars into monuments of the Ten Commandments to take them

out. That's the insanity of what we see. There's so much hatred. People do not want to submit to God. They don't want to see God's words. They want to remove God and rid him from the land.

Now here's the thing. When Jeremiah was sent, he was sent to proclaim the very things that I'm telling you about: the Ten Commandments. Jeremiah was sent to proclaim a message of needing to repent and to turn from wicked ways. But when the nation had come to the point where they were so over the line, and they didn't want to hear it, and they were repulsed and offended by his commandments, that's when judgment was looming. God is angry with the wicked every day. And if he does not turn back, the Lord will sharpen His sword, He will bend His bow, He's going to take you out.

We've got to understand how close we are. This situation must impress upon us more of an urgency to share the gospel. To share the mercy, the forgiveness, the hope, and the beauty that is in the gospel. In Yeshua. In Him. And we've got to turn back. And the Ten Commandments need to get posted everywhere. This is our guidebook.

Isaiah says this: Isaiah 30:8 - Now go, write it before them on a tablet, and note it on a scroll, that it may be for a time to come, forever and ever:

Now I'm going to stop here. The Lord is calling Isaiah the prophet. He's sending him with a message. Notice what he commissions him to do. This is a little tidbit of irony, "Write it before them," On a what? "On a tablet." When Israel went to Mount Sinai, what did they receive? They received the Law literally written on tablets. The verse goes on to say, "and note it on a scroll." They were also given what we call the Book of the Law. You've got to stay focused because the Lord is being clever here. So, it says in Isaiah that he is being sent to a sinful generation, and he's telling him to write something on a tablet and note it on a scroll. What is it that he wants written and noted? it's this: **Isaiah 30:9** - that this is a **rebellious people**, lying children, children who will not hear the law of the LORD;.

Do you see this? This is a rebellious generation; it's lying children that will not hear His commandments. And what are his commandments? His voice. They will not hear the word of the Lord. This is what Isaiah was to write. Absolutely amazing.

Continuing in **Isaiah 30:10** - Who say to the seers, "Do not see," and to the prophets, "Do not prophesy to us right things; speak to us smooth things, prophesy deceits. Get out of the way, turn aside from the path, cause the Holy One of Israel to cease from before us." This is the declaration. Every time somebody goes, and a court order is given to remove the Ten Commandments, that's what they've declared. They have made this declaration.

I don't think we really understand how serious their situation is. This nation has declared they do not want the Holy One. They want the Holy One to cease from them. They want to rid Him from this land.

Looking at Hosea 8:12 - I have written for him the great things of my law, but they were considered a strange thing.

The psalmist says, "Open my eyes that I may see great things from your law." This series is about this. It's about digging in and to go find and discover the great things of God's law. And that's what we're going to do. And so, with that said, we're going to close.