

The Ten Commandments - Part 9: Gods Love Language, If You Love Me Keep My Commandments (4/2/2023)

The following text is a message from Corner Fringe Ministries that was presented by Daniel Joseph. The original presentation can be viewed at <https://www.cornerfringe.com/media/rdh7zk4/the-ten-commandments-part-9>.

***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 not verbatim. 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.**

We are currently in the Ten Commandments series, and we are looking at the first two commandments. We stumbled across something last week concerning the second commandment. The LORD's timing is perfect. For whatever reason, He chose to put an addendum onto the second commandment and to take the time to share this very special commentary with us. This commentary has tremendous power to give us true insight and understanding, so we can feel the weight and gravity of these commandments as a whole and understand the LORD's heart. He reveals aspects of Who He is, what the Ten Commandments mean to Him, and what they're supposed to mean to us.

Today, we will continue to look at this commentary. There are still some things I want to highlight, especially considering what we see happening to Christianity today.

We will start where we left off last week, in Exodus 20:5 – ^{5a} **you shall not bow down to them nor serve them.** – We're not to have any other God, except the LORD God of Israel. End of discussion. Then the LORD gives us the reason why we should have no other Gods – **For I the LORD your God, am a jealous God (*él qanna, לַיְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ*).** – What does that mean? He tells us. – ^{5b} **visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me.**

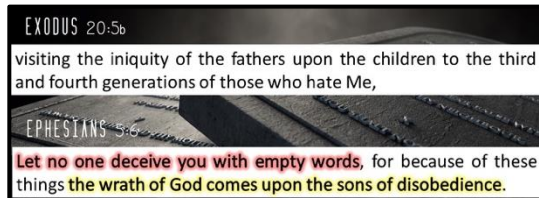
In other words, if you disobey God; if you walk away from His commandments; if you betray Him; if you reject Him; if you abandon Him; if you hate Him; He will unleash hell.

Numbers 23:19b says – ^{19b} **Has He – the LORD – said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?** This is an oracle from Balaam saying the reality of God, that you can take God at face value.

I promise, God will make good on His words in Exodus 20:5b. What's horrifying is the enemy will spend the rest of your life trying to convince you God will not make good on these words. Satan wants you to fall into a place of complacency and bring you to a place of compromise. The devil wants you to say, "I'm not going to get too worked up. It's not salvational. I'm not going to lose my salvation because I walk away from some commandments. That's not going to happen." He will try to convince you of this. This is not where you need to be.

Looking at this statement in Exodus 20:5b, it is clear to me, and I hope it hits you the way God intended: this is supposed to move heaven and earth in your heart. This statement is supposed to instill the fear of God in you and give you the strength to say, "You know what? It's not worth it. Sin is not worth it. Going after the things of the world for a moment of temporary pleasure, is not worth it." So, the LORD makes that statement.

Let's read in the book of Ephesians where Paul builds on this very statement. Ephesians 5:6 – **Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience** (*emphasis added*).



From Exodus 20:5b to Ephesians 5:6 nothing changed. With the dispensation, the revelation of the Messiah Yeshua; the commandments, the law, didn't just poof – vanish and be gone. The message that He will make good on His words and sinners will be destroyed has still carried on. We can see it right here to the Ephesians.

Paul says the exact same thing to the Colossians and the Corinthians. He keeps reminding the churches, which are being established, "Don't think for a moment that you will evade judgment if you walk in sin. It's not going to happen."

Notice what Paul says – **Let no one deceive you with empty words**. He specifically says, "Let no one deceive you" in the context of the "wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience". This means those who walk away from the law, those who abandon the commandments of God: wrath is coming. Paul says there will be men who will rise up and "deceive you with empty words" and say, "No, you won't die. God won't kill you just because you walk away from a few little commandments. You don't have to worry about that happening." Paul is a very wise servant to the Lord.

The prophet Isaiah says this in Isaiah 8:20 – **To the law and to the testimony! If they do not speak according to this word, it is because there is no light in them**. Amazing! The prophet Isaiah saw that it was necessary to warn the people regarding the very same issue which the apostle Paul addressed. You keep seeing righteous men repeatedly reiterating the same message of warning.

I don't care if a pastor, priest, teacher or even a congregant comes to you and says, "You don't need to worry about sin. You know what? Everybody is doing that." Whether you've chosen an alternative lifestyle; are caught up in pornography; or justifying not honoring your mother and father because they have been rotten to you: you cannot allow the enemy or anyone else to sedate you, to be a spiritual anesthesiologist, deadening the pain of godly sorrow which leads to repentance and ultimately to salvation. You cannot do it.

I look at Isaiah 8:20 and see the law, the Word of God, is a light. It reminds me of Psalm 119:105 – **Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path** and Isaiah 5:20 – **Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness**. They flipped the whole thing upside on its head and called good: evil, and evil: good. This is happening in the church today. This is the threat to the church.

Returning to Exodus 20:5b-6 ^{5b} **visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me**, – He continues – ⁶ **but showing mercy to thousands** (*emphasis added*) I want to stop here, God just revealed something monumental about Himself. This text, **“showing mercy to thousands”** is actually saying, “to a thousand generations” not just thousands of people. This is in stark contrast to what we just read in Exodus 20:5b.

As a side note: I'm not performing some crazy interpolation. This is not my opinion. If you continue in the Torah, you will read in Deuteronomy 7:9 – ⁹ **... the faithful God who keeps covenant and mercy for a thousand generations with those who love Him and keep His commandments** (*emphasis added*). This explicitly says, **“a thousand generations”**. The Targums say, “thousands of generations.”

This is important because you'll notice God has mercy for a thousand generations and in the context of God judging the wicked, it's only to the third and fourth generation. What has the LORD just revealed to you? His heart. What is His heart? He is reluctant only to the third and fourth generation. He is showing you that He is reluctant to bring judgment upon the sinner.

In Ezekiel 18:32, He says – ³² **For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies,” says the Lord GOD. “Therefore turn and live!”**

The apostle Peter picks up on this and says in 2 Peter 3:9 – ⁹ **The Lord is ... not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.**

The apostle Paul talks about this in 1 Timothy 2:3-4 – ³ **... God our Savior, ⁴ who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.**

This is His word which the Lord uses to awaken us to His heart. **“Showing mercy for a thousand generations”** is His heart. His heart is so open, and He desire is to show mercy. This is a God who loves.

How many times have I prayed with people where the enemy has convinced them the Lord doesn't love them? They're reeling and suffocating because that's what happens. If you do not feel the love of God, you will suffocate. You need to feel His love. There's not a person in this room who can survive without the love of the LORD and the enemy comes in to destroy that. It's absolutely vile.

We continue in Exodus 20:6 – ⁶ **but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.** (*Emphasis added*).

The LORD is expressing who He will have mercy on because it's not everyone. Not everyone gets invited to this camp; it's only those who love Him and keep His commandments. Think about that for a second. Do you want mercy? Do you want the grace of God? God lays it out. It's not ambiguous. It's plain. He says you must **“love Me and keep My commandments.”**

God is expressing His love language, and He is speaking our love language. This amazes me when I look at that verse, my love language is right there because all have fallen short of the glory of God. Why? We've all sinned. So, humanity's love language whether they admit it; whether they confess it; or

acknowledge it or not is when God says, "I will forgive you. I will have compassion. I will pour my grace out upon you." That's my love language, but in turn He speaks His love language: you love Him and keep His commandments. We must keep His commandments.

Looking at this, I realize how serious this is. This is life or death. Whether you have God's mercy or you don't, makes the difference of whether you go to heaven or hell, and whether you survive or are destroyed.

If it's that important, might you think the enemy would disrupt this whole process, as we see happening in modern day progressive Christianity, by convincing Christians: "you don't need to keep the law; you don't need to keep the commandments because they're not salvational; don't become a Pharisee; don't be given over to a legalistic spirit where you think you are earning your salvation?" We can't earn our salvation, so the devil, as a very crafty attorney, spins these arguments and convinces Christians so they don't realize the weight the Lord Himself puts on the commandments.

If we truly understood what this meant, it would fill in our minds all day long – ⁷ **when we sit in the house, when we walk by the way, when we lie down, when we rise up** (Deuteronomy 6:7). That's all we would think about, knowing what's at stake. Mercy is at stake. Grace is at stake.

Let me be clear on something. We have Biblical examples of God going forth and taking His mercy from His elect, the ones who were anointed with the Holy Spirit (*Rauch HaKodesh*). We can quote this in the Old Testament and we can find it in the New Testament.

One good example is King Saul. King Saul was anointed with the Holy Spirit (*Rauch HaKodesh*) and was specially called by God to govern the LORD's people. In 1 Chronicles, the LORD tells David He has taken His mercy from Saul, but will not take His mercy from David's son. Why did He take His mercy from Saul? Because he didn't believe these words: Exodus 20:6 – ⁶ **but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments**. In Saul's heart, he did not believe this. He walked away from the commandments of the LORD. He was unfaithful. It cost him everything!

You better believe the enemy is going to unleash everything in his arsenal to disrupt this reality, this truth. Yes, I'm telling you Biblically, there's no other way to read it; keeping the commandments of God is salvational. End of discussion. You may not want to believe this is a scriptural truth, so we are really going to hit this hard today.

As I look at this passage, the bizarre thing is there are pastors and preachers who are telling people to unhitch from the Ten Commandments. They tell them they don't need the Ten Commandments. Without even realizing it, they are literally saying, "Follow me. You don't have to love God. You don't have to love Jesus."

Do you understand love is equated to keeping His commandments? This is God's definition. This is how He understands it. If I say, "I don't have to keep His law. I don't have to keep His commandments.", I'm saying I don't have to love God. When you put it in the LORD's terms, does it give you a different perspective on the Ten Commandments? It does for me.

Look at the image that we use for this series:



It's a burning heart that is on fire. The whole idea behind today's message is understanding the heart of the Lord. The Lord is laying His heart bare in these Ten Commandments. He is talking about His love language and how we are to love Him.

It's an amazing thing, so let's follow this to its logical conclusion. If Yeshua is a true prophet, the true Messiah - and I confess He is - and His teachings are perfect and true - and they are - then the words He spoke in Matthew 15:18 are true – ¹⁸ **But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart...** Yeshua identified that the mouth cannot act independently from the heart. It is representative of the heart. All those little secret things you hide in your heart are revealed when they come out of your mouth. For some people, it's not real healthy to see the darkness in their heart. It comes out through anger and outbursts. It manifests through the mouth. Yeshua tells us something so profound: **those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart.**

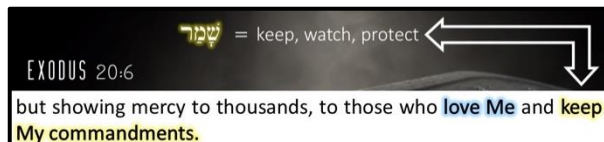
If that is true, think about what happened at Mount Sinai. God calls all of Israel. Every man, woman, and child literally heard the voice of God. God Himself spoke and if the things that proceeded from His mouth come from the heart, what are the Ten Commandments all about? The heart of God.

That puts this discussion on a completely different level for me. When I was growing up and I heard the term “law”, my knee-jerk reaction was to hear “wretched curse”. Now, when I hear the term “law”, “the commandments of God”, I hear the heart of God because that’s what it is. God spoke His heart at Mount Sinai. He shared His love language.

The apostle Paul says in Romans 8:7 – ⁷ **Because the carnal mind is enmity** (hatred) **against God** (*emphasis added*). The mind of flesh, a mind that is depraved, a mind that does not follow and walk in the footsteps of God is hatred against God. Remember the Ten Commandments in Exodus 20:5 where the LORD says He will – **visit the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me.** It's interesting how much Paul draws from the Ten Commandments, when you're paying attention to the language really embedded in the Ten commandments.

Returning to what Paul says in Romans 8:7 – ⁷ **Because the carnal mind** (the mind of flesh) **is enmity against God:** (and then he tells us why) **for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be** (*emphasis added*).

As a believer, you cannot legitimately say, “We don't have to keep the law. The law isn't for us.” That's insane. Only the humble in heart, the ones who have faith and trust in Yeshua, will submit themselves to the heart of God. Or should we say to the law of God, to His love? This is just the reality.



I want to go back to Exodus 20:6 and point out something I think is important. I want to highlight these words: “keep the commandments”. “Keep” in Hebrew is *shamar*, שמר. What does it mean? to

keep watch or protect. Another meaning of *shamar* is guard. The whole concept of *shamar* is to stand guard and to protect as a night watchman standing up all night, protecting the city from threats. It's fascinating to me that embedded within the Ten Commandments, we are told we better stand guard, we better stand ready and protect these commandments. Why? Because the threat of the attack is real. May I say, it's imminent.

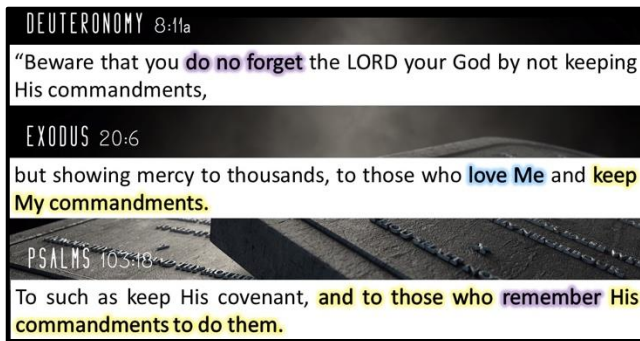
Generation after generation, beginning with the Garden of Eden, you have seen what HaSatan has done. He's gone after the Word of God. He's gone after the commandments of God. There is nothing new under the sun. He keeps running the same game. It's unbelievable and you know what? It works. Unfortunately, the devil has been all too successful in his campaign of convincing believers, not the world, but believers that they don't need to keep the commandments; they're not important; the idea of conceptual faith is all that matters.

Let me build on this and read Psalm 103:17 – **17 But the mercy of the LORD** – This is what we're talking about in Exodus 20 – **is from everlasting to everlasting** – thousand generations – **on those who fear Him, And His righteousness to children's children** – then the psalmist adds only a specific group – **To such as keep His covenant, and to those who remember His commandments to do them** (*emphasis added*).

This is fascinating. We just read in Exodus 20 that the word “keep” was *shamar*, שמר. Now, we have the exact same passage reiterated by the psalmist and yet he doesn't use *shamar*, he uses *zakar*, זכר which means “remember”.

A little side note: look at Exodus 20 that's exactly what God does with the Shabbat. It begins with the word *zakar*, remember. You're to remember the Sabbath. But then in the Deuteronomy 5 reiteration of the Ten Commandments, it says *shamar*, keep guard or protect. There's a story going on here. The psalmist, instead of using *shamar*, he uses *zakar*, remember. Why does he do that? Because the threat of forgetting them is real.

It's interesting. The Torah talks about how Israel would forget God when the blessings became abundant, when they began to grow obese, and when they were so blessed. It's interesting how the things of the world can creep in and suddenly you find yourself spending less time with the Lord, less time in prayer, less time in the Word, and less time praying and praising in your car because now the cares and the concerns of the world are taking over. That is the situation where the Lord warns us we are forgetting Him.



In fact, Deuteronomy 8:11 is literally what I'm thinking of – ¹¹ **Beware that you do not forget the LORD your God by not keeping His commandments ...** (*emphasis added*). If you are not keeping His commandments, don't think for a moment you have remembered the Lord or that the Lord is in first place in your world. You've elevated some other idol. Something else in your heart has risen higher. It's a scary thing.

Now, let's take this conversation to another level. Exodus 20:6 says – ⁶ **but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments** (*emphasis added*). Reading from the New Testament, John 14:15, Yeshua says – ¹⁵ **“If you love Me, keep My commandments”** (*emphasis added*). Let that statement sink in for a second because Yeshua is quoting directly from the Ten Commandments.

But how He quotes it, is where the mind becomes blown. Notice, He doesn't quote it the way all the apostles quote scripture. The New Testament is riddled with one quote after another where the apostles grab from the Tanakh, but when Yeshua quotes this in the New Testament, He does it in the first person and in the possessive; He takes ownership. That is mind-blowing.

In Exodus 20, we know it says, **“If you love Me, keep My commandments.”** Yeshua comes on the scene and makes the same statement, **“If you love Me, keep My commandments”** in the possessive. I'm telling you right now, you cannot say this in the context which He said it, unless you're God. You cannot do it. This is an awesome thing! Talk about directly connecting to the Ten Commandments! Everything we're discussing here is not Old Covenant stuff which disappears as you get into the New Covenant. No, this is very New Covenant and Yeshua made sure you would know it, as He comes on the scene and quotes Exodus 20 in the possessive.

That's why it's so cool when you read in John 7:46, how the chief priests and Pharisees sent officers to take Yeshua into custody. They came back empty-handed. The chief priests and Pharisees asked the officers why they didn't bring Him. Their answer was – ⁴⁶ **“No man ever spoke like this Man!”**

In the gospel of Matthew 7:28-29 – ²⁸ **... the people were astonished at His teaching, ²⁹for He taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes.** Pure authority! That's this statement: John 14:15 – ¹⁵ **“If you love Me, keep My commandments”**.

In the gospel of John, John is enamored with the whole concept of who Yeshua is and His deistic nature. His whole gospel is filled with all these quotes about it. I would argue John is consumed with the idea.

In John 14:16, Yeshua reveals the blessing, honor, and benefits of loving Him by keeping His commandments. If we love Him, we love the Father. This is what He says – ¹⁶ **And I will pray the Father,** – What did we just read in verse 15 – ¹⁵ **If you love Me, keep My commandments.** If you keep His commandments, something interesting happens: Yeshua moves as the intercessor, the mediator between God and man, and He will pray to the Father.

John 14:16 –¹⁶ **And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper,** – as in the Rauch HaKodesh – **that He may abide with you forever.**

We are getting a clearer picture as to why the enemy would disrupt this whole concept of us fearing God, keeping His commandments, and putting all our emphasis, focus and meditation on His Law. It is because he knows the LORD is going to send His Holy Spirit.

I love the way Yeshua articulates it. Yeshua states what's going to happen when the Spirit comes. He says in the plural, –²³ **...We will come to him and make Our home with him** – as in the Father and the Son. My Father and I will come and make Our home with him. This is through the expression of the Holy Spirit. That's called intimacy. That's called relationship. The devil does not want you that close to God. The devil does not want God dwelling in you. So, he's doing everything he can to break this whole concept of you fearing God and keeping His commandments.

Acts 5:32 tells us the same thing –³² **And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him** (*emphasis added*).” How do we miss “to those who obey Him”? There are some who don't want to believe it.

Look at John 15:10 –¹⁰ **If you keep My commandments, you will abide in my love** (*emphasis added*). What is our radical obedience? We should as believers in Christ, have a radical obsession with His Torah, and with His commandments, because we want to abide in His love. Again, I reiterate, what are the commandments all about? Love. The topic is love!

Backing up to John 15:7 –⁷ **If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you,** – How does Yeshua abide in us? He already told us: If we keep His commandments, then He will abide in us. He will send His Spirit. Then obviously, if His Spirit comes, His Word is abiding in us and look at the benefit – **you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you** (*emphasis added*).

Are you understanding why the devil does not want you to keep the commandments? You are going to tap into the power of the living God. You will have access to the throne room. But the devil wants you powerless. He wants you to be weak and broken. He wants you wallowing in deception, curled up in a ball in a corner in fear. I kid you not, if you're going to walk in disobedience and rebellion; you will be one of those who are weak and powerless, in the corner sucking your thumb, terrified about the things that are coming upon the earth, terrified by every little thing because you do not have the power of God in you. This is what we need.

I want to be able to know when I hit the deck on my knees, I will ask, and it will be done. Now granted, this is not a fleshly wish list. That's not what's being discussed here. This is talking about a true and authentic communicative line between you and the throne room, between you and Yeshua. There is immense power in that.

When you start going through this systematically and you will start thinking: “We have lost our minds; Christianity has completely missed it; they don't know what is happening to them; they're laying down their weapons.” This is the benefit of being radical in obedience.

John picks this up in 1 John 3:22 where he reiterates Yeshua's words – ²² **And whatever we ask we receive from Him because we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in his sight** (*emphasis added*). It's time to get radical. How many of you would like to pray in power? How many of you would like your prayers answered? Pay attention to what is being said here. If you feel disconnected from God, it's time to examine yourself.

John 8:31-32 – ³¹ **Then Yeshua said to those Jews who believed Him, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed.** – Here's the payoff – ³² **And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free** (*emphasis added*).

You want to walk in freedom? You want to walk in a wise place? You want to walk in liberty? How is it that the devil has convinced so many that true liberty and freedom is to abandon the law? That the law has nothing to do with liberty or bondage. That belief renders us totally powerless.

In this passage, John 8:32, look at what happens when you give your whole heart, your soul, your strength to the Lord. The power of this is so awesome! You walk in holiness; you walk in honor; and **you will know the truth**. Truth is one thing the devil does not want you to have. He can turn your world completely upside down and inside out. He can put a carrot in front of your face and slap on a sticker that says, “Jesus” and you will think you're following Jesus. I kid you not, this is the deception, if you are not rooted in God's Holy Word.

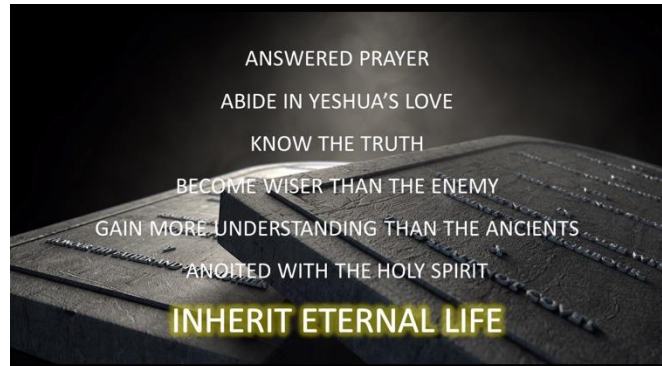
Listen to the psalmist, Psalm 119:97-100 – ⁹⁷ **Oh, how I love your law!** – How do righteous men of God, who spoke through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, speak of God's law? Love. Pay attention – ⁹⁷ **“Oh, how I love your law!”** – Now, check this out – **It is my meditation all the day.** ⁹⁸ **You through your commandments, make me wiser than my enemies; for they are ever with me** (*emphasis added*).

Through the Lord's commandments, we become wiser than our enemies. That means the devil loses ground on you. When you become wiser than the enemy, you gain the upper hand. You gain the advantage. No longer is the enemy able to manipulate and control you and feed you lie after lie, as you curl up in a ball and wallow in insecurity, fear, and unholy sorrow. That ends when you begin to love the Lord with all your heart and begin to love His Word.

Continuing with verse 99 – ⁹⁹ **I have more understanding than all my teachers,** – How do I get that kind of wisdom? – **for Your testimonies are my meditation.** – “testimonies” is an explicit reference to the Ten Commandments. Because Your Ten Commandments are my meditation, I understand more than the teachers. – ¹⁰⁰ **I understand more than the ancients,** – why? – **because I keep your precepts** (*emphasis added*). I do them. I'm not a hearer of the Word only, I'm a doer. When that happens, wisdom and understanding beyond the teachers, beyond the ancients happens. I ask you, “What is your desire? Do you want worldly wisdom, or do you want godly wisdom? I want godly wisdom. This is the heartbeat.

We could go on, as we're just touching the surface of this reality, but let's look at some of the things we have just covered. The benefits of keeping and being radically observant of the commandments of the Lord:

Answered Prayer
Abide in Yeshua's Love
Know the Truth
Become Wiser Than the Enemy
Gain More Understanding Than the Ancients
Anointed With the Holy Spirit



You will have a relationship with the living God that couldn't be closer because the Spirit of God will dwell within you. I could add to this list easily, but is this at all something you're interested in? If you want to walk in a whole new way and have an awesome profound relationship with the Lord, you might want to consider getting back to His commandments and – **talk of them when you sit in the house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up** (Deuteronomy 6:7).

There is one more benefit that might be helpful: Inherit Eternal Life. Does inheriting eternal life matter to you? Is it important to you? It's important to me. Now, you might say Daniel, "I don't remember covering that." Let's cover it right now.

Matthew 19:16 -17 – **16 Now behold, one came and said to Him, "Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?"** Notice: "what good thing shall I do". He's talking about what good work do I need to perform to inherit eternal life. Does Yeshua respond, "You legalistic pharisaical adult, do you not understand? Look at yourself, you're trying to earn your own salvation. You can't earn your salvation. You can't work your way into heaven."? Yeshua does not respond this way. This guy asked the million-dollar question: "How do I inherit eternal life?"

This is Yeshua's response – **17 So He said to him, "Why do you call Me good? No one is good but One, that is, God. But if you want to enter into life, keep the commandments** (*emphasis added*). That's it. Yeshua brings it.

Why aren't we responding this way today, as people ask the very question, "What must I do to be saved?" Obviously, this is not apart from faith in Christ. That's why He says in John 14:15 – **15 "If you love Me, keep My commandments."** Again, it's the structure of the faith. These are the ones; the dragon goes after at the end of the age: **those who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Yeshua** (Revelation 12:18). Repeatedly, we are confronted with this reality.

I've had many run-ins with various people over the years, but a couple years ago, I had a guy look me square in the eye and tell me, "Jesus did away with the Ten Commandments. You've put yourself under the law and you've rejected grace."

My response wasn't extremely lengthy; I tried to keep it brief; it wasn't a series, I promise. But one of the scriptures I responded with was, "Why does Jesus tell me if I want to inherit eternal life to keep the commandments?" His response was one I've gotten before: "Well, Daniel, there's your problem. Jesus

was speaking to the Jews. You must go further into the New Testament to the writings of Paul, where Paul is speaking to us Christians.”

Here's the deal: when you've come to a place where you flat out reject the teachings of Jesus, and you say they don't apply to me, you have rejected Christ. You've rejected the true Jesus and you've created another Jesus, a false Jesus, a Jesus Barabbas that you want to follow - one that doesn't have law. Absolutely demonic. The devil never stops with this perversion and this corruption. It's incessant and irritating!

Now, Yeshua says we are to keep the commandments, but that's not the end of the discussion. Matthew 19:18 – ¹⁸ **And he said to Him, “Which ones?” Yeshua said, ‘You shall not murder’,** (the sixth commandment) **‘You shall not commit adultery,’** (seventh) **‘You shall not steal’,** (eighth) **‘You shall not bear false witness’,** (ninth). He continues and goes through several other of the Ten Commandments. But Yeshua had already summed up these commandments as we find in John 14:15—**If you love Me, keep my commandments.** Yeshua was summing up the very commandments found in Exodus 20 and the obedience to them equates to loving Him.

That just put the weight of eternity and the world on these commandments in my world. They mean everything. The emphasis is on them. They are in the spotlight.

1 John 2:3 – ³ **Now by this we know that we know Him,** – The whole concept of coming into faith is that you want relationship with God. Again, John says – ³ **Now by this we know that we know Him,** – test yourself with the following – **if we keep His commandments** (*emphasis added*).

This is what's so scary! If you're a Christian who throws away the law, the commandments of God, how could you possibly know Him? You don't even know how to know Him because this verse tells you, He is known by His commandments.

Going back to Matthew 15:18 – ¹⁸ **But those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart.** This is who He is. This is His heart, pure and simple.

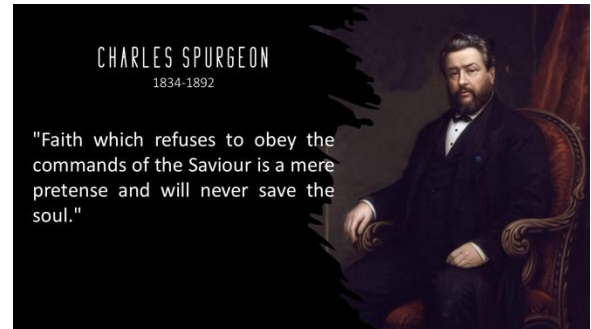
But John doesn't leave it there. He goes on and says – ⁴ **He who says, “I know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar and the truth is not in him** (*emphasis added*). That's the examination. This is how you perform an audit in your world: how are you in doing the commandments of God? Let them speak into your life.

In Luke 6:46, Yeshua says – ⁴⁶ **But why do you call me ‘Lord, Lord’** – Why do you call me Jesus, Jesus – **and not do the things that I say?** See these are the people who are not going to get in.

Matthew 15:8 – ⁸ **These people draw near to Me with their mouth, And honor Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me.** When we talk about the commandments of God, we are talking about what is in your heart. If you're doing them, those commandments are in your heart.

Spurgeon says – Faith which refuses to obey the commands of the Saviour is a mere pretense and will never save the soul.

Where are these preachers today? Unfortunately, that is a very sound and biblical statement, but said today that statement will get you thrown off the pulpit.



In Revelation 2, Yeshua speaks to one of the seven churches, the church at Ephesus. Yeshua opens up beautifully with this church. He's very delicate and tells them that they have persevered; been patient; labored for His name; and tested those who say they're apostles and they're not. The church at Ephesus looks like they are "put together", until you come to verse 4, where we read – **4 Nevertheless I have this against you, that you have left your first love** (*emphasis added*).

There is so much being conveyed here. The church at Ephesus, when they were engaged with the Lord on the front end, a fire burned in their hearts. They had fire in their hearts, and we know what that means: they were radical in their observance.

In Leviticus 6:12, it talks about how the fire is never to go out on the altar. The symbol of that is amazing because the altar is a symbol of relationship. That fire was never to go out and the people were to constantly bring sacrifices. The priests would put the sacrifices on the altar and those sacrifices would keep them in relationship with God. All foreshadowing! All a symbol of Yeshua! But the fire on the altar was not to go out and it went out at the church at Ephesus.

This is when you become complacent. This is when you start praying less and reading the Word doesn't mean anything to you anymore. Your fire has died. Something is radically wrong when you're not praising and thanking the Lord, and when He's not first and foremost in your heart. This is what happened to the church at Ephesus. Their affection for the world took over.

Revelation 2:5 – **5 Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works,** (*emphasis added*) – Somebody should tell Yeshua that works has nothing to do with salvation. Somebody should tell Him because clearly, He's not understanding that.

What does it mean to repent? What is God asking of you when you repent? You are to turn back to Him, meaning you're to obey Him. **How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your Word.** (Psalm 119:9)

If there's something in your life, you have not taken heed to; you are not listening to His Word; and you are walking away from God: repent. A man who repents, turns, and takes heed according to His commandments and begins to walk in those commandments. He does the first works that he did when he fell in love with the Lord and the Lord was in his heart. Repent and do the first works.

Do you want to know how serious Yeshua is about His commandments? Revelation 2:5 – ⁵ **Remember therefore from where you have fallen; repent and do the first works, or else I will come to you quickly and remove your lampstand from its place--unless you repent** (emphasis added). The doctrine of “once saved always saved” is nonsense and a lie from the pit of hell. Let this sink in: you can be joined with the Lord and have the anointing of the Lord, and if you choose to walk away without repenting, without turning back, your lampstand is going to be removed. This is not an empty threat!

So, when the Lord says in Exodus 20:5, He will – ⁵ **... visit the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations**, He will make good on it. Yeshua comes on the scene and doubles down and says that you better believe it. Yeshua, the judge of all the earth, says He will make good on it. You are confronted with two options: you can either believe these words and change the path you're on or you can ignore them and believe the lie that Satan says, “You will surely not die; you're going to be okay.”

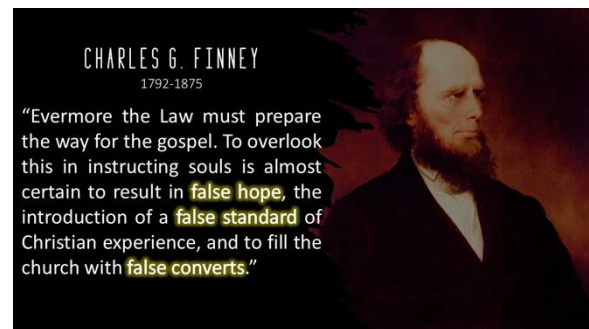
Deuteronomy 5:29 – ²⁹ **Oh, that they had such a heart in them** – God is peering into your heart and looking for something. What is it? – **that they would fear Me and always** – not sometimes – **keep all My commandments that it might be well with them and with their children forever!** (*emphasis added*)!

This is what God wants. This is His love language. Are we speaking His love language? Do you even know what love is? Because Satan has redefined the term. Apparently, the term now means to abandon God's commandments, abandon His law because if you don't, you are rejecting Christ. This is insane, but this is what is being taught.

Going back again, to the 1800s to an evangelist who Spurgeon knew quite well.

Charles Finney is considered the father of American Revivalism. He was one of the most influential men in America. He had this wisdom to share with us.

Evermore the Law must prepare the way for the gospel. To overlook this in instructing souls is almost certain to result in **false hope**, the introduction of a **false standard** of Christian experience, and to fill the church with **false converts** (*emphasis added*).



Like Spurgeon, where did these men from the 1800s go? Again, this will get you radically thrown off the pulpits. This is not seeker sensitive. Isn't it amazing when you go back and look at the real revivalists, they were anti-seeker sensitive. They did not have that mentality. They brought it! When I say they brought it: they didn't bring their wisdom and all the passion and emotion; they brought the Word.

Most people want to go to a revival and be wowed by an awesome orator, which Spurgeon was, but Finney was as “dry as a book of Euclid.” But people were radically converted by Finney’s preaching, not because of him, but because he spoke the Word through the power of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit moved in the hearts of men and literally cities were changed, people were repenting, and unholy places were closing.

We will close with this: the chapter of love; 1 Corinthians 13:6 says, –⁶ (Love) **does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth.** If we really know the love of God, we will rejoice in truth.

What does it say in Psalm 119:142? –¹⁴² **...Your law (Your torah) is truth.** You would rejoice in it. You would talk like the psalmist, “Oh, how I love Your law!” That kind of terminology has become anathema to so many believers. The church needs prayer but more so, it needs the Word.