

## The Ten Commandments Part 1

*“17 Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil. 18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. 19 Whosoever therefore shall break one of these least commandments, and shall teach men so, he shall be called the least in the kingdom of heaven: but whosoever shall do and teach them, the same shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. 20 For I say unto you, That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 5:17-20 KJV)*

The ten commandments that God gave to Moses was for the people and even for us today to know what God wants us to do and to know our limits and the boundaries that we should not cross. God spoke those commands to the Israelites in an audible voice, that all of them who left Egypt heard those commandments that God gave, *“I And Moses called all Israel, and said unto them, Hear, O Israel, the statutes and judgments which I speak in your ears this day, that ye may learn them, and keep, and do them. 2 The LORD our God made a covenant with us in Horeb. 3 The LORD made not this covenant with our fathers, but with us, even us, who are all of us here alive this day. 4 The LORD talked with you face to face in the mount out of the midst of the fire, 5 (I stood between the LORD and you at that time, to shew you the word of the LORD: for ye were afraid by reason of the fire, and went not up into the mount;) saying,” (Deuteronomy 5:1-5 KJV)* The following are the ten commandments:

1. *“6 I am the LORD thy God, which brought thee out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage. 7 Thou shalt have none other gods before me.” (Deuteronomy 5:6-7 KJV)* God does not want any god before Him that we worship and serve. All the other gods are demons and works of Satan. The LORD God is the one who created us, the one who redeemed us by His blood that He shed on the cross for our sins, the one who saved us and delivered us from Satan and all the power of darkness. *“6 Thus saith the LORD the King of Israel, and his redeemer the LORD of hosts; I am the first, and I am the last; and beside me there is no God.” (Isaiah 44:6 KJV)* **Apart from the LORD God there is no God. The time now had come to you, if you worship other god you need to leave that religion and come to the true God, God the Father of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.**

2. *“8 Thou shalt not make thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the waters beneath the earth: 9 Thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me, 10 And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me and keep my commandments.” (Deuteronomy 5:8-10 KJV)* There should be no graven image or any idol in our lives of anything or of any form in Heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the waters beneath the earth. Our God is a jealous God; He does not want us to make graven images and worship them. He does not want us to worship and serve any idol. He does not want us to bow down to worship nor to serve saints, nor to worship and serve holy men and holy women, nor animals, nor moon, nor sun, nor stars, etc. He is the Creator, we should worship Him not the created things. **Worshipping idols bring curses into your lives,**

because it is considered hatred toward God, and that curse will go into three and four generations. But when we love God by worshipping Him and serve Him, His mercy will flow into our lives.

3. *“11 Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain: for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.” (Deuteronomy 5:11 KJV)* **We should not use God’s name in swearing and bring Him a witness as a mean to cover our own agenda and to do our own desires and plans. Many they use the name of God to cover evil things, or to do their own agenda, but God cannot be mocked, everything is clear to Him and He would expose all our wrong doings and return them back over our own heads, “12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. 13 Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.” (Hebrews 4:12-13 KJV)**

4. *“12 Keep the sabbath day to sanctify it, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee. 13 Six days thou shalt labour, and do all thy work: 14 But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, nor thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thine ox, nor thine ass, nor any of thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates; that thy manservant and thy maidservant may rest as well as thou. 15 And remember that thou wast a servant in the land of Egypt, and that the LORD thy God brought thee out thence through a mighty hand and by a stretched out arm: therefore the LORD thy God commanded thee to keep the sabbath day.” (Deuteronomy 5:12-15 KJV)* **The sabbath is the day in the week that we are called to worship God, to attend the church and to serve the Lord. This day should not be used to sleep the whole day, to have overtime or to do other work other than worshipping God and serving Him. During the sabbath day we receive the Word of God that help us to endure and persevere the days of the coming week, for the Word of God gives us direction and strength to go on in life.** God told them to work six days and to do their best to finish all their works over six days, and in the seventh day they will rest to worship God and serve Him. Not only they, but even their sons and daughters, those servants with them and even their cattle, and the strangers with them, that every one of them may have enough physical rest that lead him or lead her to be refreshed, revived, and rejuvenated in order to be fresh ready for the next week.

From the beginning God had put the ordinances of the sabbath, *“1 Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. 2 And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. 3 And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.” (Genesis 2:1-3 KJV)* But God implemented the rule of the sabbath on His people when He delivered them out of Egypt and freed them from slavery and were set free, that they can have power on themselves to keep the sabbath day holy and to observe it. **Now the application of that for us as followers in Christ, that we who are scattered in various places in the world, we might not be able to keep the sabbath because of our works and other rules that we are under from the governments that are over us, in such a case we may choose any other day that we can rest, worship God and serve Him. And if one whole day not available we may need to free ourselves in parts of**

few days to keep a whole 24 hours to give rest for our physical bodies and to worship God and serve Him.

As Christ rose from the death on the first day of the week, then commemorating the resurrection of Christ on the first day of the week, the first day of the week became the day of worship for the followers of Christ and His church and to do the ordinances and the ministries of Christ as the following Scriptures indicate that, **“7 And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.” (Acts 20:7 KJV)** **“1 Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. 2 Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.” (1 Corinthians 16:1-2 KJV)** But again, if for some the first day of the week is not suitable, then they can take any other day of the week and consider it their sabbath or the day of worship.

**5. “16 Honour thy father and thy mother, as the LORD thy God hath commanded thee; that thy days may be prolonged, and that it may go well with thee, in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.” (Deuteronomy 5:16 KJV)** God Commanded us to honor our parents; that are to show our faithfulness to those who loved us and cared for us. As we bless them God would bless us more. Almost all over the world, people celebrate Fathers Day and Mothers Day on different occasions each year with lots of highlights and activities to honor fathers particularly on Father’s Day and to honor mothers particularly on Mother’s Day. The world around celebrates Father’s day or Mother’s day to honor them yet they actually do not know how to truly give honor and respect to their parents in their everyday life. **\* We do not celebrate Father’s Day or Mother’s Day as special days and keep such as idols as others in the world do.** But we do honor our father and mother everyday and not just on a particular occasion. **\* So we do not need to be like the world that celebrates father’s and mother’s day to witness for Christ.** Instead we need to live according to the Word of God and let others see the difference of how we honor and respect our biological and spiritual parents. **\* Let us also live daily as good examples of Godly parents, and let us teach our children how they should honor and obey us so that the promise of God for them will be fulfilled.**

Let us now ask this question: Why God said, **“Honour thy father and thy mother”**? It is because the parents have responsibilities from God that they need to fulfill as they raise and nurture their children. **First**, parents provide the physical needs for their children: It is our responsibility from God as parents to keep our family in a good, sheltered home environment. While our children are growing we are to provide them proper food, clothes, accommodation, and education. **“8 But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.” (1 Timothy 5:8 KJV)** **Second**, parents instruct their children with the Word of God: It is our responsibility from God as parents to teach our family the Word of God and raise our children in the fear of the Lord. **\* We are responsible to instruct, bring up, and train up our children in the way of the Lord. \* The main reason that God said, “Honour thy father and mother”, is because God gave the parents the responsibility to teach their children the Word of God. \* Thus, we, parents deserve honor and respect from our children when we teach them and discipline them with the Word of God. Third**, parents direct their children in the ways of the Lord: **“4**

**And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.” (Ephesians 6:4 KJV)** We are parents who fear the Lord and we are the pastors for our children. The way we give Biblical instructions, direction and advices to our children shall continue up to their preparation for marriage and until they have Godly families of their own. As parents we are blessed if we see our children following our steps of faith. However, God commanded the children not to follow the ways of their parents if parents do not follow the ways of the Lord: **“18 But I said unto their children in the wilderness, Walk ye not in the statutes of your fathers, neither observe their judgments, nor defile yourselves with their idols:” (Ezekiel 20:18 KJV)** The world celebrates Father’s Day or Mother’s Day to honor parents, but parents who do not follow God’s Word are not worthy to be honored by their children. To honor means to obey, to keep, to stick to, or show mark of respect. **\* Parents and elder people are always to be respected, but not all are worthy to be honored. \* We should not follow their ways, principles, practices and traditions if these are contrary to God’s Word. \* We teach all children to show respect to their parents and to help them with their physical needs, but not to follow their ways and honor their tradition when it contradicts the Word of God. \* If the parents are ungodly, we advise children not to take their counsel. Rather for any needed advice, they must go to their church leaders who teach and give them the Word of God. \* Moreover, if our parents are still non-believers let us continue to plead with them the Word of God. Forth**, parents to be the spiritual leaders to their children: **The parents who are a model of faith to their children are worthy of double honor. “17 Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine.” (1 Timothy 5:17 KJV) \* Parents who fear God and who follow God’s ways are the model leaders for the children to follow, and they are due to receive honor, respect and submission. \* Parents and spiritual leaders who are Godly in their lives and are well-versed with God’s instructions, they are the fit spiritual advisors for their children and children’s children. \* Similarly, in our walk with God there could be people whom the Lord has used, maybe an elder brother or sister in the faith or a church leader, to become our spiritual parent or mentor. “7 Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation.” (Hebrews 13:7 KJV)** We are admonished not to forget or neglect our spiritual parents and leaders. **“17 Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.” (Hebrews 13:17 KJV)** God has appointed spiritual fathers, mothers or parents for us in the church to teach us, counsel us, and exhort us with the Word of God. If we obey the teaching that we receive from them we will do well and things will go well with us, and we will enjoy life to the full as God has promised, **“1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. 2 Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise; 3 That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.” (Ephesians 6:1-3 KJV)**

The church is called to respect and honor the elders of the church. In the life of the early church, Apostle Paul had struggle with the churches that he planted when he was collecting alms to send to the saints in Jerusalem. **“1 Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. 2 Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come. 3 And when I come,**

*whomsoever ye shall approve by your letters, them will I send to bring your liberality unto Jerusalem. 4 And if it be meet that I go also, they shall go with me.” (1 Corinthians 16:1-4 KJV)* And who were those saints? They were the apostles and disciples of the Lord who laid the foundation of the early church. When the church was persecuted in Jerusalem, the believers were scattered, and the apostles suffered from famine. At that instance Paul was insisting for their rights in the churches that he planted. He was gearing them to collect for the saints in Jerusalem, urging their responsibility toward the church and toward the spiritual fathers and leaders who preached to them their faith and who cared spiritually for them and the early believers.

Today, we are also responsible to care for our spiritual leaders who are aged. We are called to aid them physically in their old age, in their weakness and sicknesses, in providing for their basic needs-food, shelter, nursing and medicine. This represents an act of gratitude toward God who sent people to care for us and lead us in the way of righteousness. *“1 For as touching the ministering to the saints, it is superfluous for me to write to you: 2 For I know the forwardness of your mind, for which I boast of you to them of Macedonia, that Achaia was ready a year ago; and your zeal hath provoked very many. 3 Yet have I sent the brethren, lest our boasting of you should be in vain in this behalf; that, as I said, ye may be ready: 4 Lest haply if they of Macedonia come with me, and find you unprepared, we (that we say not, ye) should be ashamed in this same confident boasting. 5 Therefore I thought it necessary to exhort the brethren, that they would go before unto you, and make up beforehand your bounty, whereof ye had notice before, that the same might be ready, as a matter of bounty, and not as of covetousness.” (2 Corinthians 9:1-5 KJV)* \* Respect is due for all parents and elders. But the parents and church leaders who teach and practice the Word of God are due for double honor. \* Let us consider their ways and the outcome of their lives. Let us imitate them and always remember their counsel. \* Let us not neglect to help them when they are old and in times that they are in need of our assistance. For without them who fed us, who clothed us, who sheltered us, who led us and taught us with the Word of God, our faith and service to the Lord would not have come this far.

**My dear and beloved:** You may ask then what was the purpose of the law? The law was put in charge to lead us to Christ. Believing in Jesus does not mean to leave the commands of God and to sin, but to obey them and to live a righteous life, as it was made clear to us here that the ten commandment are still valid and need to be followed and lived as a way of life. Let us pray . . . .

**My prayer:** *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your Word that made things clear to me, and taught me how to live my life for you and how to worship you. Lord thank you for all your material and spiritual blessings that you had given to me. Lord thank you for all the corrections, the rebukes and the admonishments we received in this message.*

*Now repent and renounce all your sins. Renounce your old religion with all its practices. Repent of all your idols worship, and the wrong things that you are doing that contradict the Word of God. Repent and throw away all the graven images that you have with you. Repent of your lack of the fear in God. Renounce your worldliness and your love of money. Renounce your using the name of God in vain to push your*

*own purpose. Repent of breaking the sabbath, the day of worship. Repent of non honoring your father and mother who cared for you and taught you the Word of God. Repent of non honoring your spiritual parents who taught you the Word of God. Repent of your selfishness, doing your own will, lack of commitment and non willingness to give to God your time, your effort and your material things. Repent from wasting your time and spoiling your mind with the Media. Repent of your lack of reading God’s Word in the Bible and your lack of prayer. Lord forgive me, I repent from the following \_\_\_\_\_.*

*Lord I commit myself to follow your Word and what we had received in this message. Lord, I surrender my life and my will to you. Lord I am willing to do your plan, your will and the works that you prepared for me to do. Lord guide me with your Word to live a holy life for your name to be glorified. Lord continue to sustain me, give me strength, good health, and provide for me to continue to serve you and to be good testimony to others to follow you and to do your will.*

*Lord thank you for my brethren and my sisters who repented of their sins and came back to you willing to follow your Word and abide with the teaching we received in this message. Lord answer their prayers, protect them from the evil one, and provide for them so that they will continue to live for you, serving you and setting good examples to others to follow you.*

*Lord we pray for us as a church that we will continue to teach your Word and to proclaim your ways to our families and to the rest of our workers and members. Lord refill us once again with the Holy Spirit, and lead us and enable us to reach new people, making new disciples and training new workers, and to plant new Bible studies and congregations for the church. Lord we pray for more people to be water baptized and more disciples to be baptized with the Holy Spirit. Lord fulfill the vision of the church, ‘Multiplication in peace with implementing the whole will of God.’ Lord take the message and spread it to reach the rest of the church congregations, workers, members and the lost souls. Lord prepare us for your coming to go with you when you come. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.*

Dr. Ramiz Khalaf  
The Church Overseer  
Church of God  
United Arab Emirates  
Email: [thebread1@gmail.com](mailto:thebread1@gmail.com)  
Mobile Tel #: 00971551902647

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