

Welcome to Promise Land Bible Church
We're glad you're here!



An open Bible is shown from a low angle, looking up at the pages. The pages are filled with text, but it is out of focus. The background is a bright blue sky with some light clouds. The text is centered on the pages.

The Commandments
Scripture text: **Exodus 20**

The Ten Commandments Today

All of the OT Law is but an amplification and application of the Ten Commandments.

Nine of the Ten Commandments are repeated in the NT for believers today:

Exodus 20:3 "You shall have no other gods before me.

1. Have no other gods before Me (Acts 14:15; John 4:21–23; 1 Tim. 2:5; James 2:19; 1 Cor. 8:6).

Act 14:11-15 And when the crowds saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in Lycaonian, "**The gods have come down to us in the likeness of men!**" Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. And the priest of Zeus, whose temple was at the entrance to the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates and wanted to offer sacrifice with the crowds. But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their garments and rushed out into the crowd, crying out, "**Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men, of like nature with you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these vain things to a living God**, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them.

John 4:19-24 The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship." Jesus said to her, **"Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."**

1 Timothy 2:1-6 First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, **who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.** For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

James 2:14-19 What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? **So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.** But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. **You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe--and shudder!**

1 Corinthians 8:2-6 If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. But **if anyone loves God, he is known by God.** Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "an idol has no real existence," and that "**there is no God but one.**" For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth--as indeed there are many "gods" and many "lords"-- yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

Exodus 20:4 "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

2. Make no idols or images (Acts 17:29; Rom. 1:22–23; 1 John 5:21; 1 Cor. 10:7, 14).

Act 17:29-30 Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent,

Romans 1:21-25 For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and **their foolish hearts were darkened.** Claiming to be wise, **they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.**

Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, **because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever! Amen.**

1 John 5:17-21 All wrongdoing is sin, but there is sin that does not lead to death. We know that everyone who has been born of God does not keep on sinning, but he who was born of God protects him, and the evil one does not touch him. We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one. And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, **so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.** Little children, keep yourselves from idols.

1 Corinthians 10:6-11 Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. Now **these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come.**

1 Corinthians 10:12-16 Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it. Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry. I speak as to sensible people; judge for yourselves what I say. The cup of blessing that we bless, **is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ?**

Exodus 20:7 "You shall not take the name of the **LORD your God in vain**, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

3. Do not take His name in vain (James 5:12; Matt. 5:33–37 and 6:5–9).

James 5:12 But above all, my brothers, **do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath**, but let your "yes" be yes and your "no" be no, so that you may not fall under **condemnation.**

Matthew 5:33-37 "Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not swear falsely, but **shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.**' But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. And **do not take an oath by your head**, for you cannot make one hair white or black. **Let what you say be simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything more than this comes from evil.**

Matthew 6:5-10 "And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, **that they may be seen by others**. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. "And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. **Do not be like them**, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. Pray then like this: "**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

4. Remember the Sabbath Day.

This is not repeated anywhere in the NT for the church to obey today. Keeping the Sabbath is mentioned in Matt. 12, Mark 2, Luke 6, and John 5; but **these all refer to the people of Israel and not to the church.** Colossians 2 and Rom. 14–15 teach that believers should not judge one another with reference to holy days or Sabbaths. **To say that a person is lost or unspiritual for not keeping the Sabbath is to go beyond the bounds of Scripture.**

Colossians 2:13-17 And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, **God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.** He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him. **Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath.** These are a shadow of the things to come, but **the substance belongs to Christ.**

Romans 14:4-7 Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? **It is before his own master that he stands or falls.** And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand. **One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike.** Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. **For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself.**

5. Honor father and mother (Eph. 6:1–4).

Ephesians 6:1-4 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. "Honor your father and mother" (this is the first commandment with a promise), "that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land." **Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.**

6. Do not murder (1 John 3:15; Matt. 5:21–22).

1 John 3:15 Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

Matthew 5:21-22 "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder;' and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.' **But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment;** whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable to the hell of fire.

7. Do not commit adultery (*Matt. 5:27–28; 1 Cor. 5:1–13, 6:9–20; Heb. 13:4*).

Matthew 5:27-28 "You have heard that it was said, '**You shall not commit adultery.**' But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent **has already committed adultery** with her in his heart.

Hebrews 13:4 Let marriage be held in honor among all, and **let the marriage bed be undefiled**, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous.

1 Corinthians 5:1-2 It is actually reported that there is **sexual immorality** among you, and of a kind that is not tolerated even among pagans, for a man has his father's wife. And you are arrogant! Ought you not rather to mourn? Let him who has done this be removed from among you.

1 Corinthians 5:11-13 But now I am writing to you not to associate with anyone who bears the name of brother if he is guilty of sexual immorality or greed, or is an idolater, reviler, drunkard, or swindler--not even to eat with such a one. For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Is it not those inside the church whom you are to judge? God judges those outside. "**Purge the evil person from among you.**"

1 Corinthians 6:7-11 To have lawsuits at all with one another is already a defeat for you. Why not rather suffer wrong? Why not rather be defrauded? But you yourselves wrong and defraud--even your own brothers! Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? **Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.**

8. Do not steal (*Eph. 4:28; 2 Thes. 3:10–12; James 5:1–4*).

Ephesians 4:28 Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, **doing honest work** with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.

2 Thessalonians 3:10-12 For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: **If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat.** For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ **to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.**

James 5:1-4 Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver have corroded, and their corrosion **will be evidence against you** and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure in the last days. Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and **the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts.**

9. Do not bear false witness (Col. 3:9; Eph. 4:25).

Colossians 3:9 Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices

Ephesians 4:22-25 to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to **be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness. Therefore, **having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.****

10. Do not covet (*Eph. 5:3; Luke 12:15–21*).

Ephesians 5:2-4 And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. But sexual immorality and all impurity or **covetousness must not even be named among you**, as is proper among saints. Let there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving.

Romans 7:7 What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. **For I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, "You shall not covet."**

Luke 12:15-21 And he said to them, "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions."

And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man produced plentifully, and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."

Note these “summaries of the Law” in the NT; not one of them mentions the Sabbath:

Matthew 19:16-20 And behold, a man came up to him, saying, "Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?" And he said to him, "Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only one who is good. **If you would enter life, keep the commandments.**" He said to him, "Which ones?" And Jesus said, "You shall not murder, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother, and, You shall love your neighbor as yourself." The young man said to him, "All these I have kept. What do I still lack?"

Mark 10:17-21 And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.'" And he said to him, "Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth." And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and **come, follow me.**"

Luke 18:18-22 And a ruler asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery, Do not murder, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honor your father and mother.'" And he said, "All these I have kept from my youth." When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "One thing you still lack. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me."

Romans 13:7-11 Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed. Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." **Love does no wrong to a neighbor;** therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. **For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed.**

Of course, the “**New Commandment**” of love is the basic motivation for the Christian today.

John 13:34-35 A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, **you also are to love one another.** By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Romans 13:9-10 For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "**You shall love your neighbor as yourself.**" Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

This love is shed abroad from our hearts by the Spirit (Rom. 5:5), so **that we love God and others**, and therefore **should need no external law to control our lives.**

Romans 5:2-5 Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, **because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.**

James 2:8-13 If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "**You shall love your neighbor as yourself,**" you are doing well. But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. For **he who said, "Do not commit adultery,"** also said, "**Do not murder.**" If you **do not commit adultery but do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law.** So speak and so act as those who are to be judged under the law of liberty. For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. **Mercy triumphs over judgment.**

The old nature knows no law, and the new nature needs no law.

The Sabbath was God's special day for the Jews under the Old Covenant; the Lord's Day is God's special day for the church under the New.

The Sabbath symbolizes salvation by works: six days of labor, then rest; **the Lord's Day symbolizes salvation by grace: first rest, and then the works follow.** The Sabbath, the sacrifices, the dietary laws, the priesthood, and the tabernacle services **were all done away in Christ.**

Exodus 20:18-21 Now when all the people saw the thunder and the flashes of lightning and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking, the people were afraid and trembled, and they stood far off and said to Moses, "**You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, lest we die.**" Moses said to the people, "**Do not fear, for God has come to test you, that the fear of him may be before you, that you may not sin.**" The people stood far off, while Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was.

1 Timothy 1:8-11 Now we know that the law is good, if one uses it lawfully, understanding this, **that the law is not laid down for the just but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who strike their fathers and mothers, for murderers, the sexually immoral, men who practice homosexuality, enslavers, liars, perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound doctrine, in accordance with the gospel of the glory of the blessed God with which I have been entrusted.**