

Pentecost Day – The Ten Commandments – Part 1

In the nineteenth chapter we learned how God prepared Israel for His decent to Mount Sinai. He called Moses up to the mountain and gave him instructions to relay to the children of Israel, which basically laid out the terms for making a national covenant with Israel (that was *conditional*). The terms were simple: IF Israel would obey Him then He would protect them as His treasured nation. They were to be a kingdom of priests so that every individual was to be a light bearer of His truth (Law). While Israel of old failed at this commission, because they broke God's covenant through their perpetual (and unrepentant) disobedience, Jesus made a New Covenant with Israel (and whomsoever will of the other races). Thus, true Christians are now the light bearers for our Heavenly Father, thanks to the precious sacrifice Jesus Christ made for us at calvary and the Gift of the Holy Spirit that was given after His great sacrifice.

So, Moses then went back down the mountain and conveyed this information to the elders of Israel (who were representatives of Israel delegated to speak for all of Israel). The elders agreed to obey the national covenant and so, Moses went back up the mountain to convey this information to God (YHVH). We must remember *this covenant was not forced upon Israel*; they agreed to it *by their own free will*. After God heard Israel had agreed, He then told Moses He was going to appear to him in front of all of Israel and it would be in a way that would put fear and respect into the hearts of Israel. God wanted Israel to believe that Moses was His delegated leader for them. God then commanded Moses to go back down the mountain and sanctify the people (they were to wash up and get ready for God) and put boundary lines around the mountain so no one touched the mountain, because death was the punishment for doing so. This is symbolic of the three and a half days Jesus was in the tomb (sanctifying the people by preaching to those in prison – 1 Pt 3:19-20) as well as the three and a half days before the two witnesses (who will be killed) to rise again; the elect who are left on earth will have three and a half days left in the flesh earth age to preach the gospel and call people to repent (spiritually clean up before Jesus returns) (Rev 11).

When Pentecost day came, God came down to the mountain (in the morning) and there were thunders, lightnings, a thick cloud on the mountain and then a voice of the trumpet blew really loud and kept getting louder. This was Moses' cue to go up and speak with God Almighty. When up there, God told Moses to again charge the people (make sure they understood) not to break through the barriers Moses had put up. We also learned that, although there were barriers during the first Pentecost, Jesus Christ broke down the barriers through His life, death and resurrection in the flesh. We now can pray to God anywhere and anytime we want and, as long it is done in the name of and sincere belief in Jesus Christ, our prayers will be heard by God. So, God came down from heaven to Mount Sinai to give Israel the Law. We also learned, from the great book of Deuteronomy, that He was not alone; many of God's angels (servants) came down with Him and they were all in many flying vehicles that caused an immense amount of light, clouds and thundering on the mountain. So much so that the mountain quaked greatly and scared even Moses! We'll see in this next chapter *why* He gave such a 'show' of power...

Ex 20

*I And God spake **all these words**, saying,*

We should never forget that this was a literal appearance by God Himself (YHVH). He literally came down to the Mount Sinai and He literally spoke these words to Israel. And He gave them to Israel because they were to be His servant nation (Isa 41:8-10, 43:10, 44:22, Jer 30:10) by executing righteousness throughout the earth. God's Laws is what would give Israel *wisdom and understanding in the sight of the nations* and make the other nations say, *surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people* (Deut 4:6). But that was only when Israel obeyed His Laws. Much of the time, they didn't obey Him. Therefore, He sent His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ (John 3:16), to teach Israel in a way that wasn't so 'scary'. As Hebrews puts it...

God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds...

Heb 1:1-2

And Jesus did speak all of God's Words to Israel...

I do nothing of myself; but as my Father hath taught me, I speak these things.

John 8:28

So, both the Old Testament and the New Testament are literally the words of our God (YHVH) and His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. **All** nations should therefore take heed to God's Word, including the Law, for Jesus didn't do away with the Law (Mth 5); *He only changed the way we communicate with God* because He fulfilled the blood sacrifices once and for all (Heb 10:10). Thus, the way we find forgiveness, the way we worship God and the way we learn how to obey Him (with the Law still as our guide) has been changed by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ and the gift of His Holy Spirit (John 4:24, Gal 5, Rom 8). God wants our sincere love (Hosea 6:6) and a large part of our love for Him is shown by honestly communicating with Him in our spirit (mind and heart), as well as being willing to clean our heart and strive to obey Him.

Exodus 20

2 I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

God now uses His Sacred Name, which is translated as LORD (and sometimes as Jehovah) but is truly *Yehovah* (pronounced: yeh-ho-vaw') because there is no "J" in the Hebrew alphabet. As we've learned previously, Yehovah is #3068 in the Hebrew and it means: *(the) self-Existent or Eternal*. His name means this because our Heavenly Father is *the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last* (Rev 22:13); meaning, He's always existed and He always will. His name can also be shortened to YHVH to refer to God Almighty because of the etymology of His name [<https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/946>]. YHVH is our Heavenly Father

because He created all the souls in existence, even Satan's soul (Ezek 28). Because our Heavenly Father is self-existent and eternal, *and we are not, we depend on Him for our life, both in the flesh and spiritually*. And while our flesh body will die (Ecc 12:6-7, 2 Cor 5) our spirit returns to the Heavenly (spiritual) dimension where our Heavenly Father and all His other children (called angels when they are in that realm) reside. The purpose of this flesh life, remember, is to help bring God's children back to Him. Since Satan rebelled and deceived 1/3 of God's children into following him in the first earth age (Rev 12:4), [<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/192?single>], God created this flesh earth age specifically [<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/190?single>] so all His children could be born into a flesh body (without our former memory of the first earth age) and learn what the consequences of sin (rebellion) is: death. Our spiritual body does not get sick or die like the flesh body does but our soul will die spiritually without spiritual nourishment from our Heavenly Father. In other words, we depend on YHVH (God Almighty) for our entire existence, both in the flesh body and in our spiritual body. We cannot live forever, even in a spiritual body, without spiritual food and protection from our Creator, YHVH. This is something those who rebelled with Satan don't understand because they were lied to by Satan, who told them they could live forever without our Heavenly Father. It's the same old lie that Satan told to Eve that is still around today. Most recently, it's manifested in the deceptive form of technology, for many are working to make 'artificial intelligence' (AI) into 'conscience' beings. Their goal, of course, is to make their own gods that will replace the need for our Heavenly Father. Although AI is presented as a new thing, it's fundamentally no different than the lie given to Eve (Gen 3) or to those who participated in the tower of Babel (Gen 11).

So, our Heavenly Father uses His Sacred Name (Yehovah, or YHVH shortened) to begin His presentation of the Ten Commandments to Israel. And He does so to state His authority for commanding Israel obey His Laws. He freed them from Egypt bondage. This means He bought them from slavery. He therefore has the right to command that they obey Him. They cried out to Him for help for many years (Ex 2:24, 3:7) and He delivered them from their great afflictions. But in order to truly free them from physical bondage, they must receive and obey His commandments because we cannot truly be free unless we are mentally (spiritually) free from sin's deceptive hold. This is because *the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord* (Rom 6:23). This then is why Jesus said *to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free* (John 8:31-32). Physical freedom cannot be obtained (or kept) without spiritual freedom and spiritual freedom cannot be obtained (or kept) without truth. And God's Word is truth; it's what spiritually cleans us, nourishes us and gives us the ability to live forever (John 17:18). So, this is why God starts out by giving His name and reminding Israel that He brought them out of Egyptian bondage (Deut 32:6). He is simply reminding them that He is to be their (one and only) God now because He bought them by the many miracles and works that He did to the Egyptians to free Israel. And this looked forward to how He would literally purchase Israel with the blood of His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. And, since Jesus is God incarnated (John 1:1, 14) this means that God Himself would literally purchase Israel (and the world, Mth 13:44) *with His very own blood*.

Now, before we begin the Ten Commandments, it should be pointed out that they are divided into two sections. While some ‘scholars’ divide them into the first four being spiritual (dealing with God) and the last six being civil, their structure indicates otherwise. The first five commandments are all linked together with the words “the Lord thy God” while the last five commandments are all linked together with the word “Thou”. This tells us that the first five commandments are spiritual (they apply to our relationship with our Heavenly Father) while the last five are civil (they apply to our relationship with our fellow mankind). Jesus summed up these two commandments really well...

*35 Then one of them, which was a lawyer, asked him a question, tempting him, and saying,
36 Master, which is the great commandment in the law?
37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. [Note that Jesus separated our heart, soul and mind, which tells us they are not the same; we’ll discuss this further on in this study]
38 This is the first and great commandment.
39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.
40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.*
Matt 22:35-40

Jesus later expounded the ‘second’ commandment to commanding us to love each other as He loves us (John 13:34). But here in Matthew, Jesus perfectly summarizes the Ten Commandments. We should remember that the Ten Commandments are the basic, fundamental Laws of God. They are the *foundational guidelines* for all that we do. They are not to be confined to the way we think, speak or behave only in Church but *they are to guide our every thought* (2 Cor 10:5), word and action no matter where we are. This is why Ps 119:96 says that His commandments are “exceeding broad”. God’s Law guides us (Ps 119:105) in every aspect of our life; that’s what it’s given for. It cannot, however, ever make us perfect enough to live on our own (James 2:10). We always need our Heavenly Father’s grace and mercy. This is why Jesus shed His precious blood for us. He died because none of us could fulfil God’s Law perfectly (the book of **Romans** outlines this extremely well - https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Romans). And because Jesus died for us, He gave us His Holy Spirit *to help us learn how to keep His Laws* – He did not ‘do away with’ His Laws (Mth 5). This is why John 1:17 declares that *the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ*. This is also why the Proverbs declare that: *By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the LORD men depart from evil* (Prov 16:6). Did you catch that? By mercy (Jesus Christ) and truth (God’s Law) iniquity (sin) is purged. **That’s the entire point of God’s plan of Salvation** through this earth age and the Millennium: to purge our iniquity: to save His children from spiritual death.

So, we must clearly understand that Jesus didn’t do away with God’s Laws, but He came to help us understand how to obey them (Gal 5) and establish new means of communicating with God (through instant prayer [1 Thes 5:17], not to ritualistic blood sacrifices). Therefore, it is extremely important for us to understand God’s Ten Commandments because they are the foundation for His entire Law. They guide us on how to love God with all our heart, mind, soul

and strength (Mk 12:30) as well as how to love our neighbor as ourself (and even to learn how to love them like Jesus does). Let us therefore move forward with studying these great Ten Commandments *with sincerity and in truth* (1 Cor 5:8, Ps 145:18, John 4:23-24).

Exodus 20

3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

The second verse is actually included in this First Commandment; that's where we see the "the LORD thy God" included in this commandment. And, while this command seems simple, it's ramifications reach much further than most people think, for this fundamentally means that God (YHVH) must be our first and foremost priority in all aspects of our lives. It's more than just not physically bowing down to images or going through the motions traditions of man tells us we must keep (such as going to Church, tithing, etc.). Having no other gods before YHVH truly means keeping Him *first* in our heart (carnal mind), mind (intellect), soul (the essence, core of who we are) and using all our strength (will power) to seek ***and obey Him*** (Mk 12:30). He truly has to be top priority for us in all realms and aspects of life (physically and spiritually). Jesus explains what this Command means in several places...

*23 And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, **let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me.***

24 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: but whosoever will lose his life for my sake, the same shall save it.

25 For what is a man advantaged, if he gain the whole world, and lose himself, or be cast away?

26 For whosoever shall be ashamed of me and of my words, of him shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he shall come in his own glory, and in his Father's, and of the holy angels.

Luke 9:23-26

A popular false doctrine taught in many 'Christian' circles is that we must 'love ourselves'. This is contrary to what Jesus taught for He knew that the most common 'god' that most people worship is *themselves*. This means that: to most people, their own desires, lusts, wants and even needs are more important than God Himself. And they (despite claiming to believe in Jesus Christ) live their life *totally for themselves*. But Jesus told us if we want to follow Him that we must *deny our self* and 'take up' our cross daily and follow Him. Taking up one's cross was done only for the purpose of crucifying. But Jesus wasn't saying that we have to daily die a physical death; it's a spiritual death that comes through denying our 'self'. The word 'deny' in verse 23 is #533 and means: *to deny utterly, i.e. disown, abstain*. What part of us are we to deny (crucify)?

1 There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

3 For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:

4 *That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.*

5 *For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.*

6 *For **to be carnally minded is death**; but **to be spiritually minded is life and peace**.*

7 *Because **the carnal mind is enmity against God**: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. [Rom 7:14]*

8 *So then **they that are in the flesh cannot please God**.*

9 *But **ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you**. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.*

10 *And **if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin**; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.*

11 *But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.*

Rom 8:1-11

We each have a ‘carnal mind’ put into our heart at conception (Ecc 3:11) and this is the part of us that must be denied by ‘putting it to death’ *spiritually*. We first must study God’s Word to help us differentiate between the carnal mind and our true mind (self) because, otherwise, you have no idea *what* to ‘put to death’. Galatians 5 gives us a breakdown of the fruit, or ‘works’, of the flesh verses the fruit, or ‘works’, of the Holy Spirit. This is one place that helps us to learn to discern in our own heart (feelings, intents of the mind) what is carnal verse what is truly who we are. But there’s many other scriptures that tell us what the carnal mind is by explaining what things (thoughts, desires, etc.) we should put off from our way of thinking and behaving.

So, denying your ‘self’ and crucifying your ‘self’ essentially means *you take control over your carnal mind and make it obey God’s Laws*, the best you can. Yet, many people work to feed this part of them (their desires, lusts, pride, etc.) instead of striving to put it to death. So, ‘self’ is the most common false god but there are many others we put in our heart before God Almighty: friends, family, entertainers, politicians and so forth. The word of God further explains the carnal mind that we are to put to death in many places, but Paul is very candid in the book of Romans...

1 *What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?*

2 *God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?*

3 *Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?*

4 *Therefore **we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life**.*

5 *For if we have been planted together **in the likeness of his death**, **we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection**:*

6 *Knowing this, that **our old man is crucified with him**, **that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin**.*

7 *For he that is dead is freed from sin.*

8 Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him:

9 Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; death hath no more dominion over him.

Rom 6:1-9

In other words, we can either think with our carnal mind (lower mindset that leads to spiritual death) or we can learn to think like our Heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ (higher mindset which leads to eternal life). And when we fall short (which we all do), we are to repent and strive harder to change the way we think so we don't entertain sin in our heart (carnal mind) anymore. But sin is no longer a lifestyle for us. And the Word of God teaches us what thoughts, desires and actions we are to put out of our mind and what we are to put in instead.

3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

2 Peter 1:3-4

To put it another way: because we're in a flesh body, we have two 'natures' within us. One is carnal and one is spiritual. Our spiritual mind is the spirit (intellect, thought process) we had from our life before coming to this realm in a flesh body. It's important to note that because of Satan's rebellion in the first earth age, many peoples thought process became corrupt; thus, **the entire purpose of being in a flesh body (with a carnal mind) is to help us learn how to change that thought process** (including our desires). Those who refuse to change their thought process will be spiritually put to death at the end of the Millennium (Rev 20). That's why God also gave us a carnal mind in this flesh body (Ecc 3:11) that wars against our spiritual mind, for God also put a conscience within us from conception (Rom 2:14-15) (Rom 6-8 explains this struggle well and also how to overcome it). ***He did this to teach us what happens when we allow our mind (our spirit) to be corrupted by fleshly (carnal) thoughts.***

To reiterate, God's children's minds (spirits) were corrupted in the first earth age, when we all lived in a spiritual body. Yes, you lived before this flesh life and were what we call an 'angel'. But, as the Bible tells us (Gen 3, 6), angels do sin and therefore God made this plan of salvation (sending all the 'angels' through the flesh realm in a flesh body) ***to bring them back to Him by using life in the flesh body to help correct their minds (thought process)***. Learn more about this in the study on the 3 Word Ages [<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/190?single>]. So, the carnal mind was instilled in the flesh body to help us learn what the effects of our sin is but ***also how to overcome the corrupt mindset*** that sinning against God causes and ***this is a critical point in God's Plan of Salvation***. This is why Jesus said that *whatsoever ye shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven* (Matt 18:18). **Your thought process (and your works [good or bad]) that is developed in this flesh body carries on with you to the spiritual body** (Rev 14:13). That's why murder angers God so much and why the punishment for pre-meditated murder is still to be death of the flesh (Deut 19:10-13,

Num 35:16-25). Murder circumvents the opportunity for someone to correct their thought process and return to loving and worshipping our Heavenly Father. So, life in a flesh body (while difficult) is truly a genius plan. And even though God was (at one time) sorry He created man in the flesh (Gen 6), it's still a genius plan and He will still use the flesh experience to help bring His children back to Him. His plan of Salvation *will not fail* and we know that because *Jesus Christ overcame death* proving that He has power over death (even over spiritual death) and He can thus save anyone from sin (Satan) who accepts Him (Heb 2).

But in order to receive salvation of our soul, we must understand that we have two natures (or minds) that war against each other (one carnal and one spiritual [conscience]). And, unless we learn to 'deny' (or crucify) our carnal mind (Rom 8:7), we will have a double mind (James 1:8, 4:8) because we allow our carnal mind to control the way we think some of the time and yet our conscience will bother us so we try to appease that sometimes. Some people who refuse to allow their mind to be corrected at all will actually sear over their conscience (1 Tim 4:2) and that's a dangerous place to be spiritually for our conscience is given to cause us spiritual pain so we won't go too far down the path to spiritual destruction (death). It's like trying to numb your flesh body to pain; we have pain to tell us something is wrong with our flesh body. Likewise, we have pain in our heart (through our conscience) when something is wrong with our thought process (i.e., we sin - lusts, pride, fear, not forgiving, etc.). We shouldn't ignore it. We should seek God's help (through His Word) to learn what the problem is and how to correct it.

But all too often people seek other things to cover that pain. The 'escapes' (or 'noise') are many, ranging from physical things such as drugs to alcohol to spiritual escapes such as daydreams and fantasizing. However, even things such as socializing, work or even personal relationships with people *can be distractions* to keep us from truly facing ourselves to see what the problem is inside. Some people just try to 'stay busy' to avoid facing themselves. This is why music, tv and social media are so popular: they are all distractions to keep us from facing our sin. And within this lies the essence of having 'no other gods before you'. *People look to other things ("gods") to help ease the pain of their conscience.* Instead of facing themselves and seeking God's Word to correct the problem, they seek other gods for 'comfort', which is truly a false comfort and only leads to worse spiritual pain (and damage), just like masking physical pain with pain relievers only covers the problem; it doesn't fix the root of the problem.

So, when Jesus told us to deny our 'self' and take up our cross, Jesus was simply telling us that the only way to follow Him is to *spiritually* crucify the carnal mind and allow your true mind (self, conscience) to merge with God's Word *so you can think like He does*; this is how you put on the 'mind of Christ' (Phil 2:5-8, 1 Pt 4:1-2). Note this does not mean you become God but it means *you put on the divine nature of God* (2 Pt 1:4) so you can live eternally with Him (Rom 2:7, Titus 3:7, 1 John 5:11).

And this, is the essence of the first commandment because it's a fundamental part of worshipping God and *only* God. We can't look to anyone or anything else (entertainment is a big 'god' for many) to ease that pain inside. That pain (hole) can only be filled and healed through God's

Word, which is also His Holy Spirit (Eph 6:17). As Jesus told us in John 4:24, God can only be worshiped in *spirit and truth*. This means we can only truly worship Him in our spirit (our true mind, not our carnal mind!) *and in truth*. When our actions change without a change of heart, we only become self-righteous hypocrites (Mth 23:29, Lk 12:1, James 3:17). *Our heart must change in order for us to worship God* (Mth 15:13-20, Mk 7:20-23). What that boils down to is that we can only worship Him when we deny (take control of, don't allow it to control us) our carnal mind and *discipline it* to obey God's Word (which is what a 'sound' mind truly is, 2 Tim 1:7). This will result in a change of actions and words that is sincere; but the change has to be in this order (change of heart first) otherwise it's fake. This is what confuses so many people because it's difficult to change your heart. It's easier to just try and change your actions to align with what the Bible says; changing your heart requires *much* more work and it's a daily struggle (Rom 7), which is why Jesus said we must pick up our cross *daily*. But we must do it, IF we truly want to worship God and Him *only*. Never forget, Jesus Christ (God's Word) is the *only* path to eternal life (John 14:6).

To reiterate: this means the desires (the intent) of our heart must align with God's Word because if we don't clean out the lust, pride, hate (etc.) out of our heart, then we are not truly worshipping Him (Mth 15:13-20, Mk 7:20-23). If we put *anything* of importance in our heart (carnal mind) above Him *then we are not obeying the First Commandment to have no other gods before Him*. To put it another way, if you value entertainment, pleasure, family, friends, money, your work or *anything else* above having a relationship with God (learning how to obey and serve Him *from the heart*) then you are not obeying the First Commandment. This first command is extremely broad and deep (Ps 119:96). It's not just about not physically bowing down to images nor is it about just going to Church [**Church is Not Christianity** <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/212>]. We have got to truly worship God in our heart, mind, soul and with all our strength (will power) (Mk 12:30). While this doesn't mean you should be a religious fanatic (don't try to force your religion on others) it does mean that you should *show others Jesus Christ through your life* why they should accept Jesus Christ. You're likely the only 'Bible' many people will ever read. Thus, God truly has to be first and foremost in your life. Nothing can be more important to you than God, which means you must study God's Word and strive to obey it and also to share it with others through whatever gift(s) God has given you (2 Tim 2:15, Mth 25:13-30, 1 Cor 12:4-31).

This is also why Jesus told us we must love our family and friends **less** than Him. In Lk 14:26-27 He said: *If any man come to me, and **hate** not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple. And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.* The word 'hate' here was incorrectly translated. It should have been rendered to '**love less**'. So, Jesus is simply saying we must love everyone (even flesh family) *less than Him*. To repeat: nothing can come before obeying Him *from the heart*, which is why God gave the command in Deut 13 to execute family members who try to lure you away from God's Laws. While we cannot do this today, because of governmental laws don't allow for it, we can still *spiritually* enforce this law through Biblical means (Gal 6:1, 2 Thess 3:10). We can't allow anyone or anything to draw us away from our Heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ.

Now, the First Commandment also stretches to laws of a nation because *religion is what dictates the laws of a nation*. Why? Because religion is what dictates the values that determine laws [study more on this: <https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/855>]. No nation can ‘separate Church and State’ – it’s *impossible*. What the American Constitution declares is that the government is not to have a state-run Church; it wasn’t saying that Christian principles and laws were not to be adhered to in our government. Yet, even so-called Christians support a ‘separation of Church and State’, due to their ignorance of God’s Word (Hosea 4:6). [<https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/885>]. *God’s Word is not to be confined to our Church or home*. It is to be applied in *every aspect of life*. Just stop and think for a moment at how ludicrous the notion that Christians should not enforce Christian principles any further than their homes is. Why *wouldn’t* you want Christ’s Laws to be in your communities and governments? Don’t you think they are better than anyone else’s Laws and principles? Do not the Muslims and Jews work to apply their laws into the communities and governments they live in? Of course, they do. Why? Because they believe in them, that’s why. So, *why wouldn’t we do the same as Christians IF we truly believe in God’s Word?* Because we’ve been fooled (deceived) into thinking that is not godly. Truth be told, it is ungodly *not* to apply God’s Laws in our government (top to bottom), schools, work places and economics...

14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.

15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.

16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

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.

Matt 5:14-20

So, not having any gods before YHVH (Jesus Christ) is the First Commandment because it basically will cover all the others. We are to listen and obey God Almighty (YHVH) and His Son, Jesus Christ and *only* them. This means the Bible is the only true path to salvation, which Jesus succinctly told us in John 14:6. There are no exceptions. God’s Word must be our manual for all aspects of life, *including our governments* (local to national). Just look what has happened to our once great Christian nations because we’ve allowed God’s Laws to be kicked out of our governments, schools and financial institutions. Yea truly, we’ve allowed God’s Laws to be kicked out (through infiltration of lies) of even our Churches. We’ve become heathen nations yet we call ourselves Christian and ‘holy’. To worship God Almighty means you obey His Laws

(and His Laws *only*) sincerely, *from the heart*, the best you can and repent when you fall short, in the name of and belief in His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ.

Exodus 20

4 Thou shalt not make unto 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 water under the earth:

This Second Commandment is intrinsically linked (connected) to the First Commandment; and, like the first, this command is an issue of the heart. While we certainly are not to make any physical graven images to worship, this truly speaks of what we do in our mind and heart. And this command is not saying we can't have pictures or even carved images for decoration in our homes, *so long as we do not worship them*. Certain religions do actually worship physical images and this is breaking the Second Command, but this command is more often broken spiritually because of what people think about and desire in their heart. Some people call it daydreaming and some call it fantasizing but (call it whatever you want) the essence is the same: *when we create in our own mind an image of what we want 'reality' to be, then we're making a graven image in our heart*.

So, when we believe in a lie(s), we're making a graven image(s) in our heart. When we regard in our heart anything that's in heaven, on earth or in the water (this is a figure of speech that means anything, anywhere - so it includes in the spiritual realm also) as more important (desirable) than our Heavenly Father, then we're making graven images because the *engraving is done in our heart*, with our thoughts and desires. We make a picture in our heart (carnal mind) of what we want people (including ourselves) to be and we worship (love and adore) those images of what we want people to be. We even do this to our Heavenly Father. Anytime we try to worship God without sticking to His Word then we're making graven images. That's why Jesus said we must worship Him in spirit and in truth (John 4:24). We have to worship God in our mind (and heart) but we have to know the truth to do so; otherwise, we're making (engraving) images of what we think God is (or should be). All too often people want to make God into a 'genie in a bottle' so they can simply 'rub' Him the 'right way' and He'll give them whatever they desire. They don't want to serve God; *they want Him to serve them*. That's why they try to use the Word of God to fit their selfish desires instead of studying it to find out what He really wants. We see this through the many traditions man has picked up but one glaring example is found in Easter [<https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/975>]. Easter is not Biblical. Man took heathen traditions and incorporated them into Passover so they could get more 'convert's, which amounts to more money for the Church. Yet, to this day, Christians think it's Holy despite the fact that God has clearly told us He hates it when we try to worship Him to fulfil our desires. He told us this bluntly in the Minor Prophets...

21 I hate, I despise your feast days, and I will not smell in your solemn assemblies.

22 Though ye offer me burnt offerings and your meat offerings, I will not accept them: neither will I regard the peace offerings of your fat beasts.

23 Take thou away from me the noise of thy songs; for I will not hear the melody of thy viols.

Amos 5:21-23

God doesn't even like to hear your 'praise and worship' songs if your heart is not right with Him and He hates our made-up religious holidays (feast days). Quoting from Isa 29:13, Jesus said...

7 Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying,

*8 This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; **but their heart is far from me.***

9 But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.

Matt 15:7-9

God knows when we're not sincere because He can read our heart (Ps 11:4, Jer 17:10). And He tells us what He really wants in the next verse of Amos when He said: *let judgment run down as waters, and righteousness as a mighty stream* (Amos 5:24). God wants us to do what's right, which is define by His Word (Laws) and not by the 'image' we have in our head of what's right and wrong. The word 'graven' in verse 4 of this chapter 20 in Exodus is #6459 and means: an *idol*. It comes from #6458, a primitive root that means: *to carve*, whether wood or stone. So, we're not to carve an idol and worship it. Again, this can only be done in our heart. **We are not to create our own image of what God is or what we think He should be.** How then, do we know who God is? *His Word tells us* and that's why it's so important to study His Word (2 Tim 2:15). And **it is His Word that we are supposed to carve into our heart** (carnal mind) so that we can get an image (picture) of who our Heavenly Father really is. Consider what He told Jeremiah...

31 Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel, and with the house of Judah:

32 Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt; which my covenant they brake, although I was an husband unto them, saith the LORD:

*33 But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and **write it in their hearts**; and will be their God, and they shall be my people.*

34 And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.

Jer 31:31-34

God told Jeremiah that His true desire would be manifested in a 'new covenant' (made through Jesus Christ, of course) in which *His Laws would be written in our hearts*. The word '**write**' in verse 33 is # 3789, a primitive root that means: **to grave**, by implication, *to write (describe, inscribe, prescribe, subscribe)*. Yes, **it is God's Word that we are to engrave (write) into our hearts**. Paul explains this in more detail in Heb 8:10 and 10:16. But what this boils down to is that **we are not to put any other laws in our hearts or minds, which is what the Second**

Commandment is really all about. Physically carving images and bowing down to them is only a physical manifestation of the sin that goes on in our heart. God does not want anyone else's (not even your own) Laws (Words) in your heart. He wants His Word written in your heart and no one else's. Why? Because it's only when you have God's Word in your heart and mind that you can learn to obey Him. As Jesus told us in Mth 15:13-20 and Mk 7:20-23, sin starts in our heart and that's because we allow other laws to be written in our hearts. And when we think and desire sinful thoughts (lusts, pride, etc. – 1 John 2:16), we allow other laws to be written on our hearts.

This can, perhaps, be better understood if we use a modern-day analogy of computers. Please note, this is not to say we are computers; we are not computers. We are human beings even in when we put off our flesh body and go back to our Heavenly Father in the spiritual dimension in a spiritual body, we're still His creation. To reiterate: *we are not computers*. But our mind works so much like computers, *it is a stunning analogy to use to help us understand our 'inward parts'*.

So, consider how a computer works. This is going to be very basic, just to get the point across. Each computer has three essential parts to it: a motherboard, an operating system and programs you add to make the computer do what you want it to. We too have three parts to us: body, soul and spirit. Now, because we are made in the image of God (our Heavenly Father) and the 'angels' (Gen 1:26-27) this means that God and the angels also have three parts to them (this is actually what the Trinity is). And remember, the 'angels' are simply who we are before (or after) coming to the flesh body. Study more on this with the following studies:

- What Were We Like In the Beginning - <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/322>
- Where Are All of the People That Have Died <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/323>

Moreover, we know that the Bible says we can have other spirits in us. The Holy Spirit can reside in us (Ps 51:11, Lk 11:13, Eph 1:13, 4:30, 1 Thes 4:8, etc.) or evil spirits can (Mth 12:43-45, Mk 1:23-27, etc.). We also know that Jesus has power over the evil spirits and they know exactly who He is (Lk 4:33, etc.). We also know Jesus gave those who truly believe on Him power over evil spirits (Mth 10:1, Lk 10:19). We also know that God's Holy Spirit was promised in the Old Testament to wash us clean of our sins (Ezek 36:25-27, 37:14, etc.) and it was a 'mystery' of exactly how He would do this until the Holy Spirit was actually given (Col 1:26-27, Eph 3:3-11, 1 Tim 3:16, Rom 16:25-26). Sadly, it's still a mystery to many today.

Ok, so – a computer has a **motherboard** which is basically a processor that controls everything; it processes all information. You could also call it a central communications backbone connectivity point, through which all components and external peripherals connect, if you want to get a bit technical. But simplicity is the key in understanding this analogy, and it is just an analogy. So, don't get too carried away with this. There are some movies out there which claim we're all just computers or that our world is really controlled by computers, which is a lie. Let's stick with the word of God, which tells us that our Heavenly Father has a body, soul and spirit – He is not a computer and we are made in His image, therefore we are not computers either.

Now, the motherboard contains (among many other things) a power connector, the audio chip for plugging into the internet connection and the video rendering as well. Moreover, there are many kinds of mother boards and which one you use depends on what job(s) you'll be using the computer for. This is very similar what our body is like, be it a flesh body or a spiritual body [study up on the difference between our "Two Bodies" - <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/406>]. Our flesh body (and spiritual body) has certain things programed into it that we don't have to think about to do. Breathing is one of them and so are our reflexes. And, in the flesh, our five senses are hearing (audio), seeing (visual), taste, smell and touch. But people's bodies are made differently and thus, different people are better at different things. God didn't make us all the same because He wanted us for different purposes, similarly to how (and why) we have so many different types of motherboards you can use for different jobs. Paul explains this in 1 Cor 12.

However, the mother board useless without the **operating system**. This is why the Bible says the body is dead without the spirit (James 2:26). And indeed, our flesh body is dead when our spirit departs from it (Ecc 12:6-7, 2 Cor 5). So, you need a spirit to operate your body just like the computer needs an operating system to operate the mother board.

However, you still need to add **programs** to your computer to do get it to do specific things you want to do; like to read a Bible study in a PDF format, you must have a special program to be able to read it. Or to write you've got to have a word processor. Or to view the internet you must have a program to do that. On your phone, they are called "ap's". To do nearly anything, you must have different programs. *These programs are what makes the computer what it is. It's the essence of the computer.* And depending on what kind of programs you have on the computer depends on what the computer can do. Similarly, *our soul is the essence of who we are.* We learn so many things from the time we are conceived to the time we die; some are good and some are bad. Likewise, some programs we put on our computers are good and some can be bad. While we usually don't put bad programs on our computer on purpose, we can get hacked if we don't have an antivirus to protect us. And still, if we override it because we want to look at a website that's infected, then our protection does us no good. This is similar to free will. God will let us program our soul with whatever we want to. We have free will within our spirit (thought process, intellect) to choose to put His Words in our soul or, we can put lies just like we can put good programs on our computer or we can allow hackers (equivalent to evil spirits) to put bad programs on our computers. Jesus will protect us if we choose Him but as soon as we'd rather sin then we automatically take that 'firewall' down and allow our soul to be infected (corrupted). If the computer is not cleaned up in time, it'll become in un-operatable. This is why it's important to stop sinful thoughts and desires in your mind and heart before they 'conceive' in your heart. In other words, we must cut bad thoughts and desires (feelings included) out of our mind and heart before they grow. We can't keep thinking about them for to do so is to allow sin to conceive in your heart, just as a flower will bloom if you don't cut the bud off. Another analogy is to how a woman conceives in her womb. If you don't cut the sin out of your heart quickly, it will stay in your soul and grow; it'll change you into another person altogether (not for the better), just as a computer gets a virus and changes altogether. It becomes un-operatable. Or, we can think upon God's Word and allow it to conceive in our heart and change us into a new

person altogether (for the better). This is the difference between the ‘old man’ (Rom 6:6, Eph 4:22, Col 3:9) the Bible speaks of and the “new man” (Eph 2:15, 4:24, Col 3:10). James put’s it another way...

13 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:

14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

*15 Then when lust hath **conceived**, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.*

James 1:13-15

So, our spirit has the choice to put whatever we want to into our soul. It can be lies or truth. If we desire lies then we’ll sin *which corrupts our spirit and our soul*. Our way of thinking and reasoning is corrupted by sin. Likewise, a computer can have many different applications and programs put onto its operating system. Additionally, we also have a hard drive which stores memory but a certain amount of it is always reserved for system operations. Our mind runs this way too (you don’t have to think about breathing, seeing, smelling, etc.). And, since we’re in a flesh body, it was quite easy for God to block our memory from the first earth age. However, the Holy Spirit will help us remember things we need to, as Jesus promised in John 16:13.

Additionally, in the flesh body we also have a carnal mind (Rom 8:7) put into it at birth (Ecc 3:11). This is also called our heart and it’s where sin in the flesh stems from (Mth 15:13-20, Mk 7:20-23). This is basically a separate operating system that thinks only in fleshly terms; it is a lower way of thinking than what our spiritual operating system is. The purpose God gave us two operating systems (minds) in this flesh body was to 1) test us and 2) let us have experience. Because many of God’s children allowed Satan to deceive them in the first earth age, He wanted a way to teach us the consequences of our actions. Death isn’t something we could understand in a spiritual body nor is having children. So, He created this flesh dimension specifically to house flesh bodies and put two minds in us. One is carnal and we’ll shed it once our soul and spirit leaves the flesh body (Ecc 12:6-7, 2 Cor 5). But our spiritual mind will stay with us, along with our soul, and go into a spiritual body when we die from the flesh. The lessons learned from life in the flesh teach us what pain, suffering, sicknesses and death are and how our actions cause those things (as James pointed out). But we also get to learn what it’s like to be a parent, so we can learn much more about our Heavenly Father’s feelings. He also uses the natural relationship between a man and a woman (sexually) to explain how He feels out our lusting after other gods. To Him, adultery is equivalent to idolatry and that’s because, when we allow other spirits to enter us and program us to their evil works it’s much like a woman allowing another man to enter her sexually. He deposits a different seed in her than her husband does much like evil spirits put a different ‘word’ (law) into your heart IF you allow them in. If we remain true to our spiritual husband (Jesus) then we’ll only allow His Holy Spirit to enter us and deposit His Word in our heart. Do you see the connection between adultery and apostasy? Adultery is when a woman allows a man other than her husband to enter her and deposit seed while apostasy is when we allow another spirit(s) to enter us and deposit information that corrupts our very soul. Evil spirits

essentially ‘write programs’ in our heart which changes the way we think and act. But God wants us to allow the Holy Spirit to ‘write’ (program) His Word (Jer 31:33, Heb 8:10, 10:16) into our heart so we can learn to think like He does and obey Him. This is what leads to eternal life. It’s the essence of Christianity.

You can certainly take this analogy with a grain of salt if you want to but, do think about it and study up on it further in God’s Word. The analogy is really quite befitting and we can learn a lot about ourselves through understanding how we operate. We can also learn a lot about spiritual warfare through this analogy because we must be ‘hooked up to’ God, through Jesus Christ, if we want to live forever. He is like the true power source and His Holy Spirit is like an interdimensional internet that only believers in Christ have access to. We thus have access to spiritual protection, information, wisdom, strength and power through ‘hooking up’ to the “Vine” that Jesus Christ spoke of in John 15. Learn a bit more about this in the dual special study (pt 1 & 2) called “The Vine” [<https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/992> & <https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/993>].

So, with this knowledge we can begin to understand why the second commandment was given. Truly, this commandment addresses our heart more than our physical actions because what’s in our heart determines what our actions will be. We cannot allow any other law system (programs) to be written on our heart (our carnal mind). And this is the threat we face when Satan comes to the earth (Rev 12) pretending to be the Messiah/Savior of the world. Satan wants everyone to worship the ‘image’ of the beast (Rev 13:11-17), which is the *image* he wants to portray to the world: it’s the lie that he is God of all...

9 And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land.

10 And it waxed great, even to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them.

11 Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away, and the place of his sanctuary was cast down.

Dan 8:9-11

36 And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done.

37 Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god: for he shall magnify himself above all.

Dan 11:36-37

1 Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him,

2 That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand.

3 Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition;

*4 **Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.***

2 Thess 2:1-4

*4 And **they worshipped the dragon** which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?*

*5 And there was given unto him a mouth **speaking great things and blasphemies**; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months.*

*6 And **he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven.***

Rev 13:4-6

Satan will try to deceive everyone on earth into thinking that he is the Messiah, the Savior, God over all. As the Scriptures above clearly indicate, he will be lying out his rear to get people to think that he really is God Almighty. He's got his own set of laws he wants to enforce on earth and his own governmental system (Rev 13, 17). And, while we shouldn't let anyone put microchips in us or hook our brains up to computers, the essence of the infamous 'mark of the beast' (Rev 13:16-17, 16:2, 19:20) is spiritual, just as the Ten Commandments are (Rom 7:14). God doesn't want us to allow our minds (carnal mind, the heart) to be programed by Satan. But that's exactly what people are being set up for when they follow traditions of man instead of the Word of God [**Church is Not Christianity** - <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/212>].

This is especially so with false doctrines such as the Rapture Theory [learn where the Rapture Theory really came from: <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/334>] and the lie that the "Jews" are God's Chosen people [<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/251>]. **We are to engrave God's Laws (the Bible) into our heart and mind and not allow any lies to be etched into them.** The reason is clear: *we cannot obey God's laws if they are not in our heart and mind.* We won't know them nor will we care about obeying them. And keeping our Heavenly Father, His Son, Jesus Christ, and His Word in the forefront of our mind and in the depth of our heart is what truly worshiping Him is all about. **His Word needs to be engraved so deeply into your heart and mind that it forms a very clear 'image' of who God really is and what He expects of you.** Truly, *we get to know God through His Word.* If you love Him, why wouldn't you want His Word in your heart and mind so you could obey Him? (Deut 6:3, 30:14).

Exodus 20

*5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to 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;*

While we certainly are not to physically bow down to any other gods, this command is more often than not, broken spiritually. It's intrinsically linked to not graving any images and not

having any other gods before Him. But what the essence of it is, is spiritual; meaning, we cannot spiritually bow to anyone or anything before our God. This means we are duty bound to obey His Laws (which we should strive to learn and obey so we can write them into our heart and mind) and not bow down to any other laws. Where breaking this law can be seen easily in our ‘modern’ day is in ‘cancel culture’. People bow over to the false god of political correctness and totally give up their morals just to stay in business. Money too is a false god (1 Tim 6:10).

Another important point to this verse is the fact that God (who is righteously jealous) says He’ll visit the iniquity (sin) *of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me*. He is **not** saying that the children pay for their fathers’ sin. What God is actually saying is that, *He will punish sin as long as it continues*. It doesn’t matter if it becomes a sin that one generation after another commits, He won’t forget about it; He will punish it. God’s Word clearly states that the children do not pay for the sins of their father, and vice versa (Jer 31:29-30, Ezek 18).

Exodus 20

6 And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

Like the previous verse, this verse is also saying that God will continue to show mercy to those who love Him and keep His commandments, *as long as the next generations continues to do so*. His point is that He is not a respecter of person and He won’t make anyone die for sins He didn’t commit nor bless them for their parent’s obedience when they are rebellious. Mankind often respects people due to how much money they have or if they are in a powerful position, but God’s Word commands us to treat everyone the same according to God’s Laws (which is what righteousness is defined as). If we abided by His Laws, people wouldn’t be punished for sins they didn’t commit. But, because the Christian nations (true Israel) have cast off His laws, terrible injustice prevails around the world. Peter summed this up rather well after the Holy Spirit led him to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ to gentiles...

*34 Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that **God is no respecter of persons**:*

35 But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him.
Acts 10:34-35

This is the bottom line of what the past two verses were saying. This point is also written in 2 Chron 19:7, Prov 24:23, 28:21, Rom 2:11, Eph 6:9, Col 3:25, James 2:1 and 1 Pt 1:17. If you disobey God, He’ll punish you. If you obey Him, He’ll bless you. If you repent sincerely and strive to obey Him, He’ll forgive you and help you to change IF you continue to try sincerely. But *it’s our choice* (Deut 30:19).

We’ll pick this study up in Part 2...

AMEN.