

Gleanings from the Pentateuch

The Ten Words
(Exodus 20)

The Kingdom of God

“God’s people in God’s place under God’s rule and blessing”

The Kingdom of God

Promise to Abraham

1. Blessing (all nations)
2. Land (Canaan)
3. Seed (great nation)

The Kingdom of God

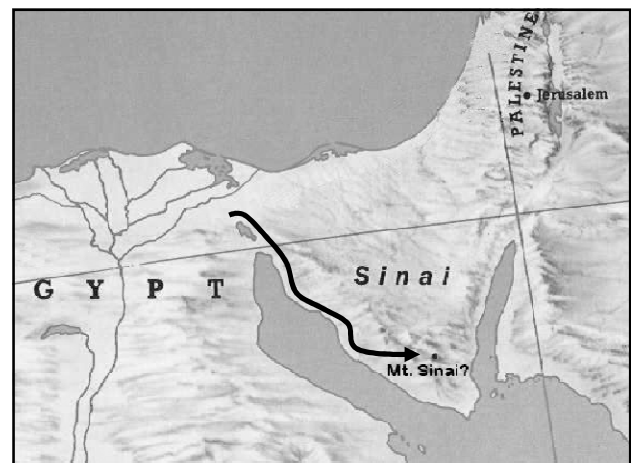
Toward Fulfillment...

- *Deliverance from Egypt*
 - based on God’s promise to Abraham
 - God redeemed Israel for Himself

The Kingdom of God

Toward Fulfillment...

- *Covenant at Mt. Sinai*



The Kingdom of God

Toward Fulfillment...

- **Covenant at Mt. Sinai**
 - Defined God's people as a holy nation in which God would dwell
 - Not the final form of God's kingdom – it foreshadowed the final form

The Ten Words

Overview

1. Uniqueness
 - Spoken directly by God to the people
 - Inscribed on two tablets of stone
 - Kept in the ark of the tabernacle

The Ten Words

Overview

2. Foundational Nature
 - Express the central obligations of the covenant
 - Expansion of the two great commandments
 - “love the Lord” (# 1- 4)
 - “love your neighbor” (# 5-10)

The Ten Words

Overview

3. Wrong Assumption
 - *The Ten Commandments state the eternal, universally binding, moral law of God*
 - they are an inseparable part of the entire covenant
 - they have direct and particular application to the nation of Israel

The Ten Words

Prologue

“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. You shall...”

These commandments are given to God's “redeemed” people

The Ten Words

Implications

1. These are not *merely* universal moral commands, but stipulations for God's covenant people
 - those who belong exclusively to God
 - those who represent the name of God

The Ten Words

Implications

2. Obedience to these commands is motivated by a love for God and a gratitude for our redemption

- obedience does not earn God's favor
- obedience is the glad-hearted response to God's undeserved favor

The Ten Words

"If you love Me, you will keep My commandments."

– Jesus (John 14:15)

"For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome."

– 1 John 5:3