

What is $10 - 1$? What were we taught in school? You will certainly say 9, but God says that $10 - 1 = 0$. Has exact science become inexact? No, God has the exact answer, it's math in another dimension.

This isn't a matter of little importance! Our personal happiness and our family's, as well as the prosperity of nations, depend on it. Even our own salvation is in jeopardy. God does not approve of a bargained religion. People are used to bargaining, and modern religion tries to bargain with God. They want an emotional religion without responsibilities, without obedience to God, without rules. They expect God to make a reduction and believe that if they keep most of the commandments it is enough for them to be accepted before God. They accommodate the commandments according to personal preference.

LET'S RESPECT WHAT GOD HAS SAID

1. **What does the Bible say about someone who rejects any of the Ten Commandments? James 2:10-12.**

2. **What does God say about those who think they are good Christians but do not keep His commandments? 1 John 2:3, 4.** _____
3. **What does He say about those who arrange religion as they please and change some of the commandments? Matthew 15:9.** _____
 - a) God does not allow any change in His law. Deuteronomy 4:2; Ecclesiastes 3:14.
 - b) Not even a tittle can be changed. Matthew 5:17-19.
 - c) There is no reason to change anything in the law. His law is perfect. Psalms 19:7.

BUT WHAT LAW DO THE ABOVE VERSES REFER TO?

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS, EXACTLY AS WRITTEN BY GOD'S FINGER.

4. **What does the first commandment prohibit? Exodus 20:3.** _____
The sun and the planets were worshiped in the past; and still today people in some countries worship animals; for example, cows are considered sacred in India. Nowadays, we have modern gods. Everything we consider more important than God becomes a god to us; for example, living to eat instead of eating to live (Philippians 3:19) or giving priority to amusements, sports, awards, etc. (Matthew 10:37), can be a form of idolatry.
5. **What does the second commandment forbid? Exodus 20:4-6.**

 - a) There is a reason for this. Deuteronomy 4:15, 16.
 - b) John 4:24. God wants us to worship Him in _____.
 - c) What does the Bible say about idolatry? Isaiah 44:9, 10, 18, 19.

6. What does the third commandment forbid? Exodus 20:7.

- a) God is holy and wishes us to express His name with reverence. In Matthew 5:34-37 we see that this commandment also prohibits _____. The only exception is a judicial oath.
- b) What will happen to those who speak vain words? Matthew 12:36.

7. What does the fourth commandment command us to do? Exodus 20:8-11.

We must work the first six days of the week and rest on the seventh day, the Sabbath. It is a memorial of creation, and it must be dedicated to worship. It is for our own benefit. Mark 2:27.

Maybe a reader learned that the third commandment says "sanctify the feasts." Why is there a difference in how the commandments are taught? Those who teach this commandment omit the second commandment and divide the last one into two, so they add up to 10. Keeping "the feasts" is not the same as honoring a specific day. God has not authorized any human being to change His law. We should accept it as it is written in the Bible.

8. Whom should we honor according to the fifth commandment? Exodus 20:12.

God promises to give long life to those who honor their parents. There is no age limit to the obedience to this commandment.

9. The sixth commandment states, "Thou shalt not kill." Exodus 20:13. What is the meaning of this commandment according to the spiritual teachings of Christ?

We have no right to deprive anyone of life, not even ourselves.

- a) Matthew 5:38, 39, 43-45. Love your _____.
Jesus Christ clarified the spiritual value of this commandment, which forbids participation in war, which is mass murder; it goes against His teachings.
- b) Matthew 5:21, 22, 1 John 3:15. To hate, swear or hold a grudge are also transgressions of this commandment.
- c) 1 Corinthians 3:16, 17. We should not transgress the laws of _____.

10. The seventh commandment states, "Thou shalt not commit adultery." Exodus 20:14.

This commandment protects the family unit. Every sexual relationship outside of marriage is condemned by God.

- a) What did Jesus say about lustful looks and thoughts? Matthew 5:27, 28.
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- b) Is it right for us to watch scenes of violence or marital infidelity even if they are not real? Philipians 4:8.

11. What does the eighth commandment forbid? Exodus 20:15.

This includes any kind of theft, whether big or small; such as wars of conquest, slavery, lack of honesty in business, adulteration of products, false weights and measures, taking advantage of someone's ignorance or weakness, destroying someone's influence, irresponsibility at work, unfair wages, in short, every dishonest act.

12. The ninth commandment states, "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor." Exodus 20:16. Who will be barred from salvation? Revelation 22:15.

Every lie, no matter what the intention, is included in this commandment. We can lie by a gesture or a wink, or by deliberately hiding the truth with the purpose of deceiving.

13. What does the tenth commandment forbid? Exodus 20:17.

Covetousness is the precursor to other sins, such as theft and adultery (Micah 2:2). This was Eve's first sin (Genesis 3:6). God wishes to protect us and make us happy through His law.

CONCLUSION

The foundation of God's law is love. The first four commandments show us how to love God. The last six show us how to love our neighbor. Romans 13:9.

14. But, how can we obey God when we are so weak? Philippians 2:13; 4:13.

15. Do we earn heaven by our obedient deeds? What is the purpose of God's law? Romans 3:20, 24.

We cannot earn heaven with our deeds. Salvation is an unmerited gift from God. Our past transgressions condemn us, but the law's purpose is to show us our sins so we go to Jesus and ask Him to forgive us and help us change our lifestyle. Obedience is a demonstration of our love to God and our acceptance of Jesus as our Lord. John 14:15.

16. If we say with Paul, "Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?" (Acts 9:6) and we choose to obey the commandments of God, what will we receive?

- a) Deuteronomy 28:1, 2, 9, 13. _____ .
- b) *Our prayers will be answered (1 John 3:22). We will have spiritual peace (Isaiah 48:18), wisdom (Psalms 119:104), health (Exodus 15:26), prosperity, and a long life (Deuteronomy 4:40).*

To receive all these promised blessings, are you willing to obey all the commandments of the Holy Law of God out of love for Jesus? Do you wish to ask the Lord to help you keep them faithfully?

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My decision: I want God to grant me power to keep every one of the Ten Commandments, by faith. Yes No

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