

## Exodus Chapter 20 Commentary

**Ex 19:24** "And the LORD said unto him, Away, get thee down, and thou shalt come up, thou, and Aaron with thee: but let not the priests and the people break through to come up unto the LORD, lest he break forth upon them. **25** So Moses went down unto the people, and spake unto them." The chapters are tied together by and. **Ex 20:1 ¶** "And God spake all these words, saying,"

Preparations were made in the previous chapter for God to come down and speak to Moses, in the presence of Israel, to convince Israel that Moses is to be believed, in all that he tells them that God has said.

God gives to Israel the Ten Commandments, which they hear directly from God.

We point out that the first four commandments are commandments of how God's people are to view and worship God, the vertical aspect. The last six commandments give a picture of how we are to treat one another in the sight of God, the horizontal aspect.

**2** "I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. **3** Thou shalt have no other gods before me." With Commandment 1 we begin the vertical aspect, from God in heaven to man on earth relations.

**Commandment 1:** God audibly tells Israel: I am your God, and you shall have no other gods. God also says by implication: you might, because of your sinful flesh nature, have other gods, but you will not put them ahead of me.

Why would God remind Israel of this? Remember where Israel just came from. They have been in Egypt for four hundred years. Remember that they knew who God was before they went into Egypt and have been reminded of who God is throughout these four hundred years. However, they have been exposed to idolatry continuously since they have been in Egypt.

God is telling them, forget all those gods that you were exposed to in Egypt, because they are nothing. Did any of those Egyptian idols save them? They are idols and have no power. God is saying to Israel: did any, of the gods in Egypt, speak to you in an audible voice as I am speaking to you now. Not one, wherefore, you understand they are not God but simply a manmade idol.

For us today, this commandment is repeated in the New Testament by Jesus in: **Mt 22:36-40; 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. **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." Jesus is saying to us: if you fulfill these two commandments, you have fulfilled all the law.

This is a truth that, if fully comprehended, displays to us the whole way of salvation by the grace of God. If all our life is focused upon God, our heavenly Father, we will not have any opportunity to turn to idolatry. Jesus Christ displayed this total devotion to God the Father by living a sinless mortal life. Our total devotion to God will also keep us from living sinful lives.

**4** "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven 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: **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; **6** And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments."

**Commandment 2:** God audibly tells Israel: do not make a likeness of anything to represent me. Do not make anything resembling all the images in the heavens, the earth, or the waters. Because anything you make will be just like the dead idols you left behind in Egypt.

This commandment is repeated in the New Testament in: **1Jo 5:21; 20** "And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in his Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God, and eternal life. **21** Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen." Idolatry is covered in many other New Testament scriptures, of which this is just one.

God tells Israel, if you turn from me to idolatry, which displays your hatred of me; not only will you reap my judicial judgments, but I will also pour out my judgments upon the next three or four generations of your family. What a detriment this should be to keep us focused upon God. Who would want to bring God's wrath upon their children and the following generations?

God tells Israel, if you devote your lives to me completely, you will find an abundance of mercy. Keeping my commandments is the evidence that you love me. This also conveys to us the belief; as Israel's disobedience would bring the iniquities of the fathers upon the following generations, so, the loving of God, and keeping of his commandments, would bring blessings and mercy upon the children and following generations.

As we see this commandment repeated in the New Testament: we ascertain that loving God, and being obedient to him, would yield blessings, and mercy, upon our children, and the following generations. What a great warning to teach our children the judgments of God, which are associated with idolatry, that they may prepare to guard against idolatry, and thereby garner God's blessings in their lives.

**7 "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."**

**Commandment 3:** God audibly tells Israel: you are to reverence my name with such fear that you never speak it with irreverence. Never use it lightly as if it means nothing or little to you. Never attach it to anything immoral or ungodly, which will blemish the purity, the holiness, and the greatness, of my name. Never use it evilly or in guile. Never use my name in an idolatrous manner. Never use my name as if it is something useless. Never use my name falsely, or in false pretense. You hear me speaking. You see the cloud of thick darkness, in which I have hidden my image from you, so that you die not, and you have any image from which to make an idol. Remember this always and treat my name with such reverent fear that you never misuse it.

My name is to be exalted and glorified upon the earth by my people. God is telling Israel: if you get anything, between my name and your total belief in my name, you have turned to idolatry and taken my name in vain.

We have the context of this commandment in the New Testament in many places, here are some:

- **Mt 15:7 "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."** Hypocrisy is taking the Lord's name in vain.
- **1Co 15:2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain."** If you do not believe in God whole heartedly, you have taken the name of the Lord in vain.
- **Eph 5:1 ¶ "Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children; 2 And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savour. 3 ¶ But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints; 4 Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks. 5 For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God. 6 Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience. 7 Be not ye therefore partakers with them. 8 For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light: 9 (For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;) 10 Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord."** This text points out to us that halfhearted, or partial, belief in God, and Christ, is to take his name in vain. God is saying that you must give yourself to me completely, and no longer desire to do the things that would pollute my name.
- **1Ti 6:20 "O Timothy, keep that which is committed to thy trust, avoiding profane and vain babblings, and oppositions of science falsely so called: 21 Which some professing have erred concerning the faith. Grace be with thee. Amen."** Here, Timothy is called to have total faith and trust in the name of God and Christ. He is told to avoid vain babblings because they are false. God says: those who adhere to vain babblings have erred in the faith, and they have taken my name in vain.
- **Jas 1:26 "If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain."** Any person who proclaims to be religious, and devoted to God

and Christ, who is not living their life, to the fullest degree of godliness, is using the name of the Lord in vain.

**8 "Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. 9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: 10 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, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: 11 For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it."**

**Commandment 4:** God audibly tells Israel: Keep the sabbath day holy. You have six days in a week in which you are to labor and the seventh is a day of rest, which has been sanctified by God in creation as a holy day. It was to be a day of rest for both man and beast.

There has been, and still is, much debate about keeping the sabbath day, which on our calendar today is Saturday. However, in this age of salvation by grace, we observe by our calendar the first day of the week, Sunday, as the day of worship. Why? Because with the establishment of the New Testament Church there was given a commandment seen in: **Col 2:16; 11 "In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: 12 Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead. 13 ¶ And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; 14 Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; 15 And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it. 16 ¶ Let no man therefore judge you in meat, or in drink, or in respect of an holyday, or of the new moon, or of the sabbath days: 17 Which are a shadow of things to come; but the body is of Christ."** Paul reminds us that when Jesus died upon the cross, he fulfilled the demand of the law of the shedding of blood for the remission of sins, and Jesus set in order a new and better way, which is not based upon the observance of sabbath days, or any of the other feast's days which the Jews kept. Jesus is the only way and source of eternal salvation.

This is the only one of the Ten Commandments that is not repeated in the New Testament. Here are some scriptural reasons why we observe Sunday as the day of worship and not Saturday, which is the Jewish sabbath.

Sunday was the day that Christ arose from the dead, seen in: **Mr 16:9 ¶ "Now when Jesus was risen early the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom he had cast seven devils."**

Sunday was the day that the resurrected Jesus showed himself to his disciples, seen in: **Joh 20:19 ¶ Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you."**

Sunday was the day when the disciples, the New Testament Church, met, seen in: **Ac 20:7 ¶ 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."**

There are many other scriptures that point this out, however, the main thing is that Jesus, in fulfilling the law ordinances, took away the observance of the sabbath days, the other holydays and feasts, and took away the law of blood sacrifices for sins. We do point out that though there is no commandment to observe the sabbath, we do believe in observing Sunday, the first day of the week, as a day of worship to God and Christ, and as a day of rest.

**12 ¶ "Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee."** With Commandment 5 we begin horizontal, or person to person, relations. In the New Testament scriptures these commandments are all raised to the high plain of spiritual life and application, as well as natural life and application. This is the only commandment given, which has the promise of a blessing from God for keeping it.

**Commandment 5:** God audibly tells Israel: **"Honour thy father and thy mother:"** There is much said in scripture of honoring our fathers and mothers, and this is still to be observed in this age of salvation by grace, seen in: **Mt 19:19; 16 ¶ "And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life? 17 And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one,**

*that is, God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments. 18 He saith unto him, Which? Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, 19 Honour thy father and thy mother: and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.*" Did you notice that in this text, Jesus covered the five horizontal, the person to person, commandments, which are repeated in the New Testament? This tells us that we are to observe the keeping of them, which demonstrates we have eternal life.

Furthermore, Jesus admonished the Scribes and Pharisees for not properly observing this commandment, seen in: *Mt 15:1-9; 1 ¶ "Then came to Jesus scribes and Pharisees, which were of Jerusalem, saying, 2 Why do thy disciples transgress the tradition of the elders? for they wash not their hands when they eat bread. 3 But he answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition? 4 For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother: and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death. 5 But ye say, Whosoever shall say to his father or his mother, It is a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; 6 And honour not his father or his mother, he shall be free. Thus, have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition. 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."* In this text, Jesus condemned the Scribes and Pharisees for changing the law ordinance to "*teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.*" This tells me that Jesus says that we are to observe this ordinance in these New Testament Church times.

In the spiritual plain, we are to honor God, our heavenly Father, above all other things. We are to honor the New Testament Church, as a mother is to be honored and respected as it gives reverence to God. Where does the attached blessing fit in? If we honor God and we honor his church on earth, he will bless us to live in this land of promise and grant to us spiritual blessings. If we dishonor God and his church, God will withdraw the giving of his blessings upon us and replace the giving of blessing with judicial judgments.

### **13 "Thou shalt not kill."**

**Commandment 6:** God audibly tells Israel: "*Thou shalt not kill.*" There is much scripture in the Old and New Testaments about killing. First, we point out that the word kill means to commit murder, which is to premeditate to kill a person, with or without cause. The Old Testament gave much instruction of killing and the different kinds of killing, whether it was accidental or premeditated, and making a difference in the punishment thereof. God demanded that the life of the murderer was to be taken, a life for a life. This was to teach people to have due respect for one another because God made man in his own image. Wherefore, to kill a person was to say to God I am killing you, which is very irreverent to God.

We find in the New Testament that Jesus raised murder to a spiritual application, seen in: *Mt 5:21-22; 21 ¶ "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: 22 But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire."* Herein we see, Jesus equates doing these things to a child of God to being equal to murder, seen in: "*That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment:*" and "*whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council:*" and "*whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.*" Raca means accusing a child of God of being devoid of the Spirit of God. Fool means you are accusing a child of God of not believing in God.

Another easy-to-understand reference to this Commandment is: *Ro 13:9-14; 9 "For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. 10 Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. 11 ¶ And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed. 12 The night is far spent, the day is at hand: let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light. 13 Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying. 14 But put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make not provision for the flesh, to fulfil the lusts thereof."* Spiritually, we should not live, or

express ourselves, in such a way as to kill the desires of any other person to worship and adore God and Christ. The Christian life is not about us, but rather about bringing glory and adoration to the name of God.

#### **14 "Thou shalt not commit adultery."**

**Commandment 7:** God audibly tells Israel: **"Thou shalt not commit adultery."** Adultery means to have sexual relations outside of the bonds of marriage. It can also be extended to all sexual relations outside of the marriage relationship, which are all condemned by scripture. Adultery also covers sexual relationships outside of the bounds of the betrothal relationship. When a man and a woman are engaged to be married, they are to conduct themselves in sexually purity as if they are already married. They are not to engage in sexual relations with each other until they are legally wed.

In the Old Testament we find: **Pr 6:32 "But whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding: he that doeth it destroyeth his own soul."** Adultery, fornication, and all sexual sins were to be punished by death. In the reference above from Proverbs, we see that there is not just the natural death attached, but the spiritual death is also included with the destruction of the soul.

This is why God set things up in the beginning for one man to be married to one woman at the time. The physical act of coming together was the binding factor before the marriage ceremony was established.

In the New Testament we find: **Mt 5:27 "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: 28 But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart."** Here we plainly see the spiritual application.

This is the picture for us, the New Testament Church, and children of God. We are betrothed to our Saviour and Lord, Jesus Christ, and any unfaithfulness to that relationship is adultery. When we create idols, we commit adultery, because we have been unfaithful to our future husbandman. If we desire to be part of any form of religion that is not doctrinally sound in the faith of Jesus Christ, we have committed adultery.

There is scripture that tells us if we live lives as adulterers our doom is very bad, seen in: **1Co 6:9-10; 9 ¶ "Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, 10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God."** Herein we see, adulterers shall not be in the kingdom of God, and they will end up in the eternal lake of fire, unless the grace of God intercede in their lives and brings them to Christ.

#### **15 "Thou shalt not steal."** Steal means to thief, take that which does not belong to you, or deceive.

**Commandment 8:** God audibly tells Israel: Stealing is not treating your brother, or neighbor, as yourself. You are defrauding them of their rightful possession.

We see both of these concepts in New Testament scripture in: **Eph 4:20-28; 20 "But ye have not so learned Christ; 21 If so be that ye have heard him, and have been taught by him, as the truth is in Jesus: 22 That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; 23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; 24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. 25 Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another. 26 Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: 27 Neither give place to the devil. 28 Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth."**

Wherefore, if we profess to have put on Christ and have joined the visible church, and then we live as we did in former times in the lust of the flesh, we are liars and thieves. This action may lead others to believe that they can live any way they want to and be a part of the New Testament Church, which is not true. When we fail to live the Christian life as dictated by the scriptures, we are robbing God of his glory, by yielding to the lust of the flesh. How are we stealing glory from God? Our Christian lives are to be a living testimony to others of the goodness of God, which God would use to draw other souls to himself and add to the church. If we are not living a life that is different than that of the world of sin, we are not being salt and light to our friends and neighbors, which would turn them away from wanting to follow God. In other words, this makes us to be liars, of which the devil is the father, and we are being unfaithful to God and Christ.

Even in nature, we are taught not to steal, but to work that we may have to give to the poor, which will keep them from stealing to provide their needs.

**16 "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour."**

**Commandment 9:** God audibly tells Israel: You are not to bear false witness against your fellowman. In so doing you defame their name, and thereby you defame my name.

We are taught in scripture: **Mt 15:19 "For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:"** If we are bearing false witness, we are testifying to the New Testament Church and the children of God, that we are not born again. Wherefore, if we bear false witness against our neighbor, we are telling everyone that we are not a child of God. Also, false witnesses will usually be believed by many, who do not have all the facts, and lead to many destructive events in the life of others.

Consider: if we bear false witness against a Child of God, we are committing murder. How? You are tearing down the testimony of truth that they have lived out in their lives, and thereby, you are casting a shadow of shame upon their name, and on the name of Christ and God. Remember, we are taught in scripture: **Mt 25:40 "And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."**

**17 "Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's."**

**Commandment 10:** God audibly tells Israel: Do not desire to have, as your own possession, anything that does not rightfully belong to you. God tells Israel that he knows their individual needs, and he will provide that which is necessary. If God so chooses to give one more possessions than another, we are not to desire to have that which God has not apportioned to us.

We apply this concept to our natural lives, and our spiritual lives as well. When God bestows upon a person a gift for a particular work, to bring glory and honor to God's name, we are not to desire that gift, but rather pray, that God will help us recognize the gift he has given to us and enable us to exercise therein.

Do you realize that covetousness was what caused the fall of man in the beginning? Man chose to not be servant to God, but desired to be as God, which is why he disobeyed the commandment of God. Covetousness is a deceitful tool of the devil, and he is very effective in wielding it.

All five of the Ten Commandments that are repeated in the New Testament are intertwined one with the other, just as the four vertical commandments, God to man relations, are intertwined with each other. This is why Jesus told us of the great commandment and the second commandment, seen in: **Mt 22:36-40; 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. 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."**

Wherefore, we understand not only are we to live morally pure lives, we are to live spiritually pure lives as well, which we can only do if God is the central focus of our lives as Christians.

**18 ¶ "And all the people saw the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking: and when the people saw it, they removed, and stood afar off. 19 And they said unto Moses, Speak thou with us, and we will hear: but let not God speak with us, lest we die. 20 And Moses said unto the people, Fear not: for God is come to prove you, and that his fear may be before your faces, that ye sin not. 21 And the people stood afar off, and Moses drew near unto the thick darkness where God was."**

Israel hears God giving these commandments to Moses, and the voice of God fills them with great fear. Insomuch that they moved further back from the mountain. They tell Moses: let God speak to you, and you tell us what God says, for we are afraid that we will die hearing directly from God.

Moses tells them that God is speaking to them that they may learn to fear and reverence God as they ought, and that the remembrance, of the commandments they heard from God's voice, will be imprinted in their minds, and hearts, and keep them from sin.

22 ¶ "And the LORD said unto Moses, Thus thou shalt say unto the children of Israel, Ye have seen that I have talked with you from heaven. 23 Ye shall not make with me gods of silver, neither shall ye make unto you gods of gold. 24 An altar of earth thou shalt make unto me, and shalt sacrifice thereon thy burnt offerings, and thy peace offerings, thy sheep, and thine oxen: in all places where I record my name I will come unto thee, and I will bless thee. 25 And if thou wilt make me an altar of stone, thou shalt not build it of hewn stone: for if thou lift up thy tool upon it, thou hast polluted it. 26 Neither shalt thou go up by steps unto mine altar, that thy nakedness be not discovered thereon."

As Israel removed afar off from the mountain, God tells Moses to tell them: I, God, have spoken to you from heaven. This is to inscribe into your memory that I am God. God again iterates that they are not to make any false gods or images.

God instructs them to make altars of earth to make their sacrifices upon. God points out that they are to make the altars in the places where he records his name, not just anywhere they want to. This shoots down the excuses people use for not attending church services, claiming that I can worship God wherever I am.

It is true that you can and should be in worship of God wherever you are, however, God does not put his name just anywhere because of sin. This is why God gave us the commandment seen in: ***Heb 10:24-25; 24 "And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: 25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."*** If you are off somewhere doing whatever your heart desires, while the church is gathered to worship God, you are not in obedience to God's commandment of assembling with the children of God.

God tells them that if you build an altar of stone, you shall use stones that I have made, and you use them as they are. If you put your hand to them to shape them, you have polluted the altar, and your sacrifices are polluted, and thereby unacceptable to God. This also tells us; we are not to have any manmade rules in our lives, or in the church, which are contrary to the Word of God. This is polluting the altar of sacrifice to God.

God also tells them; they are to not make altars like the idolators, who build them up very high, so that when they go up to sacrifice, the people down below can see their private parts.

In summary: we see that God simply demands that we give ourselves wholly to him, as servants of God. This would be easy, if Adam had not sinned in the garden, and thereby we inherited the same covetous sin nature, which he exercised in the fall in the Garden of Eden.

Praise and glory to God, that Jesus Christ came into the world, in a prepared body of flesh, and fulfilled the law commandments, thereby ushering in the new age, of Salvation by the Grace of God, and established the New Testament Church. Jesus, in his first coming, gave us the New Testament scriptures, which open our understanding of the prophecies of the Old Testament scriptures, which are a testimony of Jesus.

Glory and honor to Jesus, that we no longer must make the sacrificial law sacrifices to relieve us of our sins. Glory and honor to Jesus, that he fulfilled the sacrificial law of the shedding of blood for the eternal remission of our sins. May God help us all to be faithful and true to the voice of God, which is speaking to us from the written Word of God, the King James Bible, and that we have the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to strengthen and refresh our faith in our Christian lives. Hallelujah! Amen!