

Ten Timeless Words

Last Sunday night – Dinner with Friends and Family in Hong Kong

Host said “My Son in Law (who was sitting next to him) is the only guy I know who reads the Owners Manual when he buys something new! And, he’s the only guy I know who knows what’s going on!”

Modern Society > Many of the THINGS we OWN are SMARTER than US

Computer > Digital Camera > Cell Phone > Automobile > Potato Peeler?

Most come with OWNERS MANUAL > NOT Understand > Too IMPATIENT!

Want to START PLAYING with NEW TOYS Immediately > Turn On and GO!

SOMETHING BREAKS > Repair Guy asks ‘Did you READ Owner’s Manual?’

IF you READ > Would have USED IT PROPERLY > Would NOT NEED ME!

BIBLE > REPAIR Manual is GOSPEL – How Jesus can FIX US!

Bible also offers OWNER’S MANUAL > Manufacturers INSTRUCTIONS

FIRST WORDS of Bible > Written by FINGER of God > STONE Tablets

10 Words > FIRST WORDS, PERMANENT Words > LIFE-GUIDING Words

IF REPAIRED by Christ > RISEN with Christ > HOW do we FOLLOW HIM??

10 OLD WORDS > TIMELESS > RELEVANT and Helpful for LIFE TODAY!

MESSAGE > Bird’s Eye View of BIBLE > PURPOSE & Place of LAW of God

May your unfailing love come to me, O LORD,

your salvation according to your promise;

then I will answer the one who taunts me,

for I trust in your word.

Do not snatch the word of truth from my mouth,

for I have put my hope in your laws.

I will always obey your law,

for ever and ever.
**I will walk about in freedom,
 for I have sought out your precepts.**
*I will speak of your statutes before kings
 and will not be put to shame,*
**for I delight in your commands
 because I love them.**
*I lift up my hands to your commands, which I love,
 and I meditate on your decrees.*
 Psalm 119.41-48

1. Permanence of the Law: God the Father
2. Penalty due the Law: God the Son
3. Power for the Law: God the Spirit

1. Permanence of the Law: God the Father

The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and stay here, and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and commands I have written for their instruction....When the LORD finished speaking to Moses on Mount Sinai, he gave him the two tablets of the Testimony, the tablets of stone inscribed by the finger of God.
 Exodus 24.12, 31.18

Moses 1st FLASH DRIVE not Pocket Sized > 2 Stone Tablets > HARD DRIVE
 HIGH ENERGY Document > 1st Piece of Scripture > Written by God's Hand

a. Pattern of Creation > God's Law is GOOD FIT > Made FOR US by Maker

FOUR GOSPELS > Repair Manual / TWO TELLINGS of OWNER's Manual

Exodus > Gk. Deliverance > Set Free from Slavery to Worship and Serve God

Deuteronomy > Gk. Second Law > 2nd Time SAME LAW > Pepsi Generation

OUR First Parents given LAWS in EDEN > CREATOR was LAW-GIVER

God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air and over every living creature that moves on the ground."
 Genesis 1.28

God-breathed Servants...

The LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground and *breathed into his nostrils the breath of life*, and the man became a living being. Genesis 2.7

...made to Receive God-breathed Scripture

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3.16-17

Deut 5.6a "I am the Lord your God"

When Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law...they show that *the requirements of the law are written on their hearts*, their consciences also bearing witness... Romans 2.14-15

Your word, O LORD, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens. Your faithfulness continues through all generations; you established the earth, and it endures. Your laws endure to this day, for all things serve you. Ps 119.89-91

10 Words NOT Jewish Laws or Christian Laws > FOR ALL HUMANITY

Jews and Now Christians > Declare this God and His Laws to ALL NATIONS

People DO NOT LIKE LAWS >> Illus. Man comes home - Daughter UPSET
What's wrong with you? > "I just found out there is a LAW OF GRAVITY!!"

b. Purpose of Redemption > God is BOTH Savior and Lord > Saves as Lord

The LORD said to Moses, "Go to Pharaoh and say to him, 'This is what the LORD says: *Let my people go, so that they may worship me.*' Exodus 8.1

FREEDOM – in Both Covenants – CONNECTED to God's Service, God's Law

FREEDOM in Lord > NOT AUTONOMY or ANARCHY > Freedom in Service

You, my brothers, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather, serve one another in love. The entire law is summed up in a single command: "Love your neighbor as yourself." Galatians 5.13,14

WHO were FIRST RECIPIENTS of TEN WORDS... Redeemed, Saved People

God spoke all these words: "I am the LORD your *God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.* You shall have no other gods before me...

Exodus 20.1-3

LAW given ALREADY SAVED > to Live in FULL BLESSING of Savior God

LAW NOT given to SAVE > IMPOSSIBLE, UNABLE > God ALONE Saves

God HELPS those who CANNOT HELP Themselves!

DECEITFULNESS of Sin > NOT TOO BAD > Just Need to TRY HARDER!

Salvation = SELF-IMPROVEMENT / More EDUCATION

21st CENTURY > Most EDUCATED Group of DEPRAVED SINNERS Ever!

BEFORE LONG > Jews got PROUD > BRAGGED were CHOSEN Nation...

Do not say to yourself, "The LORD has brought me here to take possession of this land because of my righteousness." No, it is on account of the wickedness of these nations that the LORD is going to drive them out before you. It is not because of your righteousness or your integrity that you are going in to take possession of their land; but on account of the wickedness of these nations, the LORD your God will drive them out before you, to accomplish what he swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Deuteronomy 9.4,5

Law NOT GIVEN AS WAY OF SALVATION - LIFESTYLE OF THE SAVED

If you love me, you will obey what I command.

John 14.15

c. Privilege of Covenant > to KNOW GOD, Walk with Him, Receive Blessing

GOD CALLED ISRAEL INTO INTIMATE, LOVING RELATIONSHIP

What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to him? *And what other nation is so great as to have such righteous decrees and laws as this body of laws I am setting before you today?*... He declared to you *his covenant, the Ten Commandments,* which he commanded you to follow and then wrote them on two stone tablets.

Deuteronomy 4.7,8,13

10 COMMANDMENTS // HEART OF COVENANT - THE CONSTITUTION

Blessed is the man whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. Psalm 1.2

Word of God is where you Fellowship with HIM - Know HIM Better

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says...the man who looks intently into *the perfect law that gives freedom*, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it - *he will be blessed* in what he does. James 1.22,25

Talking about ABSOLUTES > 1 God, Truth, Law > TIMELESS, Unchanging
Statistics show MODERN CHURCH > Maybe this Church > Does NOT Believe

AMBER, 16 yrs American Christian young woman, very Active in Good Church

Interviewer: 'Amber, is it wrong to engage in premarital sex?'

'Well, I believe it is wrong **for me.**'

'But, do you believe sex before marriage is wrong for everyone?'

'Well, I know it is wrong **for me**, and I have chosen not to have sex before I'm married. But I don't think I can judge other people on what they do'

Modern Church > JUDGING > Stating the Absolute, Unchanging Word of God

81% of Young People in American church youth groups believe all truth is relative to the individual and his/her circumstances.

Barna Research Group, *'Third Millenium Teens'*

PART of this RELATIVISM > Good Intentioned > Kind, Accepting, Pluralistic

Amber > Does not WANT TO JUDGE > Sexual Choices THEIR BUSINESS

///////// Divorce, Orphans, Homes/Hearts Broken

Kind, Silent, Acceptance: Fuels AIDS, Unwanted Children, Gay Marriage

GOD our MAKER Loves us Enough to SPEAK TRUTH, Give ABSOLUTES

He wants us to LIVE in JOY and FREEDOM of His PERFECT WAYS

The LORD did not set his affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples. *But it was because the LORD loved you and kept the oath he swore to your forefathers that he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt. Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God, keeping his covenant of love to a thousand generations of those who love him and keep his commands.*

Deuteronomy 7.7-10

The goal of this command is love, which comes from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. 1 Timothy 1.5

What happens to those WITHOUT Pure Heart, Good Conscience, Sincere Faith?

2. Penalty due the Law: God the Son

a. Breaking Laws > Laws were GIVEN to BE KEPT

See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse-- the blessing if you obey the commands of the LORD your God that I am giving you today; *the curse if you disobey the commands of the LORD your God and turn from the way that I command you today*

Deuteronomy 11.26-28

Way of BLESSING of God > NOT Rocket Science > Matter of CHOICE

KEEPERS of Law brought to Jesus > Woman who CLEARLY BROKE the Law

‘In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women’....But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. John 8.5,6

What was ON that Ground > BROKEN ROCK > ALL Shattered GOD’S LAWS
NONE WAITED to Accuse Woman > ALL GUILTY > All Must be PUNISHED

b. Making Laws > Multiplication of "Laws"

God’s Laws in Pentateuch – Scholars say there are 613

Pharisees ADDED Thousands of other Man-Made Commands

GUILT AVERTED by GOD'S DISTANCE > Could not SPEAK HIS NAME!

Rabbi's Made FENCE Around Law > Interpretations, Opinions, Analysis

HIDE THEM from NAKED Word of God

When the people saw the thunder and lightning and heard the trumpet and saw the mountain in smoke, they trembled with fear. They stayed at a distance and said to Moses, "Speak to us yourself and we will listen. *But do not have God speak to us or we will die.*"
Exodus 20.18-19

CHRISTIANS Today > More TIME Hearing WORDS OF MEN > Word of God

TODAY > Someone RUNNING from God > EXCUSES, Demands, Complaints

God NOT Fair > Bible is CORRUPT > Those Never Heard? > Other PLANETS?

ALL Demands and Defiance > KEEPS Person from FACING GOD & WORD

Jewish PERVERSION - LAW-KEEPING WAS THE WAY OF SALVATION

Role of Law - Topic of Most Arguments Jesus < > Jewish Leaders

Jesus wanted to BRING PEOPLE back to GOD > UNDERSTAND God & Law

Jesus said to them: "You have a fine way of setting aside the commands of God in order to observe your own traditions!"
Mark 7.9

RABBI'S Called Teaching > YOKE of Law > Jesus called WEARY, BURDEN

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

Matthew 11.28-30

c. Explaining Law Jesus peels Layers off ONION > Unearth's Buried Treasure

Sermon on Mt. BEAUTY of God's Truth > You heard others...**But I say to You**

Focus > INTENT of HEART > Adultery is not just in BED, also in your HEAD

I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven....

Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect

Matthew 5.20,48

Listeners? > Seek to Establish OWN RIGHTEOUSNESS > by GOOD WORKS
IMPOSSIBLE > Law not just ACT of MURDER > MURDEROUS WORDS!

"...you are not under law, but under grace..."

Romans 6.14

DOES NOT MEAN END OF GOD'S PERMANENT MORAL STANDARD
END OF ALL EFFORTS TO SAVE OURSELVES BY LAW KEEPING

So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by
faith.

Galatians 3.24

d. Paying the Penalty of Broken Law > Good News of Gospel / Repair Book

TIMELESS Reality > We BREAK God's Laws > from EDEN until ETERNITY

Adam Rebel / Noah Drunk / Abe Liar / Moses Murderer / Peter Denied Jesus

SINFUL Blood of Adam RUNS thru ALL OUR VEINS

The law is holy, and the commandment is holy, righteous and good... We know
that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual...For I have the desire to do what is
good, but I cannot carry it out. For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the
evil I do not want to do - this I keep on doing...For in my inner being I delight in
God's law; but I see another law at work in the members of my body... making
me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within my members. What a wretched
man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God -
through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Romans 7.12-25

GOOD NEWS for Lawbreakers: God gave Law on Sinai / Son on Calvary

CHRIST'S RIGHTEOUSNESS EXCEEDS PHARISEES – He is PERFECTION

Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is
written: "Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree."

Galatians 3.13

3. Power for the Law: God the Spirit

a. Defect of Law > DEFECT NOT in Law but in LAW-KEEPERS

DO NOT have to TEACH our SWEET, INNOCENT Children to DISOBEY >
Kekoa in HIGH Chair – 14 mo – Eat Together – Adults throw Food in Mouths
Better IDEA – Throw FOOD on Floor – No! Tap on Hand! Time Out! Crying!!
Next Meal – Got that GREAT IDEA Again – Throws Food on Floor!!
Missing a Meal > More Serious about Putting FOOD in his Mouth!
He is a BLAIR Needs to become SUPERSIZED like GRANDPA

DEUTERONOMY > Second Law > 2nd Time SAME LAW > Pepsi Generation
PARENTS had DIED in WILDERNESS / Seen Miracles of God > Disobeyed

When GOD gave Law 2nd TIME to Pepsi Generation entering Promised Land –
Oh, that their hearts would be inclined to fear me and keep all my commands
always, so that it might go well with them and their children forever!
Deuteronomy 5.29

Books of JOSHUA and JUDGES > No IMPROVEMENT > HEARTS BAD!

God the SON came as MESSIAH, LORD, and SAVIOR for God's People...

He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. John 1.11

LOVING SAVIOR sought to Bring Grace to Jerusalem > City of Great King
As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it and said,

"...you did not recognize the time of God's coming to you." Luke 19.41,44

I wrote for them the many things of my law, but they regarded them as
something alien. Hosea 8.12

b. Design of New Covenant: Jesus Breaks CURSE & Sends CURE Holy Spirit

OT Prophets > NEW Covenant > Not New God, Law, Salvation, Grace, Mercy

If there had been nothing wrong with that first covenant, no place would have been sought for another. *But God found fault with the people* Hebrews 8.7-8

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put *my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.* Ezekiel 36.26,27

"The time is coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel...because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them...*I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts.*"
Jeremiah 31.31-33

New Covenant NOT ANTINOMIAN > Loose our SIN Not God's STANDARDS

Jesus said "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples." John 8.31

Being SPIRIT-FILLED is Not about OBEYING and SERVING

Paul tells NEW COVENANT, GENTILE Church in Corinth..

Circumcision is nothing and uncircumcision is nothing. *Keeping God's commands is what counts.*
1 Corinthians 7.19

I am not free from God's law but am *under Christ's law* 1 Corinthians 9.21

c. Deputy of Jesus > SPIRIT of God continues Ministry of the SON of God

PHARISEES were SCHOLARS of BIBLE > Did not Know God of Bible

You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. *These are the Scriptures that testify about me,* yet you refuse to come to me to have life.
John 5.39-40

HAPPY Experience > Little Granddaughter Sits in MY LAP & READ BOOK
BOOKS Sitting on Her Shelf > All Day > I Come Pulls Out wants to SIT READ
GOD'S BOOK is Only LIVING Word > Sit in His Lap, HE READS TO YOU!

When he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. *He will bring glory to me by taking from what is mine and making it known to you.*
John 16.13,14

Now if the ministry that brought death, which was engraved in letters on stone, came with glory...will not the ministry of the Spirit be even more glorious?... And if what was fading away came with glory, how much greater is the glory of that which lasts!... *Now the Lord is the Spirit*, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.
2 Corinthians 3.7-17

DEEP COMPLEX STATEMENT > Glimpse Behind Veil into Very Godhead

The apostle is not merging the person of Christ in the person of the Spirit nor obliterating the hypostatical individuality and distinctiveness of the two persons. But by these stupendous correlations he is intimating how the resurrection life and activity of the Lord Christ are conditioned, permeated, controlled, and directed by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the Spirit of the Lord.
John Murray

d. Delight in God's Law

10 Words > Not Suggestions, Good Ideas, Tips from Sinai > ABSOLUTE

Not to CREATE ZGC PHARISEES > SUFFER Under YOKE of HARSH LAW

KNOW GOD More Fully, FIRMLY > SOLID Faith, SERVING, JOY in HIM
FAITH with ABSOLUTES > CHANGE WORLD > One God, True, All People

WHY 2 Stone Tablets > NOT Because Laws SO MANY, LONG, BRIEF TEXT
GOD > Good BUSINESS ETHICS > Client gets CARBON COPY of Agreement

2 Tablets > God's Copy, Our Copy > God says to Moses KEEP TOGETHER

WHY? God's Name is EMMANUEL > God with US > By WORD and SPIRIT

Psalmist PRAISES God and Word of God > Seems to Almost CROSS LINE??

ALMOST GUILTY of BIBLIOLOTRY > WORSHIP of Bible > Bible an Idol?

In God, whose *word I praise*, in the LORD, *whose word I praise* -- in God I trust;
Psalm 56.10-11

I delight in your commands because *I love them*. I *lift up my hands to your commands, which I love*, and I meditate on your decrees. Psalm 119.47,48

The law from your mouth is more precious to me than thousands of pieces of silver and gold. Psalm 119.72

Your *word, O LORD, is eternal*; it stands firm in the heavens. Psalm 119.89

I will bow down toward your holy temple and will praise your name for your love and your faithfulness, for you have *exalted above all things your name and your word*. Psalm 138.2

HIGHEST ACCOLADES > Veneration, Honor, Worship > WORD of GOD

PSALMIST > Ascribes WORSHIP to the WORD > Word became FLESH

CANNOT Love God without LOVING HIS WORD > Word where MEET God

Weak, Wobbly, Uncertain VIEW of WORD > Pathway to AGNOSTICISM

Sept 10, 2001 > 19 Young Men Read Letter based on ABSOLUTE Conviction

‘Be obedient on this night because you will be facing situations that are ultimate and that would not be done except with full obedience...instructions written in Arabic continued...When you engage in the battle, strike as the heroes would strike. As God says, strike above the necks and strike from everywhere...and then you will know all the heavens are decorated in the best way to meet you.’

NEXT Day > 19 Young Men Commandeered 4 Airplanes > 3000+ People Died

People w/ ABSOLUTE CONVICTIONS Who Know their God > Change World

What Convictions? What God? What kind of Change? We can EFFECT Answer

Your word, O LORD, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens.

*Your faithfulness continues through all generations;
you established the earth, and it endures.*

Your laws endure to this day, for all things serve you.

If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction.

I will never forget your precepts, for by them you have preserved my life.

Save me, for I am yours; I have sought out your precepts.

The wicked are waiting to destroy me, but I will ponder your statutes.

To all perfection I see a limit; but your commands are boundless.

Ps 119.89-96