

## ***The Ten Commandments (Part 1)***



### **276) Why did God give the Children of Israel the Ten Commandments?**

- A. The Ten Commandments is the summary of the moral law. The Commandments were given to show Israel their sin. It clarified what God considered sin to be. Once Israel became aware of His standards, they became accountable to keep them.

"Now we know that whatever the law says, it says to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. [20] Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin."

ROM 3:19-20 NIV

"What shall we say, then? Is the law sin? Certainly not! Indeed I would not have known what sin was except through the law. For I would not have known what coveting really was if the law had not said, "Do not covet."

ROM 7:7 NIV

- B. The Law was given to act as a restraint to sinful man. The Law warns the rebel there is a price to pay for sin.

"We also know that law is made not for the righteous but for lawbreakers and rebels, the ungodly and sinful, the unholy and irreligious; for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers, [10] for adulterers and perverts, for slave traders and liars and perjurers - and for whatever else is contrary to the sound doctrine"

1TIM 1:9-10 NIV

- C. The law was given so Israel could see the holiness of God.

"So then, the law is holy, and the commandment is holy, righteous and good."

ROM 7:12 NIV

- D. Since no man in his own strength can keep the Law, it was given to show man his need for Savior. In the fullness of time, the Law lead men to Jesus.

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"Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes."

ROM 10:4 NIV

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

GAL 3:24 NIV

### 277) Are Christians required to keep the Mosaic Law?

- A. No. Through Christ's death on the cross, we have been set free from the bondage of keeping all the requirements of the Law. We traded a bondage to a set of laws for a life where we die to our desires and live only to fulfill the will of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

"So, my brothers, you also died to the law through the body of Christ, that you might belong to another, to him who was raised from the dead, in order that we might bear fruit to God."

ROM 7:4 NIV

"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.'"

GAL 3:13 NIV

"Now that faith has come, we are no longer under the supervision of the law."

GAL 3:25 NIV

"But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under law."

GAL 5:18 NIV

### 278) What is meant when the Bible says Christ fulfilled the law?

- A. The Law was good and holy. It was not a bad idea that needed to be thrown away. It was God's righteous requirements. The problem was not the Law, but the fact that sinful man could not keep it.
- B. Jesus came to earth and did what no one else could have done. He kept the law, meeting every one of its requirements. In life and in death, He fulfilled every demand that the Law placed on man. It is because Jesus met every condition of the Law that we don't have to.
- C. Because Jesus fulfilled the Law, the fullest understanding of each commandment is found in Jesus Christ and not in the "letter" of the Law.

"The Law and the Prophets were proclaimed until John. Since that time, the good news of the kingdom of God is being preached, and everyone is forcing his way into it. [17] It is easier for heaven and earth to disappear than for the least stroke of a pen to drop out of the Law."

LUKE 16:16-17 NIV

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. [18] I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished."

MATT 5:17-18 NIV

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"These (elements of the law) are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ."

COL 2:17 NIV

"The law is only a shadow of the good things that are coming - not the realities themselves. For this reason it can never, by the same sacrifices repeated endlessly year after year, make perfect those who draw near to worship."

HEB 10:1 NIV

### **279) If we are no longer under the law, do the commandments still apply to us today?**

- A. Yes. Every commandment, except Sabbath-keeping, is restated in the New Testament.
- B. All the commandments are strengthened in the New Testament, because we are now required to obey not only the "letter" or the words of the commandment but also the "spirit" or the underlying principle of the commandment.

### **280) What are the two basic categories of the commandments?**

- A. Commandments 1-4 deal with our relationship with God.
- B. Commandments 5-10 deal with our relationship with our fellow man.

### **281) Where are the Ten Commandments found in the Bible?**

- A. The commandments are found in two locations. They first appear in Exodus 20:1-17 where they were first given to Moses by God. They are given again in Deuteronomy 5:6-21 when Moses addressed the Children of Israel before they entered the promised land.

### **282) What is the First Commandment?**

- A. It is found in Exodus 20:3 and Deuteronomy 5:7.

"You shall have no other gods before me."

EXO 20:3 NIV

### **283) Where is the First Commandment restated in the New Testament?**

"Jesus said to him, "Away from me, Satan! For it is written: 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.'"

MATT 4:10 NIV

"So then, about eating food sacrificed to idols: We know that an idol is nothing at all in the world and that there is no God but one."

1COR 8:4 NIV

"For there is one God and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus,"

1TIM 2:5 NIV

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### 284) What is the significance of the First Commandment?

- A. God desires a relationship with His people. From Adam and Eve until now, God has reached out to man and offered him the privilege of knowing his Creator.
- B. As a condition of this relationship, God insists that it be based on faithfulness. God will not tolerate a divided heart.

### 285) How do we violate the First commandment?

- A. When anything takes a higher place in our life than the place we give God, we violate the First Commandment.

### 286) What does the First Commandment teach us?

- A. It teaches us about the Nature of God.
  - 1. Our God is unique. There is no god to compare to Him.
- B. It teaches us that God demands faithfulness. God must take first place in our lives.
  - 1. He is to take precedence over any deity, any person, any possession, or any philosophy that might come into our life.

"Who among the gods is like you, O LORD? Who is like you - majestic in holiness, awesome in glory, working wonders?"

EXO 15:11 NIV

"Among the gods there is none like you, O Lord; no deeds can compare with yours. [9] All the nations you have made will come and worship before you, O Lord; they will bring glory to your name. [10] For you are great and do marvelous deeds; you alone are God."

PSA 86:8-10 NIV

"For who in the skies above can compare with the LORD? Who is like the LORD among the heavenly beings? [7] In the council of the holy ones God is greatly feared; he is more awesome than all who surround him. [8] O LORD God Almighty, who is like you? You are mighty, O LORD, and your faithfulness surrounds you."

PSA 89:6-8 NIV

### 287) What is the Second Commandment?

- A. The Second Commandment is found in Exodus 20:4-6 and Deuteronomy 5:8-10.

"You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. [5] You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, [6] but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments."

EXO 20:4-6 NIV

### 288) Where is the Second Commandment restated in the New Testament?

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"Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: 'The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in pagan revelry.' [8] We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did - and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died. [9] We should not test the Lord, as some of them did - and were killed by snakes. [10] And do not grumble, as some of them did - and were killed by the destroying angel. [11] These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come. ... [14] Therefore, my dear friends, flee from idolatry."

1COR 10:7-11, 14 NIV

"For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person -such a man is an idolater - has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God."

EPH 5:5 NIV

"Dear children, keep yourselves from idols."

1JOHN 5:21 NIV

### 289) What is the significance of the Second Commandment?

- A. Idolatry surrounded Israel. Abraham was an idolater before God called him. Israel had just spent 400 years in Egypt, surrounded by their idols. As part of the ten plagues, God judged the Egyptian gods.
- B. In this commandment, God was teaching Israel that the living God of creation who delivered them from Egypt has nothing in common with an idol.
- C. God is a jealous God. He will not share His place with any false image nor will He tolerate being compared to a deaf and dumb idol.

"Do not worship any other god, for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God."

EXO 34:14 NIV

"Do I mean then that a sacrifice offered to an idol is anything, or that an idol is anything? [20] No, but the sacrifices of pagans are offered to demons, not to God, and I do not want you to be participants with demons. [21] You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons too; you cannot have a part in both the Lord's table and the table of demons. [22] Are we trying to arouse the Lord's jealousy? Are we stronger than he?"

1COR 10:19-22 NIV

### 290) How do we violate the Second Commandment?

- A. This commandment can be violated in two related but different ways.
  - 1. Making a idol of a false god and worshiping it.
    - a. This breaks both the 1st and 2nd Commandments.
  - 2. Making a representation of the one true God to aid in worship.
    - a. This does not violate the 1st commandment. It is however, insulting to God and misleading to worshipers.
    - b. God is Spirit and has no body. Therefore any representation of God falls short of who He is.
      - (1) Such an "idol" reduces the Creator to a creation of foolish man. It places God below man because man can "make" his god.

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- c. Any time we create an image of God in our own thinking, we are no longer worshiping God but some poor substitute that looks more like us than God.
  - (1) We are guilty of this whenever we try to figure out God or how He will accomplish every little detail of His plan.
- B. This commandment prevents wrong concepts of God from being established in the minds of worshipers.

"God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in spirit and in truth."

JOHN 4:24 NIV

"For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. [22] Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools [23] and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal man and birds and animals and reptiles."

ROM 1:21-23 NIV

"Let the wicked forsake his way and the evil man his thoughts. Let him turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on him, and to our God, for he will freely pardon. [8] "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the LORD. [9] "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts."

ISA 55:7-9 NIV

"We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ."

2COR 10:5 NIV

### 291) What does the Second Commandment teach us?

- A. God is spirit and He is far above His creation in power, majesty and honor.
  - 1. God will not tolerate us reducing Him to our level.
    - a. Men's philosophies cannot change who God is; all such thinking must yield to God.
  - 2. Worship is for God alone and He is not willing to share His honor with any other cheap substitute.

### 292) What is the Third Commandment?

- A. This commandment is found in Exodus 20:7 and Deuteronomy 5:11.

"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."

EXO 20:7 KJV

"You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name."

EXO 20:7 NIV

**293) Where is the Third Commandment restated in the New Testament?**

"Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not break your oath, but keep the oaths you have made to the Lord.' [34] But I tell you, Do not swear at all: either by heaven, for it is God's throne; [35] or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King. [36] And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black. [37] Simply let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No'; anything beyond this comes from the evil one."

MATT 5:33-37 NIV

**294) What is the significance of the Third Commandment?**

- A. Most people think the Third Commandment deals with bad language and cursing. Instead, it deals with the power of calling on God's name.
- B. Because the Name of God is so powerful, we are forbidden to treat it with disrespect or in an empty or common manner.

"David said to the Philistine, 'You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied.'"

1SAM 17:45 NIV

"From there Elisha went up to Bethel. As he was walking along the road, some youths came out of the town and jeered at him. 'Go on up, you baldhead!' they said. 'Go on up, you baldhead!' [24] He turned around, looked at them and called down a curse on them in the name of the LORD. Then two bears came out of the woods and mauled forty-two of the youths."

2KINGS 2:23-24 NIV

"Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God."

PSA 20:7 NIV

"And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

ACTS 2:21 NIV

"Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. [15] And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven."

JAMES 5:14-15 NIV

**295) How do we violate the Third Commandment?**

- A. The word "vain" means empty. Anytime you use the name of God without intending to address Him, you have taken His name in vain.
- B. When you say "God told me" and He never did, you have taken His name in vain.
- C. When you take an oath or make a vow in the name of God and fail to fulfill it, you have taken His name in vain.

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1. Swearing to be truthful in a court of law is not a violation of this commandment unless you perjure yourself.
- D. When you reduce the Name of Almighty God to a common curse word, you have taken His name in vain.
- E. When you blaspheme God, you have taken His Name in vain.
- F. When you bear the name "Christian," but act in a manner that brings reproach on God, you have taken His name in vain.

"Therefore," declares the LORD, "I am against the prophets who steal from one another words supposedly from me. [31] Yes," declares the LORD, "I am against the prophets who wag their own tongues and yet declare, 'The LORD declares.' [32] Indeed, I am against those who prophesy false dreams," declares the LORD. "They tell them and lead my people astray with their reckless lies, yet I did not send or appoint them. They do not benefit these people in the least," declares the LORD."

JER 23:30-32 NIV

"Do not be quick with your mouth, do not be hasty in your heart to utter anything before God. God is in heaven and you are on earth, so let your words be few. [3] As a dream comes when there are many cares, so the speech of a fool when there are many words. [4] When you make a vow to God, do not delay in fulfilling it. He has no pleasure in fools; fulfill your vow. [5] It is better not to vow than to make a vow and not fulfill it. [6] Do not let your mouth lead you into sin. And do not protest to the temple messenger, "My vow was a mistake." Why should God be angry at what you say and destroy the work of your hands?"

ECC 5:2-6 NIV

"Now the son of an Israelite mother and an Egyptian father went out among the Israelites, and a fight broke out in the camp between him and an Israelite. [11] The son of the Israelite woman blasphemed the Name with a curse; so they brought him to Moses. (His mother's name was Shelomith, the daughter of Dibri the Danite.) [12] They put him in custody until the will of the LORD should be made clear to them. [13] Then the LORD said to Moses: [14] "Take the blasphemer outside the camp. All those who heard him are to lay their hands on his head, and the entire assembly is to stone him. [15] Say to the Israelites: 'If anyone curses his God, he will be held responsible; [16] anyone who blasphemes the name of the LORD must be put to death. The entire assembly must stone him. Whether an alien or native-born, when he blasphemes the Name, he must be put to death."

LEV 24:10-16 NIV

"As it is written: "God's name is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you." [25] Circumcision has value if you observe the law, but if you break the law, you have become as though you had not been circumcised."

ROM 2:24-25 NIV

## 296) What does the Third Commandment teach us?

- A. God and the names that represent Him to the world are holy and always to be held in highest honor.
  1. Remember you carry the name of CHRISTian. Make sure your life is an honor to the name you bear.



- B. We are never to use His name to further our concerns.
  - 1. Saying "God told me" to impress or manipulate people is strictly forbidden.
- C. God has given us the tremendous privilege of calling upon His Name in prayer and praise.

"But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God's holy people. [4] Nor should there be obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving. [5] For of this you can be sure: No immoral, impure or greedy person -such a man is an idolater - has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God."

EPH 5:3-5 NIV

## 297) What is the Fourth Commandment?

"Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. [9] Six days you shall labor and do all your work, [10] but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates. [11] For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy."

EXO 20:8-11 NIV

## 298) What are the two parts to the Fourth Commandment?

- A. The first part concerns physical and mental rest for our body and soul, one day out of every seven.
- B. The second part concerns resting from our spiritual labors.
  - 1. We no longer have to "work" to obtain salvation.
  - 2. Since we have surrendered everything to Jesus, we no longer have to worry and fret about life.

"One Sabbath Jesus was going through the grainfields, and as his disciples walked along, they began to pick some heads of grain. [24] The Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?" [25] He answered, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need? [26] In the days of Abiathar the high priest, he entered the house of God and ate the consecrated bread, which is lawful only for priests to eat. And he also gave some to his companions." [27] Then he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. [28] So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath."

MARK 2:23-28 NIV

"Another time he went into the synagogue, and a man with a shriveled hand was there. [2] Some of them were looking for a reason to accuse Jesus, so they watched him closely to see if he would heal him on the Sabbath. [3] Jesus said to the man with the shriveled hand, "Stand up in front of everyone." [4] Then Jesus asked them, "Which is lawful on the Sabbath: to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?" But they remained silent. [5] He looked around at them in anger and, deeply distressed at their stubborn hearts, said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was completely restored. [6] Then the Pharisees went out and began to plot with the Herodians how they

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might kill Jesus."

MARK 3:1-6 NIV

### 299) Where is the Fourth Commandment restated in the New Testament?

A. Taking our Sabbath rest as a day is not found in the New Testament.

1. On the contrary, we are warned not to honor one day over any other day.

"One man considers one day more sacred than another; another man considers every day alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. [6] He who regards one day as special, does so to the Lord. He who eats meat, eats to the Lord, for he gives thanks to God; and he who abstains, does so to the Lord and gives thanks to God. ... [22] So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the man who does not condemn himself by what he approves."

ROM 14:5-6, 22 NIV

"But now that you know God - or rather are known by God -how is it that you are turning back to those weak and miserable principles? Do you wish to be enslaved by them all over again? [10] You are observing special days and months and seasons and years! [11] I fear for you, that somehow I have wasted my efforts on you."

GAL 4:9-11 NIV

"Therefore do not let anyone judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a religious festival, a New Moon celebration or a Sabbath day. [17] These are a shadow of the things that were to come; the reality, however, is found in Christ."

COL 2:16-17 NIV

B. Taking Jesus as our Sabbath rest is found repeatedly in the NT.

"Therefore, since the promise of entering his rest still stands, let us be careful that none of you be found to have fallen short of it. [2] For we also have had the gospel preached to us, just as they did; but the message they heard was of no value to them, because those who heard did not combine it with faith. [3] Now we who have believed enter that rest, just as God has said, "So I declared on oath in my anger, "They shall never enter my rest." And yet his work has been finished since the creation of the world. [4] For somewhere he has spoken about the seventh day in these words: "And on the seventh day God rested from all his work." [5] And again in the passage above he says, "They shall never enter my rest." [6] It still remains that some will enter that rest, and those who formerly had the gospel preached to them did not go in, because of their disobedience. [7] Therefore God again set a certain day, calling it Today, when a long time later he spoke through David, as was said before: "Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts." [8] For if Joshua had given them rest, God would not have spoken later about another day. [9] There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; [10] for anyone who enters God's rest also rests from his own work, just as God did from his. [11] Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall by following their example of disobedience."

HEB 4:1-11 NIV

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do

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not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

JOHN 14:27 NIV

"Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,"

ROM 5:1 NIV

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. [7] And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

PHIL 4:6-7 NIV

### 300) What is the significance of the Fourth Commandment?

- A. Salvation is not adherence to a list of rules. It is total dependence on our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Likewise, the rest the Lord requires of us goes far deeper than our bodies. It ministers to our soul and spirit man.
- B. Our bodies and our minds still need to rest one day out of seven. One of the most effective ways to rest body and soul is to spend time in the presence of God. For that reason, Sunday is an excellent day to set aside for resting in the Lord. If that is not possible and we are required to work on Sunday, we can spend a different day with the Lord without condemnation.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. [29] 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. [30] For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

MATT 11:28-30 NIV

### 301) How do we violate the Fourth Commandment?

- A. The word "Sabbath" means to "desist, cease or rest."
- B. When we depend on our own works to earn salvation, we violate the Sabbath.
- C. Whenever we worry or fret, we are breaking the Sabbath.
- D. The Fourth Commandment is one of the most widely violated.
  - 1. It is much easier to avoid work on a Sabbath day than it is to never worry or allow our peace to be disturbed by the circumstances that surround us.

### 302) What does the Fourth Commandment teach us?

- A. God wants us cease from our own labor and rest in Him, in His salvation and not in our own works.
  - 1. In the OT rest was found in a day, set aside.
  - 2. In the NT rest is found in our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
- B. God is also looking out for our physical and mental well-being by giving us one day out of every seven to spend with Him.
- C. Whether we worship on a Saturday, Sunday, or Thursday evening is unimportant to God. He is concerned that we take our Sabbath rest in His Son, Jesus our Savior.

"If you keep your feet from breaking the Sabbath (Jesus) and from doing as you please on my holy day, if you call the Sabbath (Jesus) a delight and the LORD'S holy day honorable, and if you honor it (Him) by not going your own way and not doing as you

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please or speaking idle words. [14] then you will find your joy in the LORD, and I will cause you to ride on the heights of the land and to feast on the inheritance of your father Jacob." The mouth of the LORD has spoken."

ISA 58:13-14 NIV

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Group Leaders: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### Homework for Chapter 21

**Please answer the following questions from the textbook in full sentences and return to your Group Leaders next week.**

1) Why did God give the Ten Commandments?

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2) What does the First Commandment teach us?

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3) What does the Second Commandment teach us?

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4) What does the Third Commandment teach us?

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5) What does the Fourth Commandment teach us?

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