

The Unifying Message of the Old Testament

Part 2

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Part 2

The Long Journey From Egypt to Canaan

• Exodus 13 - 40	1 year
(3 mos. from Egypt to Sinai; 9 mos. at Sinai)	
• Leviticus	1 mo.
• Numbers	38 yrs./9 mos.
• Deuteronomy	<u>2 mos.</u>
Total	40 years

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The Covenant at Sinai

- Exodus 19:1-8
- Already a covenant people—
Abrahamic Covenant
- Offered the privilege of being a
covenant nation (1-6)
- Accept the privilege and the
conditions (7-8)

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God's Plan for Israel (Ex. 19:4-6)

'You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and *how* I bore you on eagles' wings, and brought you to Myself. 'Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the sons of Israel."

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The Tabernacle: A Model



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The Tabernacle



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The Tabernacle

(Ex. 35-40)

- A Throne Room for Israel's King
 - Ex. 25:8 - "Let them construct a sanctuary for Me, that I may dwell among them.
- YHWH took up residence there
 - Ex. 40:34-35 - Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud had settled on it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

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The Blood of Bulls & Goats

Leviticus & the
Sacrificial System



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Six Foundational Truths

- God commanded it of every person.



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The Five Sacrifices

Name	Portion Burnt	Other Portion	Animals	Occasion or Purpose	Ref.
Burnt	All	None	A male w/o blemish; according to wealth	Propitiation for sin generally; demonstrates entire consecration to YHWH	Lev. 1:1-17; 6:8-13
Meal	A token portion	Left for priest	Unleavened cakes or grains; salted	Offer to the Lord the fruit of one's hands; first fruits express thankfulness for the harvest	Lev. 2:1-16; 6:14-18
Peace : 1 Thank Offering 2 Vow Offering 3 Freewill Offering	The fatty portions	Shared by priest & offerer	Male or female w/o blemish; according to wealth; freewill offering, slight blemish	1 For an unexpected blessing; 2 For deliverance when a vow was made; 3 For general thankfulness	Lev. 3:1-17; 7:11-34
Sin	The fatty portions	Eaten by priests	Priest or entire congregation: bull; King: he-goat; Individual: she-goat	Propitiation/atonement for a sin for which no restitution could be made	Lev. 4:1-5:13
Trespass	The fatty portions	Eaten by priests	Ram without blemish	Propitiation/atonement for a sin for which restitution could be made	Lev. 5:14-6:7

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Israel's National Sacrificial System (Num. 28-29)

	<i>Bull</i>	<i>Ram</i>	<i>Lamb</i>	<i>Male Goat</i>
Continual	–	–	2	–
Sabbath	–	–	2	–
New Moon	2	1	7	1
Unleavened Bread	2	1	7	1
Day of Firstfruits	2	1	7	1
Trumpets	1	1	7	1
Day of Atonement	1	1	7	1
Tabernacles Day 1	13	2	14	1
Day 2	12	2	14	1
Day 3	11	2	14	1
Day 4	10	2	14	1
Day 5	9	2	14	1
Day 6	8	2	14	1
Day 7	7	2	14	1
Day after Tabernacles	1	1	7	1

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The Annual Requirements

- Bulls – 101
 - Rams – 31
 - Goats – 24
 - Lambs – 1051
- | | |
|-------|------|
| Total | 1207 |
|-------|------|



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Six Foundational Truths

- God commanded it of every person.
- The sacrifices were for God.



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For the LORD

- “An offering by fire of a soothing aroma to the LORD.”
- Lev. 1:9, 13, 17; 2:2, 9, 12; 3:5, 16; 4:31; 6:15, 21; 8:21, 28; 17:6; 23:13, 18; Num. 28:2, 6, 8, 13, 24, 27; 29:2, 6, 8, 13, 36

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Six Foundational Truths

- God commanded it of every person.
- The sacrifices were for God.
- To be accepted, they must come from the heart.



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1 Samuel 15:22

Samuel said, "Has the LORD as much
delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices
As in obeying the voice of the LORD?
Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice,
And to heed than the fat of rams.

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Six Foundational Truths

- God commanded it of every person.
- The sacrifices were for God.
- To be accepted, they must come from the heart.
- The animal sacrifices were always substitutionary.



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The Order of Events

- Worshiper presents animal
- Worshiper lays hand on animal
- Worshiper slaughters animal
- Priest catches blood & splatters on altar
- Priest burns specified portion on altar
- Remainder eaten (sometimes)



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Six Foundational Truths

- God commanded it of every person.
- The sacrifices were for God.
- To be accepted, they must come from the heart.
- The animal sacrifices were always substitutionary.
- Animal sacrifices were never the basis of forgiveness.
- Animal sacrifices were pictures of the coming human sacrifice of Christ.



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Role of the Priests

- Tribe of Levi
- Descendants of Aaron
- Supported by the tithes (or taxes)
- Lived in 48 cities, throughout the 12 tribes
- Two responsibilities:
 - 1) Maintaining the sacrificial system
 - 2) Teaching the Bible to the people
 - Deut. 33:10- "They shall teach Your ordinances to Jacob, And Your law to Israel. They shall put incense before You, And whole burnt offerings on Your altar."

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The Law of God



Classifying the Laws

1. The Moral Laws - Exodus 20

The Ten Commandments

2. The Civil Laws - Exodus 21-23

The “Covenant Code”

3. The Ceremonial Laws - Exodus 25ff.

The Tabernacle and the offerings

Two Ways the Laws are Expressed

“Ordinances” (*mishpatim*) Ex 21:2-22:17

Casuistic Laws (“if ...”)

21:18-19 compensation

21:22-25 “Lex Talionis”

“Commands” (*devarim*) Ex. 22:18-23:19

Apodictic Laws (“you shall . . .”)

22:22 widow and orphan

23:19 goat in milk

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Ideals Embodied in the Case Laws

- Appropriate Punishment (must fit the crime)
- Sanctity of Life
- Restitution/Compensation
- Preventing Abuse of the System (22:2,3)

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Two Summary Principles

- The ethical principles of the Ten Commandments are still incumbent on the New Testament believer.
- The Old Testament “case laws” are not directly applicable to us, but do illustrate ethical principles that are relevant today.

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Aspects of the Mosaic Law

- Ceremonial
- Civil or Judicial
- Moral



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The Moral Law of God

Scriptural Propositions

1. Based on character of God
2. Written on man's conscience from the beginning (Rom. 2:14ff)
3. Codified at Sinai (part of Mosaic legislation)
4. Affirmed by Christ and NT authors (Matt. 5:17; Rom. 7:12)

The Moral Law of God

Scriptural Propositions

5. Never meant to justify (Gal. 2:16)
6. Serves a purpose for unbelievers
 - a. Awaken their consciences (Rom. 3:20; 7:7)
 - b. Drive them to Christ (Gal. 3:24)
 - c. Leave them w/o excuse and condemned before God (Rom. 3:19-20)

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The Moral Law of God

Scriptural Propositions

7. Serves a purpose for believers
 - a. Provide a guide to obedience (Rom. 7:22, 25; Jer. 31:33; 2 Cor. 3:3)
 - b. Produce overwhelming gratitude (Gal. 3:13; Heb. 13:15)
8. Most concisely summarized by commands to love God and love our neighbor
9. Is outlined by The Ten Commandments

Three Principles of Interpretation

1. Each command is spiritual or internal.
2. Each command forbids wrong thoughts and actions and also demands right thoughts and actions.
3. Each command has a core theme or message that summarizes many of God's laws.

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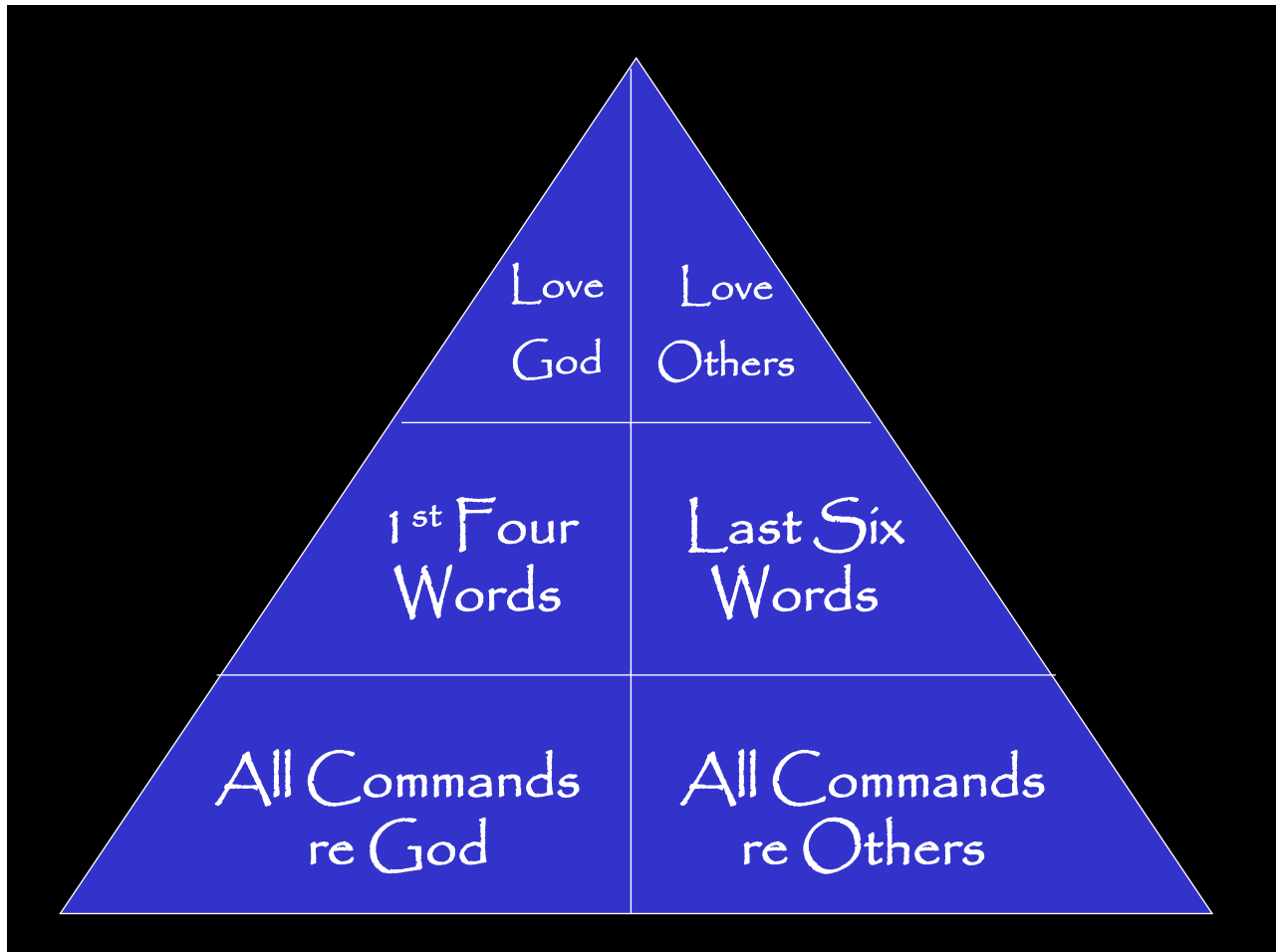
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No Other Gods

Thought forbidden	Act forbidden	Act commanded	Thought commanded
Allowing anything within the heart that takes the place of devotion or worship due the true God	Having any object of worship in addition to or in place of the true God	Acknowledging YHWH to be the only true God & knowing Him as our God; seeking to lead others to the worship of the true God	Adoring, loving, desiring, fearing, believing him; trusting, hoping, delighting, rejoicing in him; giving all praise and thanks, and obeying and submitting to him; seeking to please him

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The Essence of the Ten Commandments



The First Word

- Theme: Person of God
- We are to know and acknowledge God to be the only true God and our God.
- Only One God.

The Second Word

- Theme: mode of worship
- God is to be worshipped and only in the way He prescribes.
- He tells us what He's like in the Bible.

The Third Word

- Theme: attitude toward and treatment of God (or) the glory of God
- God is to be feared and treated with the greatest reverence and respect.
 - Respect and honor God.

The Fourth Word

- Theme: time (or) the priority of God
 - God is Lord of our time and He has prescribed that we devote most of our time to working and that we set aside time to worship Him.
- We worship God on Sunday.

The Fifth Word

- Theme: authority
- God has put people over us in a position of authority and they are to be honored.
- Honor your father and mother.

The Sixth Word

- Theme: human life
- Life is divinely given and must be respected and preserved.
- Take care of other people.

The Seventh Word

- Theme: sexuality & the sanctity of marriage
- God has given us the gift of sexuality and He insists that it be enjoyed in keeping with His design and intention.
- Our bodies belong to God.

The Eighth Word

- Theme: personal property
- God has distributed material wealth according to His own sovereign purposes and He demands that we respect the property of others and be wise stewards of our own.
- Take care of your own things and the things that belong to others.

The Ninth Word

- Theme: speech
- God demands the maintaining and promoting of truth in our speech.
- Always tell the truth.

The Tenth Word

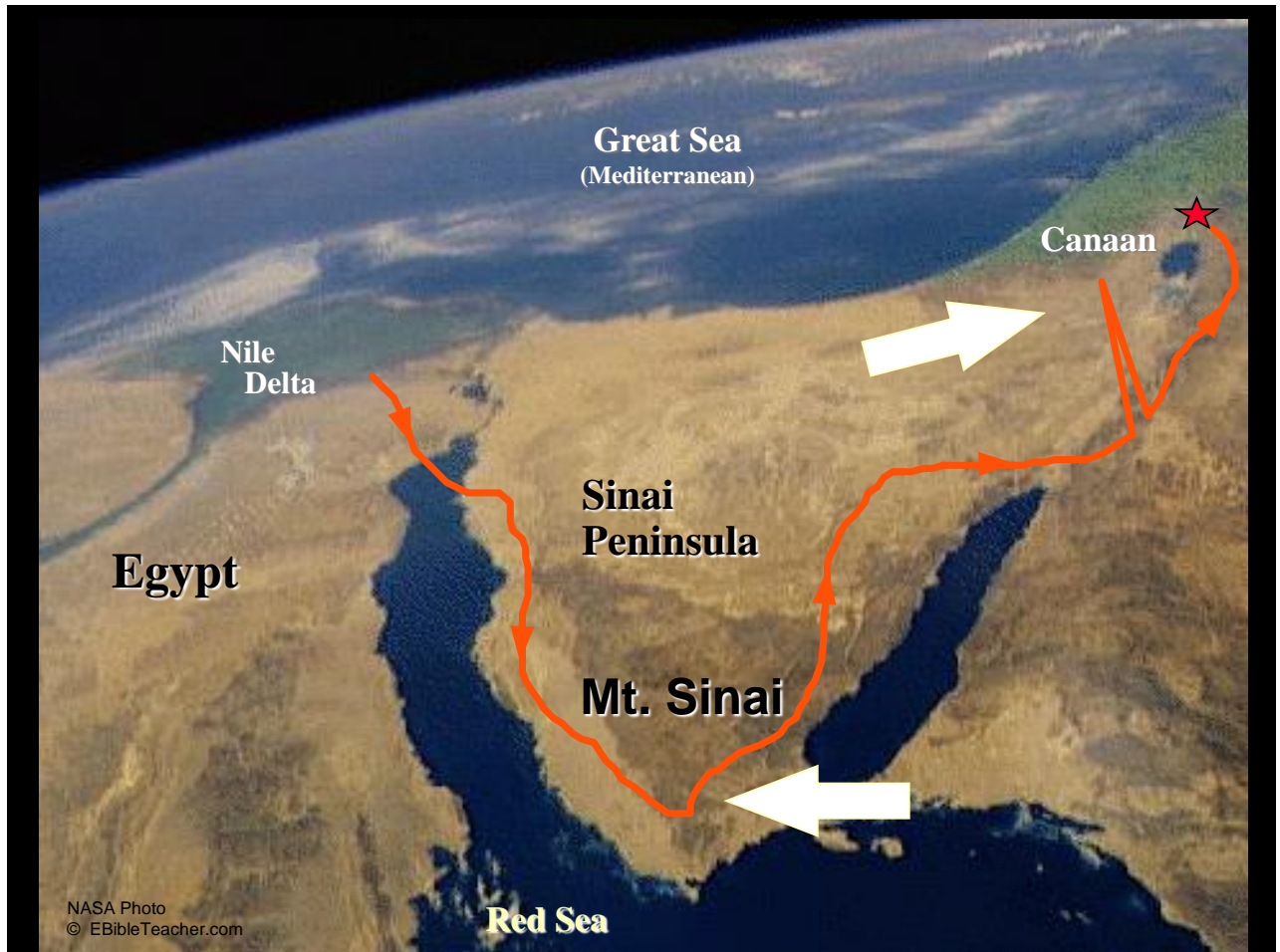
- Theme: life circumstances
- God demands that we be content with and grateful for our condition, circumstances, and estate.
- Be happy with what God has given us.

Our Attitude to God's Law

- Ps. 1:2 - "But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night."
- Ps. 119:97 - "Oh how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day."
- Rom. 7:22 - "For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being"

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The Two Reports

Minority

- Land is fruitful
- The people are strong
- Some of them are BIG
- The Anakim are there

“Let us go up now”

Majority

- Land devours its owners
- People are stronger than us
- All of them are BIG
- The Nephilim are there

“We are not able to go up”

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The Wilderness



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The Jordan



Lessons for Us

- The NT primarily uses the Wilderness Wanderings to illustrate two great dangers:
 - The Danger of Accommodating Sin (1 Cor. 10:1-12).
 - The Danger of Unbelief (Heb. 3:7—4:11).