

Moses – part 20

"You shall not commit adultery"
by Victor Torres

The laws given to Israel through Moses are a good starting point for us to learn obedience to God's commands. These laws are needed to prevent the world from plunging into total chaos. Can you imagine what the world would be like if murderers and thieves roam around the streets without fear of getting arrested?

However, we learned that it is not enough to obey these laws to enter the kingdom of God. We need to obey God's higher laws.

Mat 5:20 (MKJV) For I say to you that unless your righteousness shall exceed *that of the scribes and Pharisees, you shall in no case enter into the kingdom of Heaven.*

Who are these scribes and Pharisees in Jesus' days? These are the religious leaders in His time who had very good knowledge of the law of Moses.

Who are the scribes and Pharisees of today? These are the religious leaders who are experts of their church laws and traditions. They know their church rules more than they know the true words of God in the Bible.

And just like the scribes and Pharisees hated our Lord for breaking the Sabbath, we will also be hated by these people for not following their traditions and exposing their lies.

Joh 15:17 (ERV) This is my command: Love each other.

Joh 15:18 "If the world hates you, remember that they hated me first.

Joh 15:19 If you belonged to the world, the world would love you as it loves its own people. But I have chosen you to be different from those in the world. So you don't belong to the world, and that is why the world hates you.

Joh 15:20 "Remember the lesson I told you: Servants are not greater than their master. If people treated me badly, they will treat you badly too. And if they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours too.

The Lord has chosen us to be different from those in the world. Are we different from those in the world? How? Do we value money or fame more than obeying God? Then we're no different than the people of this world. Do we still practice the traditions of this world? Then we are no different from the people of this world.

Let's continue the story of Moses:

Exo 20:14 (ESV) "You shall not commit adultery.

Adultery is committed when a husband is being unfaithful to his wife or when a wife is being unfaithful to her husband. However, just like the other commandments, there is a deeper meaning.

Here is the apostle Paul talking to the people of God:

2Co 11:2 (GNB) I am jealous for you, just as God is; you are like a pure virgin **whom I have promised in marriage to one man only, Christ himself.**

2Co 11:3 I am afraid that your minds will be corrupted and that you will abandon your full and pure devotion to Christ---in the same way that Eve was deceived by the snake's clever lies.

Whenever we are deceived or tricked by any of Satan's lies, we are like a wife who is unfaithful to her husband. We are committing spiritual adultery.

Exo 20:15 (ESV) "You shall not steal.

That's simple enough, right? We shouldn't take what's not ours. But how do we spiritually steal from God?

Jer 23:29 (KJV) *Is not my word like as a fire? saith the LORD; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?*

Jer 23:30 Therefore, **behold, I am against the prophets, saith the LORD, that steal my words every one from his neighbour.**

Jer 23:31 Behold, I *am* against the prophets, saith the LORD, that use their tongues, and say, He saith.

Jer 23:32 **Behold, I am against them that prophesy false dreams, saith the LORD, and do tell them, and cause my people to err by their lies, and by their lightness; yet I sent them not, nor commanded them: therefore they shall not profit this people at all, saith the LORD.**

When we take the words of God and we twist them and teach lies to God's people, we are stealing their inheritance, we are stealing their joy. Some of you will say, well, I don't teach God's words so I could not possibly be stealing spiritually. The thing is, if we believe these false teachers, we are guilty of their sins.

Exo 20:16 (ESV) "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

Bearing false witness is saying something that is not true against your neighbor. It is indeed bad to gossip about other people, but if we listen to false teachers, we will spread their lies and we will be bearing false witness to others.

Psa 15:1 (CEV) Who may stay in God's temple or live on the holy mountain of the LORD?

Psa 15:2 **Only those who obey God and do as they should. They speak the truth**

Psa 15:3 **and don't spread gossip**; they treat others fairly and don't say cruel things.

Psa 15:4 They hate worthless people, but show respect for all who worship the LORD. And they keep their promises, no matter what the cost.

We are also told not to covet or want something that is not ours.

Exo 20:17 (ESV) "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."

But sometimes we want something that is not physical, like this Simon the sorcerer:

Act 8:9 (CEV) For some time a man named Simon had lived in the city of Samaria and had amazed the people. He practiced witchcraft and claimed to be somebody great.

Act 8:10 Everyone, rich and poor, crowded around him. They said, "This man is the power of God called 'The Great Power.' "

Act 8:11 For a long time, Simon had used witchcraft to amaze the people, and they kept crowding around him.

Act 8:12 But when they believed what Philip was saying about God's kingdom and about the name of Jesus Christ, they were all baptized.

Act 8:13 Even Simon believed and was baptized. He stayed close to Philip, because he marveled at all the miracles and wonders.

Act 8:14 The apostles in Jerusalem heard that some people in Samaria had accepted God's message, and they sent Peter and John.

Act 8:15 When the two apostles arrived, they prayed that the people would be given the Holy Spirit.

Act 8:16 Before this, the Holy Spirit had not been given to anyone in Samaria, though some of them had been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Act 8:17 Peter and John then placed their hands on everyone who had faith in the Lord, and they were given the Holy Spirit.

Act 8:18 Simon noticed that the Spirit was given only when the apostles placed their hands on the people. So he brought money

Act 8:19 and said to Peter and John, "Let me have this power too! Then anyone I place my hands on will also be given the Holy Spirit."

Act 8:20 (ERV) Peter said to Simon, "You and your money should both be destroyed because you thought you could buy God's gift with money.

Act 8:21 You cannot share with us in this work. Your heart is not right before God.

The lesson here is we should never think we bring something to the table. God did not choose us because of our money, our intelligence or any other ability that we have. If we end up in the first resurrection, that's because He chose us and not because we chose Him.

Exo 20:18 (ESV) Now when all the people saw the thunder and the flashes of lightning and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking, the people were afraid and trembled, and they stood far off

Exo 20:19 and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, lest we die."

Exo 20:20 Moses said to the people, "Do not fear, for God has come to test you, that the fear of him may be before you, that you may not sin."

Exo 20:21 The people stood far off, while Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was.

Exo 20:22 And the LORD said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the people of Israel: 'You have seen for yourselves that I have talked with you from heaven.

Exo 20:23 You shall not make gods of silver to be with me, nor shall you make for yourselves gods of gold.

The Lord has given Israel many other commandments besides those that we discussed. All these commandments are based on two commandments:

Mat 22:35 And one of them, a teacher of the law, put a question to him, testing him, and saying,

Mat 22:36 Master, which is the chief rule in the law?

Mat 22:37 And he said to him, Have love for the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. (Deu 6:5)

Mat 22:38 This is the first and greatest rule.

Mat 22:39 And a second like it is this, Have love for your neighbour as for yourself. (Lev 19:18)

Mat 22:40 **On these two rules all the law and the prophets are based.**

All Christians claim to love God with all their heart and with all their soul and with all their mind, but their works says otherwise. They honor soldiers and encourage their sons and daughters to protect their country despite our Lord's command to love our enemies. They claim to love their neighbor as themselves, but they are quick to take each other to court when someone wrongs them.

Obedience to the law of Moses will not qualify us for the first resurrection. Only the obedience to the law of Christ will get us this prize.

Joh 1:17 (KJV) For the law was given by Moses, *but* grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.