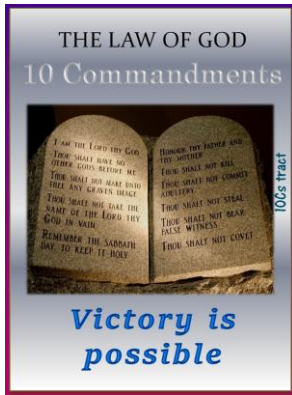


~ 10 Commandments ~



We don't have to be afraid or 'shy' away from the 10 Commandments. They are actually our friend, in Jesus.

Not knowing anything about the 10 Commandments (or the law of God), what kind of

world do you think we'd live in if the 10 Commandments were followed? In a perfect world or with perfect people, the 10 Commandments if followed there would be no crime or theft, no murders, or abuse or disrespect, no false worship (inviting the evil angels and Satan to interact and mess with us), no greed (therefore some people having too much maybe leaving others without or lacking), we'd have wonderful relationships...the list goes on.

Yes, it is possible by the blood of Christ.

♦ (Romans 3:25) [Jesus] whom God set forth *as* a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed,

Ever struggle with the 10 Commandments or sometimes being "good"? Of course we do! Our "flesh"—our fallen, sinful (and selfish) human nature is weak to goodness and strong to evil at times. God knows this, that's why He sent His Son

♦ that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. (John 3:16)

God knows our weaknesses. In fact, the Gospel indicates "I can't, but He can (through me)!" Really! God is a wonderful power through us, if we believe.

♦ I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. (Philippians 4:13)

♦ greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world. (1 John 4:4)

♦ (Ephesians 6:12) For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual *hosts* of wickedness in the heavenly *places*.

So yes, we struggle, but God can help us. God rose His Son Jesus from the dead! RESURRECTION! That is wonderful, heavenly power; He is able. The Lord said to Moses:

♦ Exodus 4:6-7 "Now put your hand in your bosom." And he [Moses] put his hand in his bosom, and when he took it out, behold, his hand *was* leprous, like snow. (7) And He [the LORD] said, "Put your hand in your bosom again." So he put his hand in his bosom again, and drew it out of his bosom, and behold, it was restored like his *other* flesh.

God can restore us—he has power over our "flesh", our bodies—even instantly. God's strength is greater than ours, that's why He can help us; He is willing.

♦ without Me you can do nothing. (Jesus said in John 15:5)

[This is in context of Jesus talking about Him being the 'vine' or root and we are to be the *branches* connected to the nutrient source, the source of real life.] **THE REASON WE EXPERIENCE FAILURE IS WE DISCONNECT (DON'T SPEND TIME) WITH GOD.**

It's real simple: we're *breathing the air* (metaphor for connecting with God) or we're not. Who will survive? Either you're breathing the "air mask" or you're not. God in your life. Victory or not.



What are the 10 Commandments (or law of God)?

♦ Exodus 20:1-17 (New King James version)

(1) And God spoke all these words, saying:

#1 (2) "I *am* the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

(3) "You shall have no other gods before Me.

#2 (4) "You shall not make for yourself a carved image—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) you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, *am* a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth *generations* of those who hate Me,

(6) but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

#3 (7) "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold *him* guiltless who takes His name in vain.

#4 (8) "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

(9) Six days you shall labor and do all your work,

(10) but the seventh day *is* the Sabbath of the LORD your God. *In it* you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle,

nor your stranger who *is* within your gates.

(11) For *in* six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that *is* in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.

#5 (12) "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you.

#6 (13) "You shall not murder.

#7 (14) "You shall not commit adultery.

#8 (15) "You shall not steal.

#9 (16) "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

#10 (17) "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that *is* your neighbor's."

God wrote the 10 Commandments Himself, with His own finger (Exodus 31:18, 32:16), the ONLY time God wrote something in the Bible; everything else was written or dictated through people (1st Peter 1:12, 2nd Peter 1:21). This was completely God's work, delivered straight from heaven.



Notice how the Catholic Church changed the 10 Commandments! The Catholic system:



1. removed the 2nd Commandment on idolatry (which were major, punishable sins in the Old Testament examples).
2. replaced the 4th Commandment **Sabbath** with Sunday, teaching Sunday as the “Lord’s Day”—**they are the main source of this switch of holy days.**
3. split the 10th Commandment on coveting into two commandments, to make room for the one removed (idolatry, #2).

All of this fits the “little horn” of Daniel 7:25 which “shall intend to change times and law”. ☹

But the good 10 Commandments, the law of God, are all found in the New Testament!:

Commandment	New Testament
1	Matthew 4:10, Revelation 19:10
2	1 John 5:21, Acts 17:29
3	1 Timothy 6:1
4	Mark 2:27-28, Hebrews 4:4,9,10
5	Matthew 19:19, Ephesians 6:1-3
6	Romans 13:9, James 2:11
7	Matthew 19:18
8	Romans 13:9, Ephesians 4:28
9	Romans 13:9
10	Romans 7:7

God’s law is indeed a good thing, “holy and just and good” (Romans 7:12):

	God is	the Law is
Good	Luke 18:19	1 Timothy 1:8
Holy	Isaiah 5:16	Romans 7:12
Perfect	Matthew 5:48	Psalms 19:7
Pure	1 John 3:2,3	Psalms 19:8
Just	Deuteronomy 32:4	Romans 7:12
True	John 3:33	Psalms 19:9
Spiritual	1 Corinthians 10:4	Romans 7:14
Righteous	Jeremiah 23:6	Psalms 119:172
Faithful	1 Corinthians 1:9	Psalms 119:86
Love	1 John 4:8	Romans 13:10
Eternal	Genesis 21:33	Psalms 111:7-8

The law (10 Commandments) is deep, universal and non-racist (for all people), and has many applications both literally and spiritually (such as our thoughts, Matthew 5:21+). Governments (mankind) have come up with thousands of laws to deal with human behavior—and that is usually just related to the last 6 commandments which deal with human-to-human interactions.



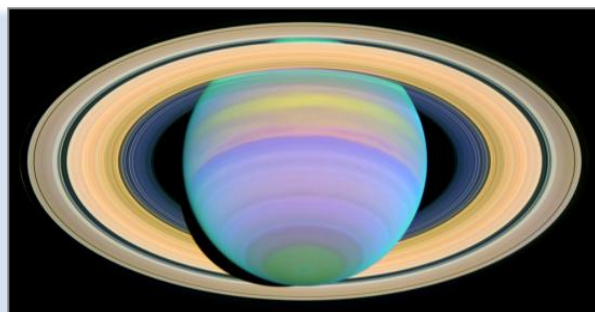
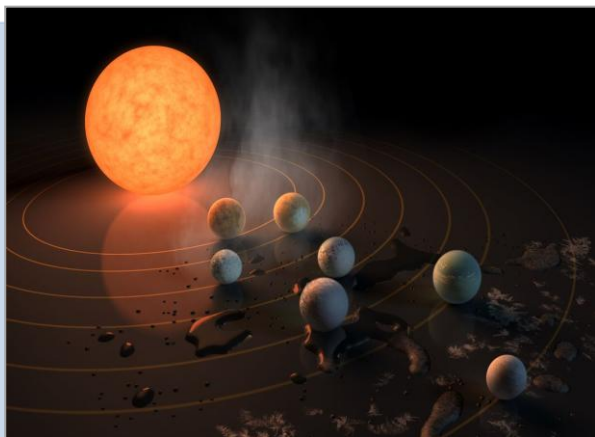
But God has done it incredibly well with 10 Commandments!

{ God gave *ceremonial* laws also to Moses and the Jews (like feast days and animal sacrifices). These were many ordinances and judgments given through Moses, a lot more than 10. These ceremonial laws were done away with at the cross or because of Jesus,

as we no longer have to do the feast day celebrations (Colossians 2:16 -17) or the animal sacrifices because Jesus, "the Lamb of God" (John 1:36) was slain for sins (Romans 3:24-26, 1st John 2:1-2). }

Without a moral compass (10 Commandments), how do we consistently make choices based on positive principles? Without a moral standard, how do we fight-off self-justification, excuse, and compromise? We can avoid "relative morality" or *situational ethics* ("sometimes I do it but sometimes I don't" mentality or approach). God's rules are a wonderful thing. We just have to get used to them. (Especially the Sabbath, which almost everyone is in violation of on Saturdays.)

The physical universe (nature and space) have laws: science. God also has laws to govern His vast universe of beings. If God had no laws it would be *anarchy* or lawlessness (Matthew 24:12)—this would be the devil's domain or plan, not God's. We can expect God to be a God of order, not chaos, as that is how He has made His universe: with laws and order.



Here we go, a long passage but if you can follow it, apostle Paul lays it out:

♦ **Romans 8:2-11** For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death. (3) For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God *did* by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, (4) that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. (5) For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those *who live* according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. (6) For to be carnally minded *is* death, but to be spiritually minded *is* life and peace. (7) Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. (8) So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God. (9) But you [believers] are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. (10) And if Christ *is* in you, the body *is* dead because of sin, but the Spirit *is* life because of righteousness. (11) But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

♦ **(Romans 7:25)** I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin.

The 10 Commandments are a description of **righteousness**: what good behavior is. Notice our society is **out-of-whack** too many times or people don't know what to do or various kinds of ~crazy behavior going on? Do you think some of that has to do with our straying away from God and His commands? Sin is breaking God's law:

◆ Whoever commits sin also commits lawlessness, and sin is lawlessness. (1 John 3:4)

Simple, but we have a Savior—Jesus!

◆ 1 John 1:8-9 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. (9) If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us **our** sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Beautiful promise! God (Jesus) is willing and able.

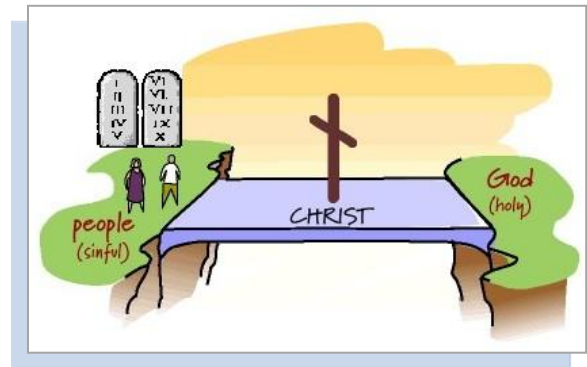
◆ Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

◆ Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Friend, won't you accept Jesus today or ask Him for His help with the 10 Commandments? God has a plan, and it's good. ☺

◆ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. (John 3:16)

The 10 Commandments actually help show us the way to God (Romans 10:4).



◆ Ephesians 2:8-9 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, (9) not of works, lest anyone should boast.

Ever feel lost in this world? The 10 Cs are a way of helping us see who we are! →



Jesus died because of sins at the cross, but that doesn't mean He did away with the moral law or 10 Commandments (see above on *ceremonial* laws). But we still need to behave ourselves, even as believers! (Notice how all 10 Cs are in the New Testament in an above graphic?)

God spoke loud and clear with the 10 Commandments (Exodus 20:18) but sometimes we sin in secret.

◆ For there is nothing hidden which will not be revealed, nor has anything been kept secret but that it should come to light. (Mark 4:22)

The 10 Cs are not just a “to do” list. The 10 Commandments are blessings and promises, really! What kind of life would you want to live: one full of crime and face the penalties and consequences, here or beyond, or have one FREE of sin, available to absorb the blessings?! We may not all be hardcore criminals (with the state or government), but we are hardcore sinners in the eyes of the holy Almighty God:

♦ (Isaiah 64:6) But we are all like an unclean *thing*, And all our righteousnesses *are* like filthy rags; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away.

♦ (Isaiah 1:18) "Come now, and let us reason together," Says the LORD, "Though your sins are like scarlet, They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool.

Have you surrendered to God, to ask Him for His help?

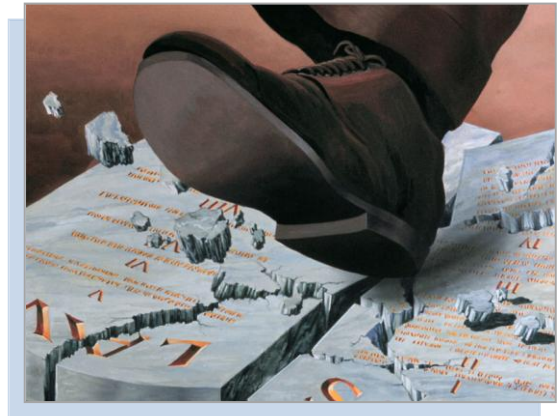
God’s law is actually part of the New Covenant, if you can believe that! The book of Hebrews (in the New Testament which deals with Old and New covenants and issues):

♦ (Hebrews 8:10) FOR THIS IS THE COVENANT THAT I WILL MAKE WITH THE HOUSE OF ISRAEL AFTER THOSE DAYS, SAYS THE LORD: I WILL PUT MY LAWS IN THEIR MIND AND WRITE THEM ON THEIR



HEARTS; AND I WILL BE THEIR GOD, AND THEY SHALL BE MY PEOPLE. (referencing Jeremiah 31:33 and quoted in Heb. 10:16)

But many of us live like this:



God wants to have a true Church, a pure church (Ephesians 5:27, Revelation 12:1,17):



Won't Jesus be yours today?

♦ Ezekiel 36:25-29 (v.26 first) I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. (25) Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. (27) I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do *them*. (28) Then you shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God. (29) I will deliver you from all your uncleannesses.

Wonderful ability and promises from God. We can't do it without His help.

This is still love as:

♦ love *is* the fulfilling of the law. (Romans 13:10)

They are the same things--love and law--just different descriptions. "God is love" (1st John 4:8 in New Testament), and love and law are two ways of looking at the same thing: God (and His will). Wanna see a picture of God? Look at the 10 Commandments.

"God, won't you make me a better person today? I know You can." ☺

The Psalmist is smart and meditates on God's law:

♦ Psalms 1:1-3,6 Blessed *is* the man Who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, Nor stands in the path of sinners, Nor sits in the seat of the scornful; (2) But his delight *is* in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night. (3) He shall be like a tree Planted by the rivers of water, That brings forth its fruit in its season, Whose leaf also shall not wither; And whatever he does shall prosper. (6) For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, But the way of the ungodly shall perish.

prayer: *"Dear Jesus, please help me with all things. Thank you for your law, the 10 Commandments, which are wonderful and thorough. Please help me live within them and walk them, as it is the 'straight and narrow' path of life (Matthew 7:13). I love You and help me love You. Help me with Your commands. Thank you so much, in Jesus, Amen."*



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God bless you!