



GOD'S LOVING COMMANDMENTS • PART 1

The “preamble” is in Exodus 19:3-6. The Commandments are found in Exodus 20:1-7 as well as Deuteronomy 5:1-22.

1. In Matthew 22:37-40 and Mark 12:28-34 Jesus responded to the Jewish leaders' question, “Which is the greatest commandment?” In His response He condensed the ten (Exodus 20:1-17) into two: loving God and loving others.
2. Our perspective concerning the Ten Commandments are at times rooted in fear or a misunderstanding about God's love (Matthew 25:24-28). After all, isn't He a God of freedom? Many years ago Ron Mehl's book, *The Ten(der) Commandments*, changed my (P.Jack) paradigm about the Commandments and revealed God's love.
 - Throughout Psalm 119, David proclaimed his love for God AND for His Commands. (Psalm 119:97-99, 129-130, etc.)

HOW THE COMMANDMENTS BEGIN

Exodus 19:3-6 ...*“This is what you are to say to the descendants of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel: ‘You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to Myself. Now if you obey me fully and keep My covenant, then out of all nations you will be My treasured possession. Although the whole earth is Mine, you will be for Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’”*

1. **Carried you** - The Hebrew word means to lift up, to raise, to bear, to carry off, etc.
 - This is an idiomatic phrase, having a meaning different from the literal. “To lift up one's face” meant to be able to look

someone straight into the eye with a clear conscience or to anticipate that things would go well. (Job 22:26).

- It also means the taking away of sin (Psalm 32:1-2).
2. **Obey Me fully** - The Hebrew word means to listen with undivided attention and obey.
 3. **My Covenant** - The Hebrew word means a cutting, an oath made by passing between two pieces of flesh. (Genesis 15:7-21). The careful attention to the obligations of a covenant, laws, or statutes.
 4. **You will be** - The Hebrew word means to exist, to breathe, to come to pass, to be done, to be finished!
 5. **My treasured possession** - We are God's unique possession because He chose us, redeemed us, delivered us from bondage, and shaped us to fit His perfect will!
 6. **Kingdom of priests** - The function of a priest was to be dedicated to God and to stand before God on behalf of others. Peter quotes this in 1 Peter 2:9-10.

HOW DOES THIS RELATE FOR TODAY?

1. God's Commandments reflect the true heart of the Father:
 - He carried us on eagles' wings. He **delivered** us from the power of sin's bondage and darkness!
 - He brought us to Himself. He **adopted** us into His family!
 - We are His treasured possession. He gave us a Divine **purpose** to fulfill in the earth!
2. David had a revelation of God's great love and held His Commands in highest esteem!
 - Psalm 119:97-99 *Oh, how I love your law! I meditate on it all day long. Your commands are always with me and make me wiser than my enemies. I have more insight than all my teachers, for I meditate on your statutes.*