

10 Commandments-- Archaic or Contemporary, Primitive or Modern, Out-of-Date or UP-to-Date??

About 3,500 years ago, an amazing historical event occurred. The new leader of a new nation had a lengthy encounter (40 days)(twice) with one identified as "I AM". The outcome of this meeting produced a couple of stone tablets with a 10-point list of do's and don'ts for all the people, maybe as many as 2 million, of this new nation called Israel. The leader, Moses, was to administer and enforce this "constitution" with a promise from "I AM" that in doing so, blessings and prosperity would surely follow the people and the nation. The "I AM" inscribed these instructions with his finger into a rock surface so that no erasing or amendments could be added to change the two stones engraving which would be called The 10 Commandments.

The "I AM", unseen by Moses, would appear in the flesh 1,500 years later. Now he is visible. He is heard by the ears of men, he is seen by the eyes of men, hands have touched him. During his 33 years of living in the land of Judah (a remnant left from Israel), he made several proclamations about those two stone tablets, the physical whereabouts now unknown, and the meaning for the current day. He would say, "If you love me, keep my commandments.", and "If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love." The "I AM" of the flesh gave a summary of the 10 commandments he had written in stone 1,500 years ago by answering a question about the first and greatest commandment. He said, "Hear, Oh Israel"...The first and greatest commandment is to love the Lord, thy God, with all of your heart, soul, mind, and strength. The second is like the first, the "I AM" continues, love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these, the "I AM" concludes, as he sums up again, the two stones into two commands.

The first four commandments are summarized with the proclamation--"Love God". The last six commandments are summarized with the proclamation--"Love your neighbor". The first four concern our relationship with God and the last six our relationship with each other. For the last three years of the recorded life of the "I AM", he sets the example of how these two summary commands and the more specific 10 commands are lived out to complete and utmost perfection: The relationship with God, the relationship with one another. All are fulfilled in a simple yet brilliant human and divine display for nations of people over all the earth to follow: "I did not come to destroy the law but to fulfill." On Golgotha hill, the very words he etched in stone are now used to condemn, convict, and crucify the great "I AM". The commandments are now manifested in boundless and measureless love and love will prove victorious on the third day.

The promise of the "I AM" remains true today for everyone born of woman. He has provided his Spirit to help. As his finger wrote on stone, as his finger wrote in sand: He writes today on the minds and hearts of the human race. Blessings and prosperity follow when the commandments of the "I AM", now written on the tablets of the human heart, are followed because they are indubitable, timeless and eternal. They are absolutely necessary for social order, peace and prosperity. Without them man and nations are engulfed in chaos, darkness, depravity and evil. With them, the light of the eternal "I AM"

leads man and nations from this broken temporal life on planet earth to the blissful eternal existence in paradise, planned since beginning of creation.

Scott Johnson, El Dorado, AR