

The Ten Commandments

Commandment	Meaning	Reference
I am the LORD your God . . . you shall have no other gods before me.	Love and obey God before all else and let nothing have greater importance in your life.	Ex 20:2–6, Deut 5:6–10
You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God.	Honor the name of God. Be reverent in speech.	Ex 20:7, Deut 5:11
Observe the Sabbath day and keep it holy.	Honor the Lord's Day with worship, prayer, and rest. The Sabbath is marked as a day of remembrance.	Ex 20:8–11, Deut 5:12–15
Honor your father and your mother.	Honor your parents, listen to them, and care for them when they are elderly.	Ex 20:12, Deut 5:16
You shall not murder.	Choose life and do not murder.	Ex 20:13, Deut 5:17
Neither shall you commit adultery.	Choose chastity and loyalty. Honor marriage vows to protect the family.	Ex 20:14, Deut 5:18
Neither shall you steal.	Choose justice. Don't steal. Build security and confidence in one another.	Ex 20:15, Deut 5:19
Neither shall you bear false witness against your neighbor.	Choose honesty. Do not lie. Build trust and faith among people. Make your word and witness honorable.	Ex 20:16, Deut 5:20
Neither shall you covet your neighbor's wife. Neither shall you desire your neighbor's house.	Don't covet or entertain fantasies of being with another's spouse. Choose purity of mind. Reject jealousy.	Ex 20:17, Deut 5:21
Neither shall you desire your neighbor's . . . male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.	Choose freedom from greed. Don't envy another's property or good fortune. Prevent sin by not entertaining jealous thoughts that might lead to stealing another's property.	Ex 20:17, Deut 5:21

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