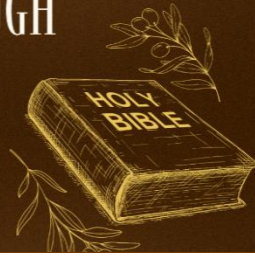


STEP BY STEP THROUGH THE OLD TESTAMENT

LED BY DR. WAYLON BAILEY



WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

MAY 20, 2026

EXODUS - LESSON 13

First Baptist Church | Covington, Louisiana

Waylon Bailey, Pastor

Theological Insight from Exodus Chapters 19-20

EXODUS 19:16-25

God revealed Himself to the people and spoke to them. He showed them the responsibility of being God's people.

¹⁶ On the morning of the third day there were thunders and lightnings, and a thick cloud upon the mountain, and a very loud trumpet blast, so that all the people who were in the camp trembled. ¹⁷ Then Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God; and they took their stand at the foot of the mountain. ¹⁸ And Mount Sinai was wrapped in smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire; and the smoke of it went up like the smoke of a kiln, and the whole mountain quaked greatly. ¹⁹ And as the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him in thunder. ²⁰ And the LORD came down upon Mount Sinai, to the top of the mountain; and the LORD called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up. ²¹ And the LORD said to Moses, "Go down and warn the people, lest they break through to the LORD to gaze and many of them perish. ²² And also let the priests who come near to the LORD consecrate themselves, lest the LORD break out upon them." ²³ And Moses said to the LORD, "The people cannot come up to Mount Sinai; for thou thyself didst charge us, saying, 'Set bounds about the mountain, and consecrate it.'" ²⁴ And the LORD said to him, "Go down, and come up bringing Aaron with you; but do not let the priests and the people break through to come up to the LORD, lest he break out against them." ²⁵ So Moses went down to the people and told them.

EXODUS 20:1-20 – The Ten Commandments

Exodus 20 is an essential and central passage of Holy Scripture.

For me, it is fascinating as well as challenging.

Here are some interesting aspects of what we know as the "Ten Commandments".

FIRST: in the Hebrew text neither the number "ten" nor the word "commandment" is used. We get the number from what Moses later said, specifically in

***Exodus 34:28** And he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he neither ate bread nor drank water. And he wrote upon the tables the words of the covenant, the ten commandments.*

***Deuteronomy 4:13** And he declared to you his covenant, which he commanded you to perform, that is, the ten commandments; and he wrote them upon two tables of stone.*

***Deuteronomy 10:4** And he wrote on the tables, as at the first writing, the ten commandments which the LORD had spoken to you on the mountain out of the midst of the fire on the day of the assembly; and the LORD gave them to me.*

Instead of calling these commandments, the Hebrew text calls them “words”. This is the practice in every instance. Most people believe that God gave the Ten “words” to aid in memory, with each commandment having a word associated with it.

SECOND: this act of God (bringing Moses up the mountain and giving him the words) showed three important truths:

1. God is v.2
2. He speaks to people v.1
3. He gives guidance in our daily living. vv.3-17

We **must** listen to Him.

THIRD: the commandments are not numbered. This has led to three different ways to number the commandments.

	Jewish	Catholic/Lutheran	Protestant
v.2 <u>I am the Lord Your God</u>	#1	-	-
v.3 <u>No other gods</u>	#2	#1	#1
vv.4-6 <u>No graven images</u>	-	-	#2
v.7 <u>Name</u>	#3	#2	#3
vv.8-11 <u>Sabbath</u>	#4	#3	#4
v.12 <u>Father & Mother</u>	#5	#4	#5
v.13 <u>Murder</u>	#6	#5	#6
v.14 <u>Adultery</u>	#7	#6	#7
v.15 <u>Theft</u>	#8	#7	#8
v.16 <u>False witness</u>	#9	#8	#9
v.17 <u>Covet</u>	#10	#9 v.17a #10 v.17b	#10

EXODUS 20:1 And God spoke all these words, saying,

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.

⁴ “You shall not make for yourself a graven image, or 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 or 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 the fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶ but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

EXODUS 20:7 *"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.*

⁸*"Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor, and do all your work; ¹⁰but the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; in it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your manservant, or your maidservant, or your cattle, or the sojourner who is within your gates; ¹¹for in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and hallowed it.*

¹²*"Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land which the LORD your God gives you.*

¹³*"You shall not kill.*

¹⁴*"You shall not commit adultery.*

¹⁵*"You shall not steal.*

¹⁶*"You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*

¹⁷*"You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or his maidservant, or his ox, or his ass, or anything that is your neighbor's."*

EXODUS 20:18-20 They feared God – as they should!

¹⁸*Now when all the people perceived the thunderings and the lightnings and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking, the people were afraid and trembled; and they stood afar off, ¹⁹and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will hear; but let not God speak to us, lest we die." ²⁰And Moses said to the people, "Do not fear; for God has come to prove you, and that the fear of him may be before your eyes, that you may not sin."*