

## 10 Words for Living

### I. Slide#1 **Announce:**

- A. Pat's Sjostrom memorial: Sat 10am.
- B. Pray for Norm Harris: Surgery today to try and help the circulation in his legs.
- C. Slide#2 Tomorrow...Red X *Enditmovement* video -
- D. Slide#3 Title: *10 Words for Living*

### II. Slide#4 **2ND SERMON OVERVIEW (4:44-25:19)**

- A. The start of Moses' **2nd sermon**, the longest in Deut. (4 all together)
  - 1. He sought to prepare Israel for life in the promised land.
- B. **2nd sermon overview:**
  - 1. Slide#5 Moses restated the **10 commandments** 5:1-21.
  - 2. Moses provided *general principles* 6:1-11:32.
  - 3. Moses provided *specific stipulations* 12:1-25:16.
    - a) Throughout the Near East there are many secular documents that follow the **same form** as the *covenant-making* between **God** and **man**. In Biblical scholarship, these are called **Suzerain-Vassal treaties**.
      - (1) Slide#6 A **suzerain** is a lord or king; a **vassal** is someone inferior who pays tribute to him or fights in his army.
      - (2) These treaties (or covenants) follow a standard form. **i.e.** *general principles & specific stipulations*.
    - b) **So**, its a treaty drawn up by the **greater power** (usually a king, this case God) to establish conditions on the **weaker power** (the vassal, this case Israel).

### III. Slide#7 **THE 10 COMMANDMENTS (see 4:13)**

- A. **The 10 Commandments** Hebrew phrase = *10 words*.
  - 1. They are as a whole called **the covenant** (Deut. 4:13) **the tables of the covenant** (9:9,11; Heb. 9:4), and **the testimony**.
  - 2. **AKA the decalogue** (*deca*/10 + *logos*/book). **The ancient code. 10 Rules for Living.**
  - 3. Jesus summed up these 10 words into **1 law of Love**.
  - 4. These rules serve as a **guidepost to finer (first-rate) & fuller living**.
  - 5. These are not **arbitrary rules** **but** **foundational principles**.
    - a) **Einstein** didn't start each day by *reciting the multiplication table*, **yet** he never ignored the fact that  $2 \times 2 = 4$ .

- b) **Modern scientists** do not stop each morning in an apple orchard on their way to work to test the *law of gravity*.
- c) The same is true of the Ancient Code.
  - (1) To violate it brings *disaster* to the individual & to society as a whole.
  - (2) To observe it is to plant our feet on the road to a fuller individual & social life.
- B. The great leading principle of the Mosaic law is that it is essentially *theocratic*; i.e., it refers at once to the commandment of God as *the foundation of all human duty*.
  - 1. Note picture on keynote: 2 tablets form a heart.

#### IV. Slide#8 TORAH (4:44-49)

- A. (44) **Law - Torah**. *Simply Instructions*.
  - 1. Specifically, this *Instruction*(Torah) included *testimonies/stipulations, statutes/ decrees & judgments/ordinances/laws*.
- B. Slide#9 Human beings were not created **autonomous** (free to be a law to themselves) **but theonomous** (subject to the law of God)
  - 1. This is *not a hardship/bummer because* God had created man in such a way that *grateful obedience* would bring him *the highest happiness*.
  - 2. **Duty & delight** coincide, as they did in Jesus.
  - 3. *Yet, the fallen human heart hates* God's law, *both because* it is a law & because it comes from God.
- C. **Law** - a rule of action. However, the laws were of different kinds, with different purposes.
  - 1. Slide#10 **The Ceremonial Law** is prescribed under the OT **rites and ceremonies** of worship. This law was **obligatory only till** Christ, of whom these rites were typical, had finished His work. It was **fulfilled rather than revoked** by the gospel.
  - 2. **The Judicial Law** directed **the civil policy** of *the Hebrew nation*.
  - 3. **The Moral Law** reflects His holy character & His purposes for created human beings. It is the revealed will of God as to **human conduct, binding on all men to the end of time**. Although binding on all, we're not under it as a covenant of works. It reflects His holy character & His purposes for created human beings.
    - a) So, the **Judicial/political & Ceremonial/ritual** laws were of *limited application*.
    - b) The **Moral** laws from *immediate context & from Jesus' teachings* were an unchanging universal decree of His laws.

#### V. Slide#11 THE 10 COMMANDMENTS REVIEWED (5:1-5)

- A. The 10 commandments were given about 50 days after coming up out of Egypt. When encamped at Sinai.
  - 1. **How were they given to Moses? Written** (not oral) by the finger of God.

- a) **The 10 commandments** were written down & given to Moses to give to the people as he came down the mountain. **The Sermon on the Mount** was spoken by Jesus when he went up the mountain & was given to His disciples.
  2. **What were they written on?** 2 tables of stone.
  3. **What happened to the first set?** Moses broke after seeing the golden calf. Ex.32:19.
  4. **Where did they end up?** In the ark of the cov.
- B. **Slide#12** (1) The solemn formula **Hear, O Israel** indicates that what follows (the decrees and laws) is not *incidental* but **absolutely necessary** for the survival of Israel as a nation.
- C. **Slide#13** (6) The first commandment very appropriately begins with **God**.
1. This is always the best place to begin. *I am the Lord your God*.
  2. **It begins with a great assumption...the reality of God**. It assumes that God is. It makes no effort to prove God. He simply affirms Him.
  3. **The prophets** never undertake to prove God; they proclaim Him.
- D. **Slide#14** These 10 form *the heart* of God's covenant.
1. In **compressed form** they contain everything that God demands of His people.
  2. They also are **a window** into the **character** of God.
    - a) **God** holds the right to command obedience.
    - b) **His people**, *on the other hand*, **learn how to live** by **listening** to Him & **doing** (obeying) what He commands.
  3. By **Jesus** incorporating them into His **Sermon on the Mount**, **Jesus upheld their validity for Christians**. *Except an official Sabbath, which we'll discuss in vs.12-15*.
- E. **Slide#15** So the title, *10 words*, reveals the commandments to be much more compelling than a mere divine order. As words of God, they issue from **the every essence of His being**.
1. Creation also originated with *the Words of God*. Throughout biblical history, God **continued to speak** until He finally spoke through His own Son, *The Word*.
    - a) The connection between **the creation, Jesus, & the 10 commandments** - God's word of instruction for life - cannot be broken. Mt.5:17 **Don't misunderstand why I have come. I did not come to abolish the law of Moses or the writings of the prophets. No, I came to accomplish their purpose.**
- F. **Next week**, we'll see the commandments are **divided into 2 sections**.
1. **Slide#16a** **The first four** speak of **Israel's relationship to God**.
    - a) Their overall theme is the **worth & worship of God alone**.
  2. **Slide#16b** **The last 6** deal with interpersonal relationships.

- a) They establish **the principle** that **all people** are of **inestimable**/immeasurable **value** & as such have **rights** which must be **protected**.
3. **Slide#17** Because **the first 2** form the **basis** for the rest, they receive **extensive treatment** in **ch's 6-12**. **The other 8** will followed in order in **ch's 13-25**.