

**HOPE OF
ISRAEL
MINISTRIES**

BIBLE

CORRESPONDENCE COURSE



American Soldiers in Iraq

**Is Obedience to the 10 Commandments Required
for Salvation?**

Lesson 30

An Open Letter from the Staff...

WOULD YOU like to be given eternal inheritance in the Kingdom of YEHOVAH God? -- and have ETERNAL LIFE so you could CLAIM this inheritance?

“Yes, but what must I DO,” you might ask, “to receive eternal life?”

When the young rich man asked Yeshua the Messiah: “Master, what good thing shall I DO, that I may have eternal life?” -- Yeshua replied, “If thou wilt enter into life, KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS” (**Matthew 19:16-17**).

What?

KEEP THE COMMANDMENTS? That’s what Yeshua said!! Does that SURPRISE YOU?

You’ve probably heard that obedience to the Ten Commandments is NOT NECESSARY today. That YEHOVAH’s law was ABOLISHED -- “NAILED to the cross” by the Messiah!

But is this assumption really true?

This is no mere irrelevant theological or religious question. This is the very ESSENCE of your life -- your home life, your social life, your business life.

It’s the very CRUX QUESTION behind ALL world troubles today!

Strange as it may seem, the Ten Commandments did not begin at Sinai. They have been in full force and effect since human life FIRST EXISTED on this earth! DISOBEDIENCE to the Ten Commandments has produced all the wars, SUFFERING and DEATH the world has experienced SINCE Adam!

The Messiah plainly taught OBEDIENCE to the Father’s law: “Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that DOETH the WILL of my Father which is in heaven!” (**Matthew 7:21**.)

This lesson will reveal the truth about this VITAL subject!



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LESSON 30**

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About Our Cover...

In any war, the whole population suffers. And wars have raged since mankind was created because man has refused to obey YEHOVAH God and love his fellowman. Wars will never cease until the world begins to live by YEHOVAH’s Ten Commandments.

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Is Obedience to the 10 Commandments Required for Salvation?

LESSON 30

The common FALSE teaching of modern Christianity holds that the old covenant WAS the Ten Commandment law. That the Messiah came to establish a NEW covenant containing only grace and promises -- liberty to do WHATEVER YOU PLEASE, but certainly NO LAW! "Grace ALONE IS what saves you now," they say. "NO COMMANDMENT KEEPING IS necessary today."

This diabolical teaching would lead you to believe that the law of YEHOVAH God is harsh, CRUEL, ENSLAVING -- that the fault of the old covenant was with the law, and since YEHOVAH gave the law, the fault must have been HIS!

Then there are those who believe the Ten Commandments are either the SAME as, or PART of, the RITUALISTIC LAW of Moses. That the Ten Commandments didn't exist until Moses and that they lasted only UNTIL the Messiah.

What MISUNDERSTANDING! What DISTORTION of the plain truth about YEHOVAH's law!

DO YOU realize that those who believe and teach these false concepts are actually worshipping YEHOVAH God IN VAIN -- worshipping Him WITHOUT any prospect of receiving eternal inheritance in the Kingdom of YEHOVAH God?

Listen to what the Messiah says to them: "Howbeit IN VAIN do ye worship me, teaching for doctrines the COMMANDMENTS OF MEN. For laying aside the COMMANDMENT OF GOD, ye hold the tradition of men...[and now note the following especially]...Full well ye REJECT the Commandment of God, that ye may keep your OWN TRADITION" (Mark 7:7-9).

Hope of Israel Ministries -- Taking the Lead in the Search for Truth!

Back to the Faith Once Delivered

YEHOVAH God warns us in the book of Jude: "Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the COMMON SALVATION, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was ONCE DELIVERED unto the saints. For there are certain men crept in unawares...ungodly men, turning the GRACE of our God into LASCIVIOUSNESS, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ" (Jude 3-4).

Even before the New Testament was completely written, ungodly men had crept into the Ecclesia in an attempt to corrupt it by turning GRACE into LASCIVIOUSNESS.

And what is "lasciviousness"? It means "license" -- unrestrained liberty -- abuse of privilege. In other words, license to do what seems RIGHT in your OWN eyes -- according to HUMAN CONSCIENCE -- though it disobeys YEHOVAH's law!

That is exactly what those ungodly men in the first century were beginning to do -- turning YEHOVAH's GRACE into unrestrained privilege to DISOBEY His law! Turning to HUMAN conscience as a guide! We find this very SAME ATTITUDE permeating modern professing Christianity today!

This present age is desperately lawless! Everywhere the spirit of disobedience is sweeping society. From the pulpits you hear that Yeshua the Messiah abolished his Father's Law -- that it is not necessary to obey YEHOVAH God today.

But your Bible says no one can be born into YEHOVAH's Kingdom unless that individual recognizes and SUBMITS to the authority and rule of YEHOVAH God in his life! Arguing with YEHOVAH or using human reasoning to evade the plain commands of Scripture will get us nowhere!

YEHOVAH God is Supreme Creator and Supreme Lawgiver. He knows what is BEST for us. He has perfect wisdom and understanding and has given us His perfect law. We can therefore place **ABSOLUTE CONFIDENCE** in Him and rely on His judgment which He has committed to us in writing -- in the Bible.

Yes, it's time we look into the Bible to see what it really says about YEHOVAH's law!

Why Bad News Today?

The natural tendency is to use human reasoning to sidestep that which seems of lesser importance to us. It's so easy for us to say: "I don't see why God would want me to obey His law. It **SEEMS SO IMPRACTICAL** in this modern age. Now here is the way I see it."

The overwhelming truth is that YEHOVAH's laws are **AS PRACTICAL** today as they were in the beginning when He originally gave them!

Have you noticed that the news today is nearly **ALL BAD**?

There's a **REASON** why!

Not only do we have war, fear of war, and strife between **NATIONS**, but we also have strife and competition in **BUSINESS**. We have quarrels leading to divorce **IN THE HOME**. We have a nervous younger generation blowing off steam and getting into all sorts of troubles.

What's the matter with us anyway? Are we **AFRAID** to stop and look at things as they really are? Do we dare recognize the fact that we are bringing all this fear and worry, this heartache, suffering and frustrating



Global Peace Conference in Hiroshima. Many world leaders realize we must have world government in order to achieve lasting peace. But they don't realize we can't have world peace until YEHOVAH's government is set up on earth and His Laws are enforced on all mankind!



Riot in Dublin, Ireland. We live in a desperately lawless age! Crimes of violence and rebellion against authority are increasing at an alarming rate. And no wonder. Mankind refuses to live by the Ten Commandments which, if obeyed, would bring all the happiness and material blessings this frustrated world longs for. Today's chaotic world conditions are prophesied to get worse until YEHOVAH God and the Messiah step in and ENFORCE the Ten Commandments!

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emptiness on OURSELVES?

There is a reason for it all. But are you WILLING to hear it? Will you DENY the TRUE reason? Or will you ACCEPT the TRUTH OF YEHOVAH GOD?

The Basis of Life

If you were told that YEHOVAH GOD ALMIGHTY, the Creator, set in motion invisible, SPIRITUAL LAWS FOR OUR HAPPINESS and FOR OUR GOOD, and that all our woes and our troubles are the DIRECT RESULT of our REJECTION and TRANSGRESSION of those laws, you'd probably say, "But I've been taught that those laws were abolished by Christ!" Or, "Why, that's a religious and theological question that I know nothing about. It has NOTHING to do with my practical, down-to-earth, everyday life anyway."

You're dead WRONG!

It has EVERYTHING to do with your everyday life. It has EVERYTHING to do with all the bad news you hear and read about every day. It has everything to do with the fact that most people today are restless, discontented and not as happy as they would like to be.

It has everything to do with today's chaotic world conditions, with social unrest and with the troubles most people are having in their own homes!

It is the TRANSGRESSION of YEHOVAH God's law of LOVE that has caused all the mental anguish and suffering in the world today!

YEHOVAH's Law of LOVE

YEHOVAH God has ordained a law -- the supreme eternal SPIRITUAL law which is LOVE. YEHOVAH God and Love are inseparable, "for God IS love"! (I John 4:8.) Love is the BASIC CHARACTERISTIC of YEHOVAH's nature!

YEHOVAH lives completely in accordance with His law of love at all times! And YEHOVAH has ordained that we all must

LEARN TO LIVE BY His law of love if we are to inherit the gift of eternal life. "For this is the love of God, that we KEEP HIS COMMANDMENTS: and his commandments are not grievous" (I John 5:3).

Love toward YEHOVAH God and love toward fellow man -- that is the very ESSENCE of YEHOVAH's spiritual law (Matthew 22:36-40). The first four of the Ten Commandments teach us love toward YEHOVAH God. And the last six teach us love toward our fellow man.

These ten SPIRITUAL laws are summed up in the one word "LOVE." They compose the Royal Law that James expounded -- the Royal Law of Love! (James 2:8, 10.)

But man is CARNAL -- UNspiritual by nature. "Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be" (Romans 8:7).

We, of ourselves, do not have the SPIRITUAL LOVE necessary to keep YEHOVAH's SPIRITUAL law. This love comes from YEHOVAH "because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts BY THE HOLY SPIRIT" (Romans 5:5). With this love we CAN FULFILL the law, for "love is the FULFILLING of the law" (Romans 13:10).

YEHOVAH God will give us His holy spirit as a FREE gift -- IF we REPENT of our sins, are BAPTIZED and sincerely STRIVE to obey Him (Acts 2:38; 5:32). Notice the "fruits," or Godly characteristics, which will be manifested in our lives if we have the holy spirit. "LOVE, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance" (Galatians 5:22, 23).

These attributes of YEHOVAH's holy spirit are what enable us to OBEY the various points of His SPIRITUAL law of love. And these are the "fruits" we must show forth in our lives to be born of YEHOVAH God at the resurrection!

So the Ten Commandments constitute a SPIRITUAL LAW that is inexorable and eternal. A law that is love and the FULFILLING

of which is love -- a law that was set in motion for our happiness to produce everything good which we have foolishly denied ourselves.

The Ten Commandments are obviously entirely DIFFERENT and SEPARATE from the RITUALISTIC "Law of Moses" which was just a code of PHYSICAL laws -- NOT spiritual laws.

The Messiah Kept the Law

The Messiah tells us that our OBE-DIENCE to the Ten Commandments is an absolute PREREQUISITE to receiving YEHOVAH's gift of eternal life (**Matthew 19:16-17**).

But did the Messiah really PRACTICE what he preached? Or does he expect us to perform the impossible?

Witness the Messiah's absolutely SIN-LESS life (**Hebrews 4:15**). Had Yeshua sinned in the SLIGHTEST POINT of YEHOVAH's spiritual law, he could NOT have become our Saviour!

Since Yeshua was born of a human father and mother -- composed of human flesh with human nature -- the same as we all have (**Hebrews 2:14**), then HOW was he able to obey YEHOVAH God? The answer is that he was BEGOTTEN by the holy spirit just as you can be -- if you repent, believe and are baptized! Yeshua had the POWER of the holy spirit working within him!

Yeshua the Messiah admitted he wasn't able to keep YEHOVAH's law by his own human power. Notice what he said:

"I can of mine OWN SELF do NO-THING" (**John 5:30**). "The Father that DWELLETH IN ME, He doeth the works" (**John 14:10**). The Father dwelt in the Messiah by the holy spirit. And this power enabled the Messiah to keep YEHOVAH's commandments perfectly!

In this lesson we need to ask and answer the following questions:

Just what IS sin anyway? Does YEHOVAH God DEFINE it in the Bible? And did

Yeshua the Messiah DO AWAY with the Father's spiritual law of love -- the Ten Commandments? Do we find the apostle Paul and the New Testament Ecclesia TEACHING OBEEDIENCE to YEHOVAH's law?

Were the Ten Commandments FIRST GIVEN to Moses at Mount Sinai, and ONLY for the "Jews" to keep from that time forward? Are the Ten Commandments the same as, or part of, the RITUALISTIC LAW of Moses?

Did YEHOVAH God withhold His spiritual law from the world during the time between Adam and Moses? Or did He FIRST REVEAL this way to supreme happiness to Adam and Eve in Eden?

Let's learn the truth about YEHOVAH's law from the Bible! But first, read these important instructions!

Before You Begin

This lesson is intended to direct you to the BIBLE -- to help you learn the truth of YEHOVAH God's Word. Here is the method of study.

Is your Bible in front of you? If not, GET your Bible -- or Bibles, if you have more than one translation -- BEFORE YOU DO AN-OTHER THING! Have a good dictionary, a concordance if you own one, and your notepaper all placed in front of you on a desk or table.

Remember -- you must open your Bible to EVERY PASSAGE. Never say to yourself, "Oh, I think I know what this scripture is referring to" -- and then pass over it. You need to "KEEP YOUR NOSE IN THE BIBLE," so to speak. You must read and re-read and think out each passage. MEDITATE on this new knowledge in your leisure time, especially during the following twenty-four hours, and in your time of prayer -- SO YOU WON'T FORGET it!

Make YEHOVAH's Word a PART OF you! Don't forget, this is a BIBLE STUDY Course not just a study of these words we send you.

Here is the method of taking effective

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notes: Write down neatly (or print) the title of this lesson. Underneath that write down the lesson number. As you come to each question section, write down its heading. Then, at the left-hand margin of your paper, number each question and write down the scriptural answer to each, together with any pertinent ideas that come to your mind.

Be SURE to WRITE OUT the scripture which answers each question. If you have not done so before, BEGIN TO DO IT NOW! Writing down every word of each Bible passage, and any comments you wish to make as you go along, will help you greatly in REVIEWING and REMEMBERING.

This lesson, like all others, is extremely important to you. Have you PRAYED to YEHOVAH God for understanding? If not, then go to a private place, kneel down, and ask YEHOVAH for SPIRITUAL UNDERSTANDING and wisdom. Ask Him to HELP you grasp and apply in your own life the knowledge this lesson will reveal to you in the Bible.

And now for the lesson itself!

Lesson 30 What Sin Is

People have numerous ideas about what constitutes "sin." Many think that sin is something to be DESIRED. To illustrate, several years ago in Hollywood -- the movie capital of America -- there was sold in newsstands a book titled *How to Sin in Hollywood*. Visitors from all over the world who came to Hollywood would buy that book.

Actually, the book was quite harmless, merely giving names of restaurants and similar places. Most of them were eating places WITHOUT any entertainment.

But the point is that sin always SEEMS to be the "forbidden fruit" that is most glamorous and that would be most desirable if some unfair God had NOT denied it to us. That seems to be what human beings think of sin.

But that ISN'T WHAT YEHOVAH

GOD THINKS about sin!

1. What is YEHOVAH's definition of SIN? Is it the TRANSGRESSION of the LAW? **I John 3:4.**

2. IS YEHOVAH'S law being spoken of in the previous scripture? -- didn't Paul state that the LAW says, "Thou shalt not covet"? **Romans 7:7.**

COMMENT: The LAW that said, "Thou shalt not covet," TAUGHT the apostle Paul what constitutes sin. And one cardinal point of that law is the TENTH COMMANDMENT! (**Exodus 20:17.**)

So the law against coveting is ONE of YEHOVAH's TEN COMMANDMENTS! YEHOVAH God reveals that the VIOLATION of His commandments and their principles constitutes SIN!

3. Does sin -- the VIOLATION of the Ten Commandments and their principles -- work AGAINST our own best interests? **Romans 6:23.**

COMMENT: "The WAGES of sin" -- the "reward" YOU EARN by sinning against YEHOVAH's law -- the thing you BRING upon yourself -- is DEATH! A shorter and unhappier life here, and ETERNAL OBLIVION in the hereafter -- unless you REPENT of all your sins, have them WIPED AWAY by the Messiah's blood and begin OBEYING YEHOVAH GOD'S COMMANDMENTS!

Way to Happiness Must Be REVEALED!

You want to be HAPPY above all things, don't you? Everyone does!

You would like to lead a life that is just full and abundant and INTERESTING -- as a matter of fact, a little bit exciting all the way along, wouldn't you? And you want a life where everything is pleasant, where there is no pain or suffering.

You don't want a life of boredom. You don't want a life of sorrow. You want a HAPPY life, and you would love to feel well, jolly and joyful -- happy all the time.

YOU COULD have a life like that. Everyone could. This ENTIRE WORLD could be like that -- if we only UNDERSTOOD THE WAY! That way has to be REVEALED!

YEHOVAH GOD reveals that way in His Guidebook for mankind -- the holy Bible! YEHOVAH God Almighty in His great LOVE for humanity, reveals that He set a LAW in motion. That law was designed to PRODUCE just that kind of happy life in you!

YEHOVAH God is Creator not only of matter -- solid matter, liquid matter and gaseous matter, as we know it -- but YEHOVAH is also Creator of FORCE, ENERGY and of EVERY POWER and LAW. The laws of physics, the laws of chemistry -- every law that is in motion and is energized.

Do you realize that YEHOVAH God Almighty also created a SPIRITUAL LAW? That spiritual law is what REGULATES YOUR HAPPINESS!

But most people are NOT living that way. They're breaking that law, and it has been breaking them for a long time, because that's precisely what happens when you BREAK YEHOVAH'S SPIRITUAL LAW!

That law is simply LOVE. It's the WAY of love. It's the way that love should be EXPRESSED -- love toward YEHOVAH God and love toward neighbor.

1. Did Paul say he would not have known what sin is except the law had pointed it out to him? **Romans 7:7.**

COMMENT: We don't know what is right and what is wrong unless YEHOVAH God REVEALS it. Even the apostle Paul would not have known what sin is if YEHOVAH's law had not told him.

Human nature will not teach you because human nature is BASICALLY EVIL (**Jeremiah 17:9**). As Paul says, "I had not known lust." That is, he would not have known that lust was wrong or evil; HE DIDN'T HAVE SUCH INSTINCTIVE KNOWLEDGE -- "except the LAW HAD SAID, thou shalt not covet."

Do you realize that when you were born

you DIDN'T KNOW ANYTHING! YOU WEREN'T even born with instinct as animals are.

Animals don't have to be taught a law to know what to do or not to do; they don't have to learn about a law that will show them HOW to be happy, and how to AVOID suffering. Animals are just dumb brutes which YEHOVAH God has equipped with INSTINCT. They respond AUTOMATICALLY to this instinct YEHOVAH built into their simple brains when He originally created them.

But you and I are vastly different. We are made AFTER YEHOVAH'S IMAGE. Our minds possess, to a very limited degree, divine characteristics. We were put here as free moral agents for the purpose of PRODUCING CHARACTER -- holy, righteous, spiritual character. If we submit to YEHOVAH God and follow His law of love, He will be creating His spiritual character within us.

2. Did the apostle Paul say that the law -- the Ten Commandments and their principles -- is SPIRITUAL? **Romans 7:14** .

COMMENT: But Paul said he was CARNAL. He was fleshly and material. So are we all.

The law is a SPIRITUAL PRINCIPLE, and it REGULATES YOUR HAPPINESS -- a SPIRITUAL matter. YEHOVAH's law directs and guides you as to what YOU SHOULD do so you can be happy.

3. Did Paul say YEHOVAH's law is sin? **Romans 7:7.** Or did he say the law is HOLY, and the commandment is HOLY, just and good? **Romans 7:12.**

COMMENT: That isn't what we are taught today, is it? Many people have been reared in the belief that the law is UNHOLY, harsh and cruel and ALTOGETHER WRONG! That it's bad for us, and therefore the Messiah had to DO AWAY with it!

WHAT A PARADOX! People think YEHOVAH's law -- the very thing that points the WAY to true happiness -- is WRONG! YEHOVAH reveals it is the very thing which

shows us HOW to AVOID unhappiness!

May YEHOVAH God help you to SEE and ACT on this marvelous truth!

Commandments in Force From Adam

YEHOVAH God FIRST REVEALED the Ten Commandments to Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. Why? So that they and their progeny could know what sin IS and AVOID it!

EVERY ONE of the Ten Commandments was then in full force and effect. And it was a SIN to break any one of them between the time of Adam and Moses, just as it is TODAY! Let's understand the truth.

1. Didn't Paul plainly state that sin is NOT IMPUTED where there is NO law? **Romans 5:13.**

COMMENT: YEHOVAH God reveals that "the wages of sin is death" (**Romans 6:23**). But where there IS NO law, there obviously could be NO lawbreaking and therefore NO penalty could be imposed!

2. But do we find death DID reign -- that the death penalty was IMPUTED because of sin -- beginning with the very time of Adam? **Romans 5:12, 14.** Then didn't there obviously have to be a LAW in existence from the time of Adam?

COMMENT: Adam SINNED! But he could not have sinned had there been no law. How plain that YEHOVAH God's law existed then and that it STILL is in existence to this day; for YEHOVAH says: "all have sinned"! (**Verse 12.**)

The law of YEHOVAH God existed FROM THE BEGINNING. YEHOVAH instructed Adam and Eve in His law and revealed that living BY His laws would net them true happiness and material abundance. He revealed all this to them on the very NEXT DAY after their creation -- on the SABBATH -- the SEVENTH day of the lunar week!

3. Doesn't all this plainly show that YEHOVAH's law was first given far EARLIER than is generally assumed -- much earlier than

the time of Moses? **Romans 5:14.** Note the words "Adam TO Moses." Didn't Adam PRECEDE Moses? **Same verse.**

COMMENT: Obviously those who believe that YEHOVAH's spiritual law was not given UNTIL the time of Moses are absolutely WRONG!

EVERY ONE of the Ten Commandments was in existence during the time of Adam. It was SIN to break any one of them BEFORE they were RESTATED to Moses and the people at Mount Sinai!

Man Must Choose

YEHOVAH God ordained from the beginning that He would NOT FORCE His way to supreme happiness -- His spiritual law -- upon mankind. He determined man would have to CHOOSE whether or not he would obey.

1. After creating Adam, did YEHOVAH God place him in the Garden of Eden? **Genesis 2:8.** Then what did YEHOVAH give him PERMISSION to do? **Verse 16.**

2. Now notice YEHOVAH's WARNING immediately afterward. **Genesis 2:17.** Is it indulging in a MIXTURE of good and evil actions that YEHOVAH God warns us against? **Same verse.**

COMMENT: Here we see that YEHOVAH God is Supreme Ruler. YEHOVAH is giving the orders and is teaching. The man DIDN'T KNOW he shouldn't partake of the tree of good and evil. He had to be told. He had to be TAUGHT and INSTRUCTED.

3. What is the PENALTY -- what can be expected when one "eats," or partakes of a MIXTURE of good and evil? **Genesis 2:17.**

COMMENT: YEHOVAH God warned man that disobedience -- SIN -- to His command would end in DEATH, for "the wages of sin is death"! (**Romans 6: 23.**)

But notice that the very fact YEHOVAH said "In the day that THOU eatest thereof..." shows that man was ALLOWED to do it, that the man was a FREE MORAL

AGENT -- that the man himself had to make THE CHOICE!

Our Father designed it so that you and I must CHOOSE whether we will obey His law or not.

Animals don't make a choice. Animals have instinct. And animals are usually contented. We have our "contented cows." But we don't have many contented people. Do you know WHY?

Cows don't make any choice. YEHOVAH God simply ordained from their creation that they would AUTOMATICALLY live contented lives. But YEHOVAH ORDAINED that you and I MUST MAKE A CHOICE. And if we CHOOSE the RIGHT WAY to live according to that law which YEHOVAH set in motion to produce happiness and contentment and a full, thrilling, enjoyable life -- WE CAN HAVE IT! (**Deuteronomy 30:15-19.**)

But if we CHOOSE to live the OTHER WAY, we're going to have suffering, SORROWS and CURSES -- that's what the world has elected to do!

The First Sins

1. YEHOVAH God, the Creator, lovingly warned man that if he committed sin, he would SURELY DIE (**Genesis 2:17**). But what did the Devil say? **Genesis 3:1-4**. Note especially **verse 4**.

COMMENT: "YOU shall NOT surely die" is the FIRST LIE of which we have any historical record. It was not told by a man, but by the DEVIL.

"You WILL NOT SURELY DIE. You



Animals live by instinct -- but man was created with mind. Man must CHOOSE the way he will live. Choosing the way of disobedience to YEHOVAH's Law brings suffering and death. But the way of OBEDIENCE to YEHOVAH's Law brings true happiness and contentment.

are an IMMORTAL SOUL." Or "You have an immortal soul that won't die." That's what the devil was REALLY saying.

2. What else did the devil say? **Genesis 3:5**.

Note especially the words, "For God DOTN KNOW."

COMMENT: In other words, the devil said "God knows better; God's been LYING to you!" That's what he wanted the woman to believe.

3. And then what did Eve do? **Genesis 3:6**. Did her husband also partake of the fruit? **Same verse**. Here was the FIRST human sin!

COMMENT: Analyze exactly what happened. YEHOVAH God is the One we are to OBEY. Do you realize that's one of the definitions of God? Whoever or whatever you obey is your god. It might be your slavishness to your automobile. Maybe it's an actual idol. Whatever it is, THAT'S your god.

Adam and Eve had another god IN PLACE of the true God -- they broke the first commandment, "Thou shalt have NO OTHER GODS BEFORE ME" (**Exodus 20:3**). They also broke the FIFTH by dishonoring their only Parent. How? The genealogy of the Messiah goes back to Adam who was the "SON of God," because YEHOVAH God CREATED him. Adam was the son of YEHOVAH God by a DIRECT CREATION, not by adoption or birth.

Adam not only dishonored his Parent, but he also broke the TENTH commandment. There was LUST when the woman saw that the fruit was good for food and to make one wise -- vanity, egotism and pride entered into her heart.

Lust is what causes a person's inordinate

desire to have something that is not legal. Lust causes one to STEAL and Adam and Eve broke the EIGHTH commandment by STEALING what was not theirs.

FOUR OF THE TEN COMMANDMENTS WERE BROKEN IN THE ORIGINAL SIN. And in other ways, ALL of the Ten Commandments were actually broken in the very first sin!

4. What were the names of Adam and Eve's first two children? **Genesis 4:1-2**. What did Cain do? **Verse 3**. And what did Abel do? **Verse 4**. Was Cain's offering -- Cain's act -- ACCEPTABLE to YEHOVAH God? **Verse 5** and **I John 3:12**.

5. If one does well -- does the things YEHOVAH God wishes -- aren't his deeds acceptable to YEHOVAH God? **Genesis 4:7**, **first nine words**. But if one does that which is NOT ACCEPTABLE to YEHOVAH God, what "lies" at his door -- SIN? **Same verse**.

6. Did Cain MURDER Abel out of jealousy? **Verse 8**. Did YEHOVAH therefore punish Cain? **Verses 9-12**.

COMMENT: Murder was a sin FROM THE VERY BEGINNING! And when YEHOVAH asked Cain, "Where is Abel thy brother?" Cain replied, "I know not" (**Verse 9**). But Cain DID KNOW. He knew his brother was dead. Therefore he LIED and broke another commandment. That, too, was SIN!

Cain broke the SIXTH and NINTH commandments. EVERY ONE OF these commandments was known from creation because YEHOVAH God had REVEALED THEM TO ADAM. He thus revealed them to mankind at that time. But humanity as a whole has REJECTED them ever since!

7. Was literal idolatry committed BEFORE the time of Abraham? **Joshua 24:2**.

COMMENT: Here were people before Abraham's time -- LONG BEFORE MOSES' TIME -- worshiping idols, committing a SIN -- a transgression of YEHOVAH's LAW. No wonder we are told in the Bible that "death" -- the PENALTY OF SIN -- "REIGNED FROM

ADAM TO MOSES" (**Romans 5:14**), for the law was in existence ALL DURING THAT TIME!

8. Was the sin of IDOLATRY also committed in the generations AFTER Abraham? **Genesis 35:2**.

COMMENT: Jacob was Abraham's GRANDSON.

9. Did Jacob command those of his household who worshipped idols, to PUT AWAY their strange gods? **Same verse**. What was DONE with these idols? **Verse 4**.

COMMENT: Even back then, long BEFORE Moses, it was a SIN to WORSHIP these idols they possessed!

The Third and Fourth Commandments Broken

1. What is the THIRD commandment? **Exodus 20:7**.

COMMENT: To take YEHOVAH's name IN VAIN IS profanity. It is PROFANING the name of YEHOVAH God.

2. Did YEHOVAH God tell Moses and the rest of the Israelites that the heathen who possessed the promised land in generations PREVIOUS to Moses' time had been doing MANY ABOMINATIONS? **Leviticus 18:1, 27**. What was one of these abominations? **Verse 21, last half**. Did YEHOVAH God say these heathen nations had DEFILED themselves and the land because of such abominations? **Verses 24 and 27**. Then taking the name of YEHOVAH God in vain was a sin at that time, wasn't it?

COMMENT: The third commandment of the law was being violated here. Therefore, profanity -- taking the name of YEHOVAH God in vain -- was a SIN BEFORE MOSES' TIME!

3. What is the FOURTH commandment? **Exodus 20:8-11**. Is it the day on which everyone should REST from all his labors? **Verse 10**. Did YEHOVAH God REST on that day after He had finished creating the earth and all life upon it? **Genesis 2:2**.

4. Did YEHOVAH tell Moses to have all

the people KEEP -- rest on -- the Sabbath? **Exodus 16:23**. Did YEHOUVAH command Israel to keep the Sabbath to PROVE whether they would walk in -- OBEY -- His LAW or not? **Exodus 16:4**. Note the word "law."

COMMENT: Here is YEHOUVAH God's law ALREADY IN EFFECT at that very time! YEHOUVAH wanted to see whether the people would obey its fourth cardinal point -- WEEKS BEFORE THEY CAME TO Mount Sinai where the Ten Commandments were RESTATED (**Exodus 20**) and, months later the

this act of disobedience? **Exodus 16:28**. Notice this in particular -- did YEHOUVAH God just confine his rebuke to those refusing to keep this one command, or did He call attention to ALL HIS COMMANDMENTS and LAWS they had been breaking? **Same verse**.

COMMENT: This conversation was going on weeks BEFORE YEHOUVAH RE-STATED His spiritual laws to Moses and the people at Sinai. And it was MONTHS BEFORE YEHOUVAH gave the SEPARATE RITUALISTIC LAW of sacrifices and ablutions which was to be in force ONLY UNTIL the Messiah's death!

So the Sabbath was ALREADY the law of YEHOUVAH God at that time, as well as the other commands and laws YEHOUVAH referred to in **verse 28!**

The Fifth, Seventh and Eighth Commandments

1. What is the FIFTH commandment? **Exodus 20:12**. Do we find a retribution -- a curse falling on one who broke this law LONG BEFORE the time of Sinai? Let's examine.

2. Did Noah become drunk? **Genesis 9:20-23**. Did he realize a sin had been committed against him? **Verse 24**. What CURSE fell upon Canaan as a result of this sin against Noah, his GRANDPARENT? **Verse 25**.

3. What is the SEVENTH commandment? **Exodus 20:14**. Was it also in effect and known LONG BEFORE YEHOUVAH God reiterated His spiritual law to Moses and the people at Mount Sinai? Let's consider.

4. When Joseph was in Egypt serving the Egyptians (**Genesis 39:1-2**), what IMPROPER advances did Potiphar's wife make toward him? **Genesis 39:7**. Did Joseph refuse? **Verse 8**. Why? Did Joseph say it would have been a SIN to follow her wishes? **Verse 9**.

COMMENT: Remember, where there



Representations of the goddess Anat. She dates back to before the time of the Judges. Idolatry was also prevalent before the time of Moses -- and was labeled as SIN by YEHOUVAH God in the Bible. Positive proof that YEHOUVAH's Ten Commandments were in force before Moses!

PHYSICAL RITUALISTIC "law of Moses" was FIRST GIVEN!

5. Did some disregard YEHOUVAH's command to pick up a double portion of manna on the sixth day -- did they decide in advance to go out and WORK at gathering manna on this seventh day -- the SABBATH day -- on which YEHOUVAH God had commanded them to REST? **Verse 27**.

6. What did YEHOUVAH God say about

is no law, sin is NOT IMPUTED. But here we see that Joseph KNEW YEHOVAH's law and he knew that sin WOULD be imputed if he broke that law! ADULTERY was a sin hundreds of years BEFORE Moses!

5. What is the EIGHTH commandment? **Exodus 20:15**. Did Jacob, who lived LONG BEFORE the Ten Commandments were repeated at Sinai, use the word "stolen"? **Genesis 30:33**.

COMMENT: Jacob knew and understood the meaning of the word "steal." Stealing was a SIN in those days the SAME AS IT IS TODAY!

The Ninth and Tenth Commandments

1. Does YEHOVAH God forbid the bearing of false witness -- LYING -- in His NINTH commandment? **Exodus 20:16**. But even RIGHTEOUS Abraham, who lived LONG BEFORE Mount Sinai, was not always able to keep this command perfectly. WHO did Abraham say his wife was when they passed through King Abimelech's country? **Genesis 20:2**.

COMMENT: Abraham WAS LYING! Of course; Sarah, his wife, was his HALF-SISTER; nevertheless, the intent was all wrong! It was a lie. Abraham BROKE the ninth commandment!

2. Did YEHOVAH God prevent King Abimelech from marrying Abraham's wife, thus preventing him from UNKNOWINGLY committing adultery with her? **Genesis 20:3**, and first part of **verse 4**. Did YEHOVAH say that had Abimelech committed adultery, it would have been a SIN? **Verse 6**.

COMMENT: How plain it is that YEHOVAH's law was in existence from Adam.

3. What about COVETING -- is it the last of the Ten Commandments? **Exodus 20:17**. Were the people BEFORE the flood breaking this commandment? **Genesis 6:1-3, 5**. Does YEHOVAH say, through the inspired Psalms, that the WICKED are those who FORSAKE

HIS LAW? **Psalms 119:53**. Then weren't these people forsaking YEHOVAH's LAW? **Genesis 6:5**. Note the word "wickedness."

COMMENT: The "SONS of God" -- in the sense that YEHOVAH God is the Creator-Father of human beings because He formed man of the dust of the ground -- were lusting after, COVETING, and taking wives that were not good for them.

They were in this way striving AGAINST YEHOVAH God. YEHOVAH classified them among the wicked of those days -- among those who were breaking the law He had revealed to Adam and Eve at the very beginning. They were breaking the TENTH COMMANDMENT against covetousness. And it was this sin that He was denouncing.

4. Now here comes the CLINCHER! Did Abraham, who lived BETWEEN the time of Adam and Moses, have a THOROUGH KNOWLEDGE of YEHOVAH God's COMMANDMENTS? **Genesis 26:5**. And YEHOVAH's STATUTES? **Same verse**. And YEHOVAH's LAWS? **Same verse**. How did Abraham LEARN all these things? Note the word "voice."

COMMENT: The people before the time of Moses were MUCH BETTER INFORMED about the law of YEHOVAH God than is generally admitted today!

Obedience Necessary Today!

The Ten Commandments constitute a SPIRITUAL LAW that is eternal and inexorable. It is a law showing the way of LOVE and the FULFILLING of which is love. It is a law that YEHOVAH God set in motion for man's HAPPINESS to produce everything GOOD which man foolishly denies himself.

Obedience to YEHOVAH's law was JUST AS NECESSARY for the well-being and happiness of the world BEFORE the time of Moses and AFTERWARD, AS IT IS TODAY! That is why we have just seen that every one of the Ten Commandments EXISTED FROM CREATION. It has been a SIN to break any one

of them from the beginning!

YEHOVAH God created man a creature of CHOICE. And so YEHOVAH decreed that man MUST CHOOSE WHETHER or not he will obey YEHOVAH's law. The world as a whole has CHOSEN NOT to obey and you see the RESULTS of sin all around you!

Yes, the CHOICE IS YOURS. But the actual fulfilling of YEHOVAH's royal law of love does not lie within YOUR OWN power. It is only possible through the POWER of YEHOVAH's spirit!

But there are PRIOR CONDITIONS to receiving YEHOVAH's holy spirit. First you must REPENT of your past sins -- come to recognize and UTTERLY ABHOR your past disobedience to YEHOVAH's laws and QUIT SINNING! Then you must acknowledge Yeshua the Messiah as your personal Saviour who shed his blood to blot out your sins and reconcile you to the Father. Finally, YEHOVAH God commands WATER BAPTISM as a symbol of your sincere repentance.

Once you have fulfilled these requirements, YEHOVAH promises to give you His holy spirit as a FREE GIFT! (Acts 2:38.) Only then will you be able to keep His SPIRITUAL law in its true spiritual intent.

Do you begin to realize how DESPERATELY YOU need to have YEHOVAH God's spiritual law of love -- the Ten Commandments -- being FULFILLED in you? It is the ONLY WAY to achieve the true happiness and material and SPIRITUAL blessings you really desire!

What are you going to DO about it?



The Ten Commandments in the grounds of the Texas State Capitol, Austin.

Articles to Write For:

Law Versus Grace?

Are the Old Testament Laws *Still* in Force Today?

Was the LAW of YEHOVAH God "Nailed to the Cross"?

Are You a "Comfortable" Christian?

Answers to Questions in Lesson 29:

1. The Good News of the Kingdom of YEHOVAH God. 2. Yes. 3. There will be peace, prosperity and happiness. 4. The Mount of Olives. 5. The town of Bethany. 6. Just before the Millennium. 7. There would be an apostasy -- a falling into error -- that would deceive many. 8. Yes. 9. Holy beings -- angels and other heavenly host. 10. The saints -- those of his true Ecclesia. 11. The return of YEHOVAH God. 12. The future appearance of the Messiah on this earth. 13. No 14. Absolutely not!

Is Obedience to the 10 Commandments Required for Salvation?

NOTES:

Is Obediance to the 10 Commandments Required for Salvation?

Check Your Progress...

Question 1: Why is the world such an unhappy place in this modern age?

Question 2: Why did Joseph avoid adultery with Potiphar's wife? _____

Question 3: Was the SIN of coveting being committed BEFORE the flood? _____

Question 4: Does the Bible clearly show that idolatry was a SIN long before Moses? _____

Question 5: What does transgression of the law produce? _____

Question 6: Is it true that human beings instinctively know right from wrong? _____

Question 7: When did YEHOVAH God FIRST reveal His spiritual law?

Question 8: Sin is _____

Question 9: Was the law of YEHOVAH God "nailed to the cross" by the Messiah? _____

Question 10: What will we receive if we repent, believe in the Messiah and begin to KEEP YEHOVAH's commandments? _____

Question 11: Is it true that the 10 commandments have been in full force and effect since Adam? _____

Question 12: How did Cain SIN? _____

Question 13: Has YEHOVAH God given man the right to CHOOSE whether or not he will obey His law? _____

Question 14: Is it true that we were BORN with the love that enables us to keep YEHOVAH's laws? _____

Question 15: Love is the fulfilling of what? _____

Question 16: Did Abraham SIN by lying about his wife? _____

The answers will be found in the next lesson. Approximately 3 weeks after receiving Lessons 29-32, you will receive a mail-in test that covers these four lessons. The test will be returned to you after grading. Following the completion of the Hope of Israel Bible Correspondence Course you will receive a **Certificate of Completion**. If you complete the course with a grade of 75% or better you will also receive an **Outstanding Student Award**.