

At the feet of **Jesus**



Level 2

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Level 2

THE SECRET OF THE GOLDEN ARK



In ancient times, various cultures, such as the Incas, Aztecs, Mayas, and Egyptians, had valuable art treasures full of significance. The Egyptian tomb of Tutankhamen was special in that it was found intact while all the other tombs had been plundered.

What was even more extraordinary was the sanctuary that Moses built in the wilderness. Each utensil, especially the ones found in the Ark of the Covenant, had deep meaning. The dimensions, material, location, and ceremonies performed in the sanctuary all had valuable secrets. Does this have anything to do with us?

HOW WERE THE PEOPLE OF GOD SAVED IN OLD TESTAMENT TIMES?

1. **When man sinned he was separated from God and, without God's intervention, was condemned to eternal death. From that moment on, his natural tendency was to do evil. He was weak and corrupted. When God placed man in Eden, He warned him that if he sinned he would die. Did this happen immediately? Who died in his place? Genesis 3:21.**

Two lambs died in man's place. Adam and Eve received _____ as garments. They were his substitute, a symbol of the coming Savior.

2. **When did God prepare an escape route to redeem man? 1 Peter 1:18-20.**

3. **What was the only way sin could be atoned? Hebrews 9:22. _____**

That is why Abel's sacrifice was accepted and Cain's was not. God commanded the sinner bring an animal to die in his place. He would place his hands on the animal's head and confess his sins, which symbolized the transfer of his sins to an innocent victim.

GOD REVEALS HIMSELF TO MAN

4. **God led the Israelites out of Egypt and guided them to the promised land in a miraculous way. He revealed His will and made His law known to them. What did God order Moses to do in a vision? Exodus 25:8, 40. _____**
5. **What were the dimensions of the courtyard surrounding the sanctuary? Exodus 27:9-19.**

It had the following dimensions: length: 150 feet (100 cubits) over 20 bronze pillars; width: 75 feet (50 cubits) over 10 bronze pillars; height: 7.5 feet. One could not look over it.

6. **What were the characteristics of the sanctuary?**

The sanctuary, according to Exodus 26, measured 40.5 feet long, 9 feet wide, and 15 feet high. It was built of acacia wood overlaid with gold. The wood and gold symbolized the union of Christ's human and divine natures. The wood symbolized Christ as a man. The gold symbolized Christ as God.

It was covered by four different layers.

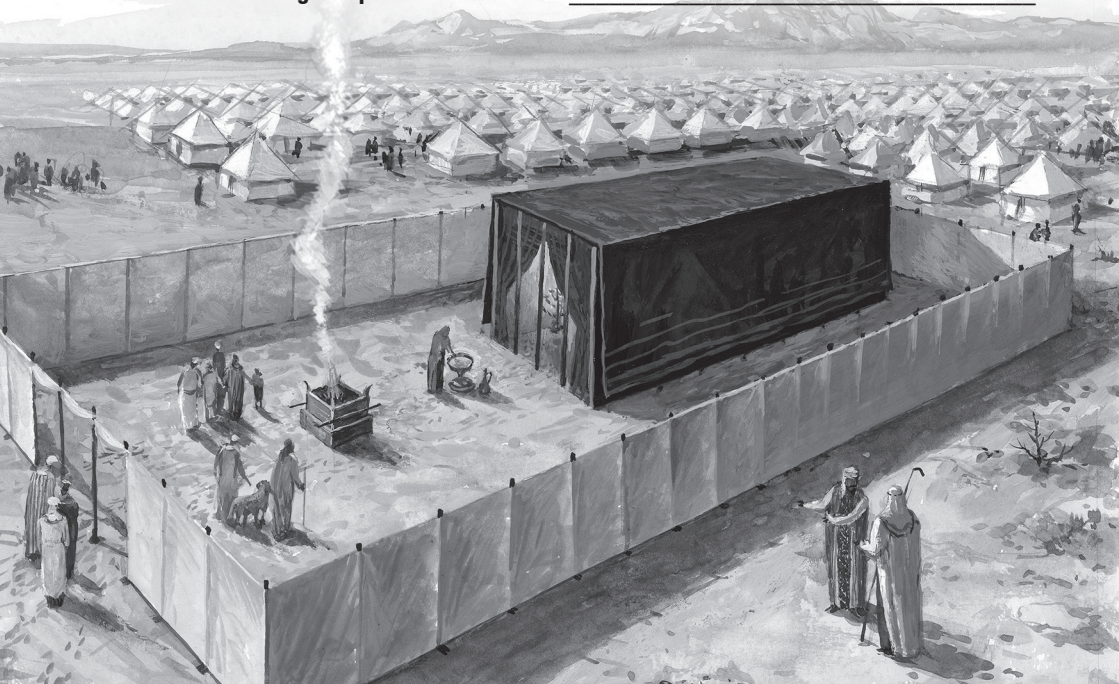
- *The exterior was of brown and black badgers' skins and its appearance was not outstanding. It represented Christ's human nature.*
- *Beneath this layer was another of red rams' skins which symbolized Christ's suffering.*
- *The third layer was of white goats' hair, representing Christ's purity.*

- *Inside, beneath the other three layers, was a covering of white linen embroidered in blue, purple and scarlet; royal colors representing Christ as King.*

The tabernacle was divided into two parts: the Holy Place and the Most Holy Place.

SEVEN ELEMENTS FOR OUR TIME

7. **The gate of the courtyard was 27 feet wide with a beautiful white linen curtain embroidered in blue, purple and scarlet hanging from 4 pillars (Exodus 27:16). Who does it represent? John 10:9.** _____
 a) The only way to the Father. Ephesians 2:18; 1 Timothy 2:5.
 b) Why was the gate so wide? It represents God's love and His desire to save everyone. 1 Timothy 2:3, 4.
 c) **Four pillars.** Christ revealed Himself in the four gospels. His appeal is addressed to the four corners of the world.
8. **The altar of sacrifice was a symbol of Calvary (Exodus 27:1-8). What did John the Baptist call the Savior? John 1:29.** _____
 a) The sacrifice. The victim had to be a perfect and spotless animal. It represented Christ's sinless character. 1 Peter 1:19; Hebrews 4:15. When the sinner placed his hands on the animal's head, he transferred his sins to the innocent victim, which died in his place. There is only one way to avoid eternal death and that is to find a substitute to die in our place, a sacrifice. Christ was that innocent sacrifice who died on Calvary.
 b) The horns were a sign of strength. They represent the power of Christ's sacrifice.
9. **The bronze laver. Exodus 30:17-21 mentions purification by water. What should we do to wash away our sins? Acts 22:16.** _____
Who is the water of life? John 4:14. _____
10. **The seven-branched candlestick was forged out of a piece of gold (Exodus 25:31-39). Whom does the light represent? John 8:12.** _____





- a) God enlightens us through His word. Psalms 119:105.
- b) The oil represents the Holy Spirit. Zechariah 4:1-6.
- c) When Christ lives in us through the Holy Spirit, we will be the light of the world. Matthew 5:14-16.
- d) The seven branches represent the church through which Christ enlightens the world. Revelation 1:20.

11. Who does the table with showbread symbolize (Exodus 25:24-30)? John 6:15.

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- a) What does Jesus want us to do so He can sup with us? Revelation 3:20. We should open the _____ of our heart.
 - b) He wants to nourish us with His Word and help us grow spiritually. Matthew 4:4.

12. What did the altar of incense symbolize (Exodus 30:1-10)? Psalms 141:2; Revelation 8:3.

-
- a) Only through Jesus can our prayers reach the Father and be as a pleasant fragrance. 1 John 2:1.
 - b) Incense was offered each morning and evening, representing morning and evening worship.

13. What was behind the veil in the Most Holy Place? Hebrews 9:2-5; Exodus 25:10-22.

-
- a) The Ark of the covenant symbolizes God's throne. Revelation 11:19.
 - b) The tables of the Ten Commandments, written by God's finger, were inside this Ark (Deuteronomy 10:1-5). They are the foundation of God's throne and a reflection of His character (Psalms 89:14; 119:172).
 - c) The cover, made of pure gold, was called the mercy seat.
 - d) It had two cherubim with their wings spread out to symbolize the angels that surround God's throne.

CONCLUSION

14. The utensils in the sanctuary illustrate God's plan for the salvation of man. How can we grow closer to Jesus? Hebrews 4:16. _____

- a) The seven elements mentioned above appeared in the shape of a cross.
- b) They remind us of:
 - 1) *The gate: Christ calls us.*
 - 2) *The altar: Christ died in our place.*
 - 3) *The laver: Christ wishes to cleanse us from all sin.*
 - 4) *The candlestick: Christ wishes to enlighten our lives through the Holy Spirit.*
 - 5) *The table of showbread: Christ wishes to nourish us with His presence and communicate with us through His Word.*
 - 6) *The altar of incense: Christ presents our prayers to the Father.*
 - 7) *The Ark of the covenant: represents God's throne. It shows us that His mercy and law are the foundations of His government. Jesus is the center of the Scriptures, revealed in the Old Testament symbols, and in His life on earth in the New Testament.*

.....
My decision: I believe that Jesus Christ is the center of the Scriptures and that each symbol of the sanctuary is a future projection of the gospel. ☐ Yes ☐ No
.....

A LIFE PLAN THAT OFFERS SECURITY AND PEACE



There is no security or peace in our day.

- Violence and famine threaten the whole world.
- Law enforcement agencies unsuccessfully try to control urban violence and prevent burglaries.
- Psychologists, psychiatrists, and religious leaders try to find solutions to the increasing anxiety that grips millions of people, but they find no answer. They ignore the true cause of turmoil and the solution the Author of life has revealed.

1. What two causes have brought man to the brink of chaos?

- a) Jeremiah 2:13. They have forsaken _____.
- b) Isaiah 24:5, 6. They have forsaken His _____.

A LIFE PLAN FOR HAPPINESS

2. What principles were given to man in Eden? Genesis 2:17, 18, 3.

The principles of God's Holy Law were given at the very beginning. Man was told, "you shall not steal from that tree," "you shall not covet." Marriage and the rest day were given, as well as others. Without law, there would be no sin. Romans 4:15.

3. On what did God write the Ten Commandments and what did He write them with? Exodus 31:18.

He wrote them on _____, the most durable object, which symbolizes eternity. It was the only thing He wrote with His own _____. This proves the _____ of His law.

4. Where were the two tables of the law placed? Deuteronomy 10:5.

Inside the _____.

The commandments are the foundation of God's government and the reflection of His character (Psalms 89:14).

GOD IS:	HIS LAW IS:
Love (1 John 4:8)	Love (Romans 13:9-10)
Holy (Isaiah 6:3)	Holy (Romans 7:12)
Just (Psalms 129:4)	Just (Deuteronomy 4:8)
Good (Psalms 145:9, 17)	Good (Romans 7:12)
True (Psalms 89:14)	True (Malachi 2:6)
Faithful (Deuteronomy 7:9)	Faithful (Psalms 111:7)
Eternal (Psalms 45:6)	Eternal (Psalms 111:7-8)

5. What is the true purpose of the law? Romans 3:20, 31; 7:7.

The law makes us aware of _____.

6. By what law will we be judged in the final judgment? James 2:10-12.

WHAT WAS JESUS' ATTITUDE REGARDING THE TEN COMMANDMENTS?

7. Who wrote the law on Mount Sinai, the Father or the Son? Nehemiah 9:12, 13; 1 Corinthians 10:1-4.

8. What did the prophecies say about Christ's attitude toward the law?

- a) Psalms 40:7, 8. His law is _____ (John 15:10).
- b) Isaiah 42:21. It says that He would magnify the law and make it honorable. When we read the Sermon on the Mount, we can see this prophecy fulfilled (Matthew: 5:21, 22, 27, 28, 33-37, 48).

9. How did Jesus emphasize the eternal nature of the law? What would happen first? Luke 16:17.

10. What do we prove by obeying God? John 14:15, 21.

Our _____ for Him.

The new covenant differs from the old one in that God's law is written not just on stone but on our hearts and minds (Hebrews 10:16).

If someone says he has his wife in his heart, what does he mean? Does it mean he wants to divorce her?

11. What did Jesus answer the rich young man when he asked what he should do to inherit eternal life? Matthew 19:16-19.

If you want to enter into life, _____.

12. Who will be greatly disappointed in the day of judgment? Matthew 7:21-23.

Those who said _____ and did not do the _____.

13. Is it possible to keep the law of God?

- a) Romans 8:5-8. Those who live according to the flesh (carnal people) cannot _____.
- b) 1 John 5:2, 3. When the love of God fills our heart, we see that His commandments are not _____.

14. How can we identify a true Christian? 1 John 2:3-6.

CONCLUSION

God's eternal law should be our life plan and should guide our behavior. It is as immutable as God Himself.

15. What promise does God give those who keep His commandments?

- a) Deuteronomy 5:29. They will _____.
- b) Psalms 119:165. Our hearts will be filled with peace.

.....
My decision: I accept that the Ten Commandments are the character of God and the foundation of His throne. ☐ Yes ☐ No
.....

12

TEN MINUS ONE EQUALS A ZERO

10-1=0

What is $10 - 1$? What were we taught in school? You will certainly say 9, but God says that $10 - 1 = 0$. Has exact science become inexact? No, God has the exact answer, it's math in another dimension.

This isn't a matter of little importance! Our personal happiness and our family's, as well as the prosperity of nations, depend on it. Even our own salvation is in jeopardy. God does not approve of a bargained religion. People are used to bargaining, and modern religion tries to bargain with God. They want an emotional religion without responsibilities, without obedience to God, without rules. They expect God to make a reduction and believe that if they keep most of the commandments it is enough for them to be accepted before God. They accommodate the commandments according to personal preference.

LET'S RESPECT WHAT GOD HAS SAID

1. **What does the Bible say about someone who rejects any of the Ten Commandments?**

James 2:10-12.

2. **What does God say about those who think they are good Christians but do not keep His commandments? 1 John 2:3, 4.** _____

3. **What does He say about those who arrange religion as they please and change some of the commandments? Matthew 15:9.** _____

- a) God does not allow any change in His law. Deuteronomy 4:2; Ecclesiastes 3:14.
- b) Not even a tittle can be changed. Matthew 5:17-19.
- c) There is no reason to change anything in the law. His law is perfect. Psalms 19:7.

BUT WHAT LAW DO THE ABOVE VERSES REFER TO?

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS, EXACTLY AS WRITTEN BY GOD'S FINGER.

4. **What does the first commandment prohibit? Exodus 20:3.** _____

The sun and the planets were worshiped in the past; and still today people in some countries worship animals; for example, cows are considered sacred in India. Nowadays, we have modern gods. Everything we consider more important than God becomes a god to us; for example, living to eat instead of eating to live (Philippians 3:19) or giving priority to amusements, sports, awards, etc. (Matthew 10:37), can be a form of idolatry.

5. **What does the second commandment forbid? Exodus 20:4-6.**
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- a) There is a reason for this. Deuteronomy 4:15, 16.
- b) John 4:24. God wants us to worship Him in _____.
- c) What does the Bible say about idolatry? Isaiah 44:9, 10, 18, 19.

6. What does the third commandment forbid? Exodus 20:7.

- a) God is holy and wishes us to express His name with reverence. In Matthew 5:34-37 we see that this commandment also prohibits _____. The only exception is a judicial oath.
- b) What will happen to those who speak vain words? Matthew 12:36.

7. What does the fourth commandment command us to do? Exodus 20:8-11.

We must work the first six days of the week and rest on the seventh day, the Sabbath. It is a memorial of creation, and it must be dedicated to worship. It is for our own benefit. Mark 2:27.

Maybe a reader learned that the third commandment says "sanctify the feasts." Why is there a difference in how the commandments are taught? Those who teach this commandment omit the second commandment and divide the last one into two, so they add up to 10. Keeping "the feasts" is not the same as honoring a specific day. God has not authorized any human being to change His law. We should accept it as it is written in the Bible.

8. Whom should we honor according to the fifth commandment? Exodus 20:12.

God promises to give long life to those who honor their parents. There is no age limit to the obedience to this commandment.

9. The sixth commandment states, 'Thou shalt not kill.' Exodus 20:13. What is the meaning of this commandment according to the spiritual teachings of Christ?

We have no right to deprive anyone of life, not even ourselves.

- a) Matthew 5:38, 39, 43-45. Love your _____.
Jesus Christ clarified the spiritual value of this commandment, which forbids participation in war, which is mass murder; it goes against His teachings.
- b) Matthew 5:21, 22, 1 John 3:15. To hate, swear or hold a grudge are also transgressions of this commandment.
- c) 1 Corinthians 3:16, 17. We should not transgress the laws of _____.

10. The seventh commandment states, "Thou shalt not commit adultery." Exodus 20:14.

This commandment protects the family unit. Every sexual relationship outside of marriage is condemned by God.

- a) What did Jesus say about lustful looks and thoughts? Matthew 5:27, 28.
-
- b) Is it right for us to watch scenes of violence or marital infidelity even if they are not real? Philipians 4:8.

11. What does the eighth commandment forbid? Exodus 20:15.

This includes any kind of theft, whether big or small; such as wars of conquest, slavery, lack of honesty in business, adulteration of products, false weights and measures, taking advantage of someone's ignorance or weakness, destroying someone's influence, irresponsibility at work, unfair wages, in short, every dishonest act.

12. The ninth commandment states, "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor." Exodus 20:16. Who will be barred from salvation? Revelation 22:15.

Every lie, no matter what the intention, is included in this commandment. We can lie by a gesture or a wink, or by deliberately hiding the truth with the purpose of deceiving.

13. What does the tenth commandment forbid? Exodus 20:17.

Covetousness is the precursor to other sins, such as theft and adultery (Micah 2:2). This was Eve's first sin (Genesis 3:6). God wishes to protect us and make us happy through His law.

CONCLUSION

The foundation of God's law is love. The first four commandments show us how to love God. The last six show us how to love our neighbor. Romans 13:9.

14. But, how can we obey God when we are so weak? Philippians 2:13; 4:13.

15. Do we earn heaven by our obedient deeds? What is the purpose of God's law? Romans 3:20, 24.

We cannot earn heaven with our deeds. Salvation is an unmerited gift from God. Our past transgressions condemn us, but the law's purpose is to show us our sins so we go to Jesus and ask Him to forgive us and help us change our lifestyle. Obedience is a demonstration of our love to God and our acceptance of Jesus as our Lord. John 14:15.

16. If we say with Paul, "Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?" (Acts 9:6) and we choose to obey the commandments of God, what will we receive?

- a) Deuteronomy 28:1, 2, 9, 13. _____ .
- b) Our prayers will be answered (1 John 3:22). We will have spiritual peace (Isaiah 48:18), wisdom (Psalms 119:104), health (Exodus 15:26), prosperity, and a long life (Deuteronomy 4:40).

To receive all these promised blessings, are you willing to obey all the commandments of the Holy Law of God out of love for Jesus? Do you wish to ask the Lord to help you keep them faithfully?

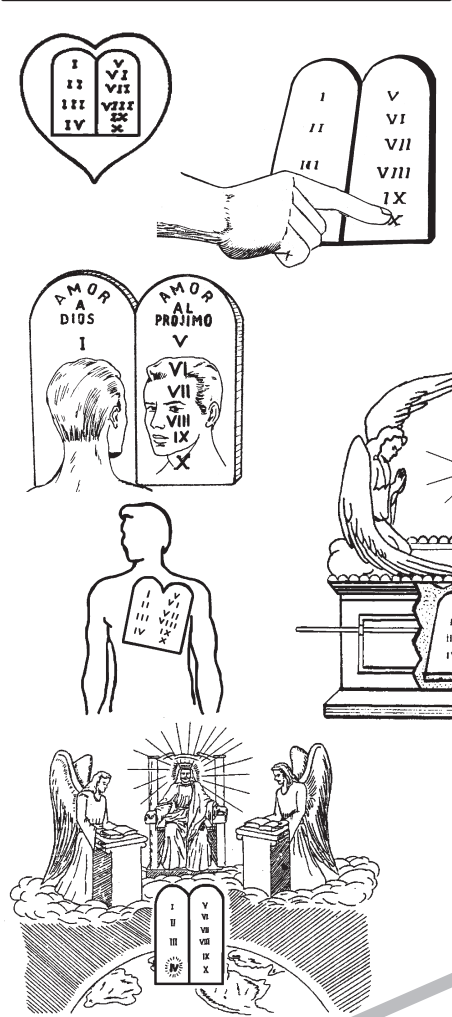
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My decision: I want God to grant me power to keep every one of the Ten Commandments, by faith. ☐ Yes ☐ No

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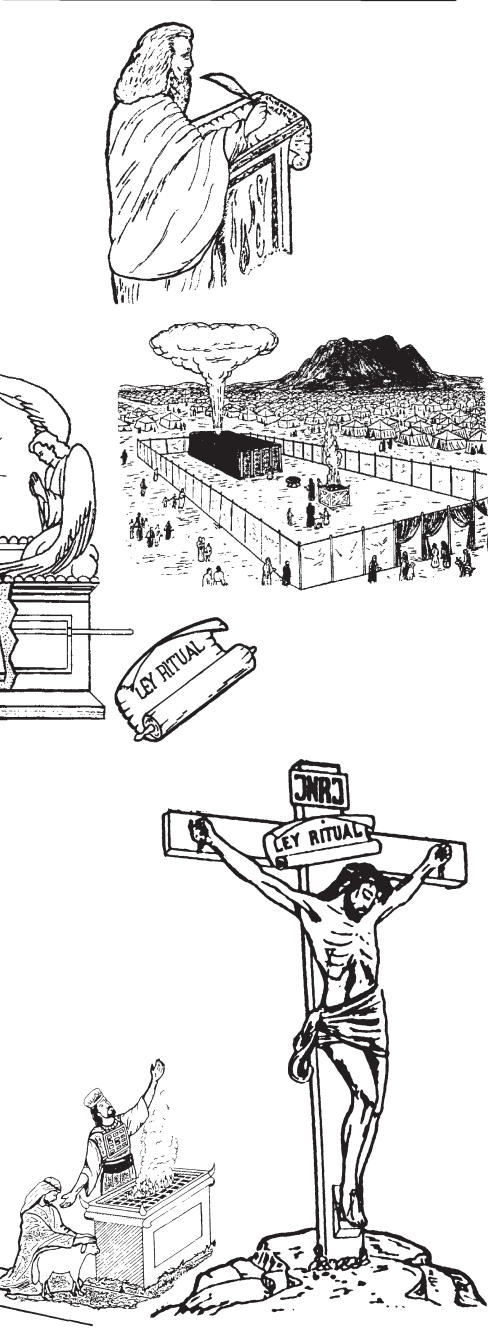
LEY DE DIOS

LOS 10 MANDAMIENTOS



LEY DE MOISES

LEY CEREMONIAL





Are there contradictions in the Bible? No, there ARE NOT, although there may seem to be.

For example, Jesus Christ spoke in favor of the law in Luke 16:17, and so did the Apostle Paul in Romans 7:7, 12. In spite of this, it seems that the same apostle speaks against the law in Galatians 3:10, 13. Does he contradict himself?

When God created man, He put the principles of His Holy Law in his heart (Genesis 2:16, 17). ("thou shalt not ...").

Man, who was created with a free will, transgressed the law and was expelled from Eden (Genesis 3:24). Man had to die for his sin; but God, in His mercy, provided a temporary substitute, a lamb, which was a symbol of Christ, the Savior of humanity. The skins from the first victims provided clothing for man (Genesis 3:21).

The sacrifice of Abel was accepted. He offered a lamb, while his brother brought the fruit of the land and was rejected by God (Genesis 4:3, 4). To be forgiven, the sinner had to bring an animal to the sanctuary, place his hands on the animal's head, and sacrifice it. This symbolized that his sins were transferred to the animal, which died in his place (Leviticus 4:27-29). All these rites and ceremonies were a shadow or symbol pointing to Christ. For this reason, it is called the Ceremonial Law (Hebrews 10:1).

1. How many types of laws are there?

Besides civil laws of Israel, the Bible describes two other laws:

- The Ten Commandments, which can be compared to a mirror showing us our sinful condition.
- The ceremonial law, which included the sacrifices, ceremonies and festivals, which were a shadow or symbol of Christ and His work for mankind.

This law was given to man after his fall and was the means of his redemption until the Son of God came to die in this world, in our place.

2. What differences are there between these two laws?

In the box on the back of the page, we will compare the two laws (see now).

CONCLUSION

3. Why were the Ten Commandments not abolished after Christ's death?

In the New and Old Testaments, the mirror of God's Holy Law was necessary so man could recognize sin. What changed was the way forgiveness was received. In the Old Testament, a lamb, which took the place of the sinner and pointed forward to Christ, had to be sacrificed, while in the New Testament, when we see our sins in relation to the law, we go directly to Christ through faith. When the Savior came, the ceremonial law that represented Him was no longer necessary.

4. What does Paul say about circumcision? Was it a part of the ceremonial law?

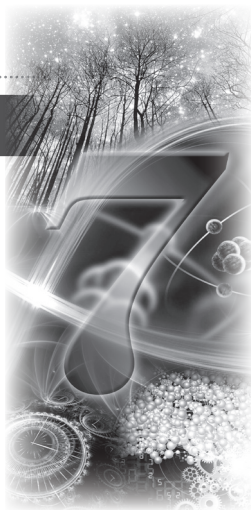
1 Corinthians 7:19.

Logic tells us that there are advantages when we live according to the eternal moral code, for God's promises are for those who keep His law. Deuteronomy 5:29; Psalms 119:165.

My decision: I accept that the Ten Commandments, the law of God; and the law of Moses, the ceremonial law, are two different laws. The first is eternal and the latter is temporal. ☐ Yes ☐ No

<i>THE TEN COMMANDMENTS</i>	<i>THE CEREMONIAL LAW</i>
1. They are called the LAW OF GOD (Romans 7:22).	1. It is called Moses' law (Acts 15:5).
2. It was given in Eden (Romans 2:15).	2. It was given after Eden (Galatians 3:19).
3. It was written by God's finger (Exodus 31:18).	3. It was written by Moses (Deuteronomy 31:24).
4. It was written on stone (a durable object).	4. It is a book .
5. It was placed inside the Ark of the Covenant , the most sacred place, which is a symbol of the throne of God (Deuteronomy 10:1-5).	5. It was placed next to the Ark of the Covenant (Deuteronomy 31:25, 26).
6. The law is compared to a mirror ; it shows our sinful condition (Romans 7:7).	6. The ceremonial law was for the remission or atonement of sins (Hebrews 9:22).
7. It is a way of life that we should abide by (1 Timothy 1:8-10).	7. It was just a symbol that pointed to Christ (Hebrews 9:9).
8. It is eternal , it was not abolished by Christ (Psalms 111:7, 8; Matthew 5:17).	8. It was abolished by Christ (Colossians 2:14).
9. The prophecy said that Jesus would magnify the law (Isaiah 42:21).	9. Paul declares that Jesus abolished the ceremonial law (Ephesians 2:15).
10. He who observes the law of God is called blessed (James 1:25).	10. He who keeps the things written in the book of the law is called cursed . After Christ's death, there is no need for those rituals (Galatians 3:10-13).
11. We will be judged by to the law (James 2:10-12).	11. We should not be judged for what we eat, drink, feast days (ceremonial Sabbaths, etc.) which were a shadow of what was to come (Galatians 2:16, 17).
12. It is possible to keep the Ten Commandments with the help of God (1 John 5:3).	12. The law of Moses was impossible to keep (Acts 15:10).

Today we live under stress, fatigue, and anxiety, which affect our health and happiness. 70% to 90% of all illnesses are psychosomatic, the result of our worries. We need physical and spiritual rest, to be in touch with our inner self and with our Creator, whom many of us have ignored or even rejected. When we observe creation, we are astonished. Take, for example, the birth of a child, a being that can see, hear, move, and make sounds. The human mind, with its tremendous capacity to reason; the eye with its complicated functions; if we look at the stars of outer space, or the tiniest insects, the lovely flowers in our garden, a baby's smile, we cannot but praise God. Psalms 139:13, 14.



LET'S HONOR THE CREATOR!

1. What does God deserve for what He has created? Revelation 4:11.

2. Did God need thousands of years to create the world? How long did it take Him? Genesis 1:31.

- On the first day, He made light (Genesis 1:1-5). The earth was without form and void.
- On the second day, He made the atmosphere and the firmament (verses 6-8).
- On the third day, He made land and plants (verses 9-13).
- On the fourth day, He organized the solar system: the sun, moon, and stars (verses 14-19).
- On the fifth day, He made the fish and birds (verses 20-23).
- On the sixth day, He made the animals of the land and man (verses 24-28,31).

3. What did He do on the seventh day? Genesis 2:1-3. God _____ the seventh day.

- a) God did not rest because He was tired but to give us an example.
- b) God does not void what He has blessed and sanctified. Numbers 23:19, 20.

Monuments are often constructed to honor great men and women, such as liberators, heroes, poets, explorers, teachers, mothers; people who have served humanity or saved a life.

In Bern, Switzerland there is even a monument to a St. Bernard that rescued 14 people in the Alps.

4. What monument was established in the fourth commandment of God's Holy Law to honor Him as Creator? Exodus 20:8-11.

THE KEEPING OF THE SABBATH DAY OVER TIME

5. What does God consider the Sabbath? Ezekiel 20:12, 20.

A seal has three main features: 1. Name, 2. Title, 3. Jurisdiction. In the fourth commandment (Exodus 20:8-11) we find the following features:

1. **Name:** The Lord thy God
2. **Title:** Creator (He made...)
3. **Jurisdiction:** Heaven and earth.

6. Was the Sabbath day observed before the law was given at Mount Sinai? Exodus 16:15, 21-30.

Proof of this is the miracle of _____. Ever since then, the order of the week has never changed in the ancient Jewish calendar, nor in our own.

7. How did Isaiah describe the Sabbath day? Isaiah 58:13, 14. _____
8. Was the Sabbath also for non-Jewish believers of the Old Testament and all Christians today? Isaiah 56:2-7. _____

DID JESUS AND HIS APOSTLES KEEP THE SABBATH?

9. What is Jesus' relationship to the Sabbath?
- a) Christ Himself created it. John 1:1-14; Colossians 1:15-17.
 - b) He promulgated the law at Mount Sinai. Nehemiah 9:12, 13; 1 Corinthians 10:4.
10. What was Jesus' custom when He lived on this earth? Luke 4:16, 31. _____
11. Was the Sabbath established for all men? Mark 2:27, 28. _____
- a) He is the Lord, Owner and Author of the Sabbath, so it is the day of the Lord.
 - b) He taught how to keep it by doing good and preaching on that day. Matthew 12:11-12.
12. What day did Mary (the mother of Jesus) and the other faithful women who had been taught by Jesus keep, after His crucifixion? Luke 23:56. _____
13. Would the Sabbath continue to be holy after Christ's death? What advice did He give His disciples when He foretold the destruction of Jerusalem, which came more than 40 years later (70 A.D.)? Matthew 24:20. _____
14. Did the apostles keep the Sabbath?
- a) In Corinth. Acts 18:3, 4.
 - b) In Thessalonica. Acts 17:2, 3.
 - c) In Antioch. Acts 13:14, 42, 44.
 - d) In Philippi, by the river. Acts 16:13.
15. Where will the Sabbath be kept for eternity? Isaiah 6:22, 23. _____

CONCLUSION

- Jesus explained that the Sabbath was created for man's benefit. Mark 2:27.
 - It is the best way to conquer stress and fatigue. It offers us rest for the body, soul and spirit.
 - It is a day of communion with Jesus as we gather together, as He did. Thus, we strengthen our relationship with Him and are relieved of psychological stress by receiving rest and peace for the soul. Matthew 11:28-30.
 - We honor the Author of life when we enjoy nature and give Him honor, glory and power for creating everything.
 - It is a day to dedicate to the family and to teach our children the ways of God.
16. How is it possible to keep that day holy in a world that is upside down? Philippians 4:13; Psalms 37:3-5; Isaiah 65:13. _____

We are happy when we can show our love to God! We will have a clear conscience and the certainty of our duty fulfilled!

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My decision: *I believe that the Sabbath is the true day of rest and I am willing to keep it.*

☐ Yes ☐ No

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14 THE WORST FALSIFICATION IN HISTORY

Falsification abounds in every aspect of society. We find it in science, the economics of art, literature, and more. Unfortunately, there are also falsifications in religious matters. The worst falsification of all ages is that of pagan rites of sun worship that have been subtly introduced in Christianity, to the point of substituting sun worship for one of the Ten Commandments.

Sun worship is the oldest. Mithras, Aurora, Marduk, Baal, Ra, Osiris and Shamash were gods that represented the sun.



DISGUISED SUN WORSHIP

1. What abomination did the prophet Ezekiel see in vision? Ezekiel 8:15-18.

God pronounced a very severe sentence against sun worshipers (Ezekiel 6:4-6).

2. Who tried to introduce pagan customs into Christianity? Why?

Emperor Constantine (280-337 A.D.) noticed that Rome's political power was weakening due to the differences existing between pagan worshipers and Christians. He then attempted to bring these two large ideological groups together. In 313 A.D., he published the Edict of Milan, in which he granted religious tolerance and complete freedom to Christians.

As a result, they showed great admiration for the Emperor. Pagans worshiped many gods, Mithras being one of the main sun gods.

Mithras was worshiped on Sunday. Even today, the first day of the week in English is Sunday and in German is Sonntag; both mean day of the sun when translated.

To fulfill his political agenda, Constantine himself became a Christian and established Sunday, the day of the sun, as a day of rest, in place of the Sabbath kept by faithful Christians, thus maintaining a link with sun worshipers.

Many became "Christians" and introduced a great number of pagan customs into Christianity. Cardinal John Henry Newman in his book "Development of Christian Doctrine", p. 373, declares: "Eusebius tells us that Constantine, when recommending the new religion to the heathen, transferred to it the external ornaments to which the heathen were accustomed in their own cult: the use of temples which were dedicated to special saints, ornaments made occasionally out of branches of tree, incense, lamps, candles, votive offerings for the healing of the sick, holy water, seasonal festivities, the use of the calendar, processions, the blessing of the fields, priestly garments, the wedding ring, the custom of facing the east, and later icons, maybe ecclesiastical chanting and the "Kyrie Eleison", all these customs having their origin in paganism and being sanctified when adopted by the church."

The Encyclopedia Britannica (9th version), in the article "Sunday" states: "The earliest recognition of the observance of Sunday as a legal duty is a constitution of Constantine in 321 A.D. (March 7) enacting that all courts of justice, inhabitants of towns, and workshops were to be at rest on Sunday (venerably die soils) with an exception in favor of those engaged in agricultural labor."

3. Constantine was just an emperor, so how was the observance of Sunday introduced into the church?

The change of the rest day was accepted by the Church of Rome. A catechism that received the apostolic blessing of Pope Pius X (on January 25, 1910) clarifies it:

- Question: What is the day of rest?
- Answer: Saturday is the day of rest.
- Question: Why do we observe Sunday instead of Saturday?
- Answer: We observe Sunday instead of Saturday because the Catholic Church, in the Synod of Laodicea (336 A.D.), transferred the solemnity from Saturday to Sunday. Peter Geiermann, The Convert's Catechism of Catholic Doctrine, 1946 ed., p. 50.

DOES GOD ALLOW HIS LAW TO BE CHANGED?

4. What will happen to anyone who attempts to change God's law? Revelation 22:19.

5. What is not permitted to be done with God's Holy Law? Ecclesiastes 3:14.

- a) God cannot change His law. Malachi 3:6; James 1:17.
- b) God's law is valid for a thousand generations. Deuteronomy 7:9.
- c) The fact that the Ten Commandments were written by God's own finger on two tables of stone (Exodus 20:8-11) reveals its importance and its immutability.
- d) The commandment that tells us to keep the Sabbath as the day of rest is the fourth commandment of the Holy Law. Exodus 20:8-11.

6. Did Jesus change the law of God or the day of rest? Matthew 5:17, 18.

Jesus said: _____

7. According to Daniel's prophecies, what would a human power try to do with the law of God? Daniel 7:25.

The church believes it has that authority to do so. A Catholic priest, Stephen Keenan, wrote: "Had she (the church) not such power, she could not have done that in which all modern religionists agree with her; she could not have substituted the observance of Sunday - the first day of the week, for the observance of Saturday - the seventh day, a change for which there is no Scriptural authority." - A Doctrinal Catechism, p. 74.

DO THE EIGHT BIBLE TEXTS THAT MENTION THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK MENTION A CHANGE IN THE DAY OF REST?

8. Do the five texts regarding the resurrection, which took place on the first day of the week, mention any change of the day of rest? Matthew 28:1; Mark 16:1, 2; 26:9; Luke 24:1; John 20:1.

9. Why did the disciples gather on the first day of the week? John 20:19.

Because they were afraid of the _____

More evidence that they did not gather to keep Sunday in honor of the resurrection is that they did not even believe that Christ had risen. Mark 16:12-14.

10. Why did Paul extend a service at Troas, on the night of the first day of the week? What did he do the next day at dawn? Acts 20:7, 11. _____

- a) In the Bible, a new day began at sunset, not midnight, and thus this was after the Sabbath. Many verses show that Paul worshiped on Sabbath; but on this particular occasion, since he had to leave at daybreak, he prolonged his speech until midnight.
- b) If Paul kept Sunday, he would not have undertaken such a long trip that day. A change of the day of rest is not mentioned.
- c) They broke bread every day (Acts 2:46).

11. In advising to set aside an offering for the poor in Jerusalem, did Paul tell the brethren to gather or simply to set the money aside? 1 Corinthians 16:2.

It does not speak of a change of the day of rest.

THERE IS NOT ONE SINGLE BIBLE TEXT THAT SHOWS THAT THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK SHOULD BE OBSERVED

Let us look at some official quotations:

- Cardinal Gibbons wrote: "You may read the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, and YOU WILL NOT FIND A SINGLE LINE AUTHORIZING THE SANCTIFICATION OF SUNDAY. The Scriptures enforce the religious observance of Saturday, a day which we never sanctify." *The Faith of Our Fathers*, 1917 ed.; pp. 72, 73.
- "The concept of a formal substitution of the first day for the seventh day of the week and the transference, maybe in a spiritual way, of the Sabbath rest established in the fourth commandment IS NOT BASED EITHER IN THE HOLY SCRIPTURES OR IN ANCIENT CHRISTIANITY." Smith and Cheatham, *Dictionary of Christian Antiquities*, article on the Sabbath.
- Dr. Edward T. Hiscox, author of the Baptist Manual made the following declaration before a group of pastors: "There was and there is a commandment to be observed as holy: the Sabbath, but that day is Saturday and not Sunday. It could be said, therefore, that the Sabbath was transferred from the seventh to the first day. Where can the registration of such a change be found? Not in the New Testament since there is absolutely nothing regarding it." From an article read at the Conference of Ministers in New York, on November 13, 1893.

SOME QUESTIONS REGARDING THE SABBATH

12. How do we know that today's Sabbath is the same that God sanctified in creation? Haven't there been changes to the calendar?

- a) If we look at a Christian, Oriental, Muslim, Coptic or Jewish calendar we see that the years change, but the Sabbath remains the same. In the Jewish calendar, the year 5778 is equivalent to our year 2018.
- b) The Julian calendar dates to the year 46 B.C., and it was corrected in 1582 and renamed the Gregorian calendar; that is the calendar we use today.
When astronomers discovered that spring began at a different time; the calendar dates were moved 10 days forward. On Thursday, October 4, 1582, people went to bed at night and woke up on Friday, October 15. The weekly cycle remained unchanged.
- c) There are two pieces of evidence showing the Sabbath as the same day mentioned in the creation:

1. The miracle of the manna in the desert. God knew the day He had sanctified. God gave a double portion of manna on Friday and none on Sabbath (Exodus 16:4-35). God performed this miracle in the desert about 2000 times.
2. Christ and His disciples kept the Sabbath (Luke 4:16; 23:54-56). Did the Son of God keep a false day for 33 years?

13. What kind of Sabbaths did Paul refer to in Colossians 2:16, 17: the ceremonial rest days, which were a shadow of Christ, or the seventh day?

In the ceremonial law, written by Moses in a book (Deuteronomy 31:24-26), there are seven annual feasts, which took place the first and seventh month. These feasts (Passover, the feast of unleavened bread, First Fruits, Pentecost, Feast of Trumpets, Day of Atonement, and the Feast of Tabernacles) were also called Sabbaths or days of rest. They had nothing to do with the fourth commandment (Leviticus 23:38, 39). They were a shadow or symbol of Christ.

14. Is this issue so important? Is it not the same to keep another day? Can we trust our opinion? Proverbs 16:25.

15. Most people observe Sunday; can so many people be wrong? Who will be lost? Matthew 7:13, 14.

-
- a) It is not about taking sides of the majority or the minority but about being on Jesus' side.
 - b) Many people say: "My parents and grandparents always observed Sunday, and I do not want to do differently." Who will God judge and condemn: those who sinned in ignorance or those who sin consciously? Acts 17:30; James 4:17.

CONCLUSION

16. What does the Bible call those who restored the Sabbath as the day of rest? Isaiah 58:12, 13.

17. What does the Lord call the Sabbath and what blessings do we receive on that day? Isaiah 58:13, 14.

.....

My decision: *I accept that the Sabbath of God has been falsified by Sunday, a day both of pagan worship and origin.* ☐ Yes ☐ No

.....

15 THE TWO DIMENSIONS OF LOVE

There is no greater power than love. It is the most sung and written of subject by poets. It is the supreme virtue. 1 Corinthians 13:13. Babies should have their mother's love. It gives them life and helps them grow healthy. Love is a child's nourishment and a young person's desire. Many have taken their own lives because of disappointments! They didn't love and they didn't feel loved. Love is an elderly person's support system.



LOVE WRITTEN IN BLOOD

1. Did God abandon the beings He created, in spite of their ingratitude?
Luke 19:10. _____

2. What was the greatest example of God's love for man? 1 John 4:9-11.

3. How can we be Jesus' friends and show Him our love? John 15:14, 10; 14:15.

We cannot buy heaven with our deeds. Salvation is a gift of God (Galatians 2:16). However, salvation is the work of God "in man" through the Holy Spirit.

4. If we want to follow Jesus' example, what should we do to receive eternal salvation?
Hebrews 5:8, 9. _____

5. What is the essence of the commandments? Matthew 22:37-40.

There are two dimensions to _____. Love is the driving force to obey God.

Why did God give Moses two tables instead of one?

- On the first table are the first four commandments, which tell us how to love God. This is love in the first dimension.
- On the second table, we find the last six commandments, which are related to our neighbors. This is the second dimension of love.

LOVE IN THE FIRST DIMENSION

6. How do we show our love to God in reference to the first three commandments? Exodus 20:3-7.

- a) Putting God in first place; above our material interests, our vanity, personal honor, etc.
- b) Not worshiping Him as we think but as He has commanded, in spirit and truth.
- c) Treating His name with respect and reverence.

7. How do we show our love to God when we keep the Sabbath? Exodus 20:8-11.

By planning out our work week on the first day of the week so we can dedicate the seventh day entirely to God. We remember with gratitude God's creative work in two ways (Psalms 118:24):

Physically: enjoy peace on the day of rest by spending it in nature.

Spiritually: rejoice in the change Christ has brought about in us. It should not be a mere physical rest but a rest in which Christ, the Author and Lord of the Sabbath, becomes our spiritual rest through His work of justification (Hebrews 4:1, 2, 9, 10). Every Sabbath should be a foretaste of eternal life.

8. When does the Sabbath begin and end? What does the Bible call the sixth day?

- a) According to the Bible, a day starts the moment the sun sets. Leviticus 23:32; Nehemiah 13:19.
- b) Friday, the sixth day, is called the day of preparation. Mark 15:19.

Housewives also deserve a rest, so what should they do on the day of preparation? Exodus 16:23.
So that it is a real day of preparation, we should purchase everything that is needed, clean and tidy up the house, shower and change clothes, and set aside the clothes used on the Sabbath.

9. How does the Lord want us to keep what He calls “My Holy Day?” Isaiah 58:13, 14.

- a) Not doing our own _____, meaning not doing business transactions, or occupying ourselves with various tasks, and amusements, etc.
- b) Not traveling unless it is to serve the Lord.
- c) Not _____ about problems or materialistic concerns. Not reading the newspaper or listening to the news. It should really be a holy day set aside for God.
- d) We should not do things which make other people work for us (Exodus 20:10).

10. If we love God, what answers will we give to the following objections?

- a) Aren't all days the same? Exodus 20:11; Proverbs 16:25. God rested, sanctified and blessed a specific day.
- b) Most people keep Sunday. Can millions of people be wrong? Matthew 7:13, 14.
The point is not whether we are on the side of the majority or the minority, but whether we are on Jesus' side.
- c) My parents and grandparents kept Sunday, and I don't want to be different. Acts 17:30. God forgives all sins committed because of ignorance (James 4:17).

11. If we love Jesus, what will we do on His day? Luke 4:16. *Jesus was accustomed to* _____

- a) We should attend religious services to worship Him and hear His word.
- b) We can visit the sick and relieve their pain (Matthew 12:11, 12).
- c) We can talk to others about the good news of salvation.

HOW CAN WE LOVE IN THE SECOND DIMENSION?

12. The last six commandments refer to our neighbors. How do we express our love for them?

- a) The fifth commandment refers to the relationship between parents and their children (Ephesians 6:1-4).
- b) If I love my neighbor, can I kill him? Can I take up arms in a war and kill the masses? Can I be unfaithful to my partner? Can I say bad things about my neighbor, lie, steal, or covet what is his (Romans 13:9)?

13. If love is the foundation of our life, will it be difficult to keep God's law in these two dimensions? 1 John 4:20, 21; 5:2, 3. _____

14. What can we not forget if we are guided by love? James 1:27. _____

15. What can we not neglect if we truly love our neighbors? Mark 5:19; Psalms 16:12-14.

CONCLUSION

Loving makes us happy! It is more blessed to give than to receive (Acts 20:35).

Love is not only a feeling but a principle of life. Love makes us tolerant, forgiving, humble and faithful to God and our neighbors (1 Corinthians 13).

The result of living in these two dimensions every day, obeying God and His law, is the key to our success and happiness (Deuteronomy 28:1, 2).

Christ has done everything for me. What should I give Him?

.....
My decision: *I accept that my love for God and my neighbor are revealed by keeping the commandments of the Holy Law.* ☐ Yes ☐ No
.....

Many times, we wonder what happens after death. There are those who, after an accident have been resuscitated and tell of their experience at the point of death. We often hear that the dead manifest themselves; some even speak with them.

Is it reasonable to be afraid of death?

Quite often we meet face to face with death; when we attend a funeral of a friend or a relative to say our goodbyes, or when we see a hearse followed by a procession of mourners in black. We wonder, is there life after death? Maybe when we place a wreath on a tomb we ask ourselves, do the dead have consciousness?

A wife, heartbroken by pain and flooded with tears wonders, will I ever see him again?

There are various opinions about this. Some say a person who dies goes directly to heaven, purgatory or hell; others believe he or she goes to the spirit world or reincarnates later in a newly born being; some say that all has come to an end; others say that a dead person knows nothing until the day of resurrection. Who is right? What does God say? What answer does the Bible give? Job 14:14.



THE PROCESS OF LIFE AND DEATH

1. To understand the process of death, we must first consider: how life began? Genesis 2:7.

The human being is composed of these two elements. God took the first element from dust of the ground. Man's body is composed of protein, fat, minerals (such as phosphorus, iron, magnesium, calcium, etc.), and a high percentage of water. The actual value of these elements is not more than \$5; this is the material value of our body. How little would we be worth without God's breath of life! The union of these two elements made man, a completely new being.

- If we expressed this with a mathematical equation we could say:
matter (earth) + breath of life = living being (living soul).
- When God created man, he became a living soul (living being); it does not say that God gave a soul or that man has a soul, but the union of matter and the breath of life made him a living being; therefore, man is a soul. When we say that 3,000 souls were baptized, we don't say that 3,000 spirits were baptized but persons.
- There are different chemical products that, when mixed, produce something totally different. For example, by mixing two atoms of hydrogen and one of oxygen, we get water, H₂O.
- If an electric lamp receives electricity, it produces light due to the electric current that reaches it. When the energy is shut off the light goes off. The lamp cannot give light by itself, and neither can electricity.

2. Since the process of death is the opposite of life, what happens when somebody dies? Ecclesiastes 12:7; Psalms 104:29.

***Matter (body) - breath of life = death.** As in the case of the lamp, the matter becomes inactive when God withdraws the breath of life.*

IS DEATH A CONSCIOUS STATE?

3. Do the dead know anything? Ecclesiastes 9:5. _____

4. What happens to their feelings? Ecclesiastes 9:6, 10. _____

5. Are the dead in a conscious state? Psalms 146:4. _____
6. Do the dead know anything about their relatives? Job 14:21. _____
7. Are they in heaven praising God? Psalms 115:17; Isaiah 38:18, 19. _____

WHAT IS DEATH COMPARED TO?

8. What did Jesus compare death to? John 11:11-14. _____

Job also compared death to sleep. The dead sleep; they are unconscious until they wake up at the resurrection. Job 14:10-12.

9. What other example do the Scriptures give? Job 14:1, 2. _____

WILL WE SEE AGAIN THOSE WHO HAVE DIED?

10. What is the glorious hope of those who died believing in God? Isaiah 26:19; 1 Thessalonians 4:14-17. _____

11. Are the faithful of old who have died already enjoying eternal life? Hebrews 11:39, 40; Daniel 12:13. _____

There is a contradiction among those who preach immediate punishment or reward and at the same time believe in the resurrection and the judgment. If a person receives his reward when he dies, why will Jesus come to judge the dead and the living? What will He judge? What has already been received?

THE GREATEST, OLDEST LIE THAT DECEIVED MILLIONS

12. God told Adam and Eve that if they disobeyed they would die (Genesis 2:16, 17). However, what was Satan's great lie? Genesis 3:4. _____

For 6,000 years, Satan has preached this lie, which has been believed by most cultures. The cult to the dead existed among the Egyptians, who placed furniture, food and valuable treasures in the tombs of the Pharaohs. There are millions today who believe that the dead are enjoying eternal life or suffering punishment in purgatory or hell.

13. Who alone possesses immortality? 1 Timothy 6:15, 16.

Jesus wants to give immortality to His children, at His second coming. 1 Corinthians 15:51-55.

14. Do we already have immortality, or do we seek it? Romans 2:7. _____

CONCLUSION

Death is the opposite of life. When man dies, he ceases to exist; he becomes unconscious. In spite of this, our great hope is in Jesus' second coming, when we will meet our loved ones who died in Christ.

15. What will Jesus finally do with death? Revelation 21:4. _____

We should always be prepared because our life hangs by a thread.

.....
My decision: I believe the dead know nothing and are asleep until the final resurrection.

☐ Yes

☐ No

.....

DIVINE ADVICE AGAINST MYSTERIOUS FORCES

The world we live in is full of mysterious things of which make us really wonder. There are people who speak with the dead, strange forces that can do good or evil, such as miraculous healing, etc. There are spiritualistic meetings where the medium is possessed by a spirit; pieces of furniture move around. There are houses which are literally haunted, where lights turn on and strange noises are heard in the middle of the night, etc. There are mysterious forces that have led people to misery, sickness, separation from family, and death. Even politicians, businessmen and celebrities consult fortune tellers. Millions read their horoscope daily, others have their cards read, but all are deceived. Where do these forces come from? How can we be protected from them? God is the only one who knows the future. He has revealed it in 2,300 Bible prophecies. Fortune tellers know the present and the past, and this impresses people; this is because they work with spirits that we cannot see, yet they are by our side. They are the same spirits that appear in spiritualistic meetings. Isaiah 8:19.



1. **Can they be the spirits of the dead? What does the Bible say about those who have died? Ecclesiastes 9:5, 6.** _____
2. **Can God be the one who guides them? What command did He give? Leviticus 20:27; Deuteronomy 18:10-12.** _____
3. **If these revelations come from neither God nor the dead, who influence politicians? Revelation 16:14.** _____
 - a) These spirits of demons are the fallen angels who rebelled against God (Ezekiel 28:13-18).
 - b) One-third of the angels were excluded from heaven (Revelation 12:9, 12).
4. **In the biblical examples about people possessed by spirits, what did those spirits declare? Acts 16:16-18. Mark the correct answer:**

☐ They told lies ☐ They said unimportant things ☐ There was some truth in their declarations.
5. **What happened to King Saul when he consulted a fortune teller after God rejected him? 1 Samuel 28:3, 6-8, 11-15; 1 Chronicles 10:13, 14.** _____

THE DEVIL'S COLLECTION

6. **What is a sign of the last days? 1 Timothy 4:1.** _____
 - a) Not only does organized Spiritism exist, but also sorcery and divination; they have also infiltrated Christian churches.
 - b) The first medium ever used was the serpent (Genesis 3:1-4). Mediums are people who go into a trance and spirits then talk through them. They pretend they can make the dead speak, move objects without touching them, heal people, give messages, etc.
7. **How can we tell truth from error? Isaiah 8:19, 20.**

The messenger of God will be in agreement with _____ and _____ in everything; he must agree with what God has already testified in the past through His word.

8. What does the Bible say of those who look for a solution to their problems in those mysterious forces? Jeremiah 2:13. _____
- a) In modern terms, we talk about Parapsychology. There are people who pass through the fire without being burned and they say that they can do that by the power of the mind. This was prohibited by God (Deuteronomy 18:9-14).
b) Reading cards is divination.
c) Hypnotism, the pendulum, and the magic wand, as well as healing by magic words, even if done with good intentions, are not approved by God.
9. What does the Bible say about those who practice astrology and consult astrologers? Isaiah 47:13-15. _____

10. In the last days, false miracles will be so subtle that they will be a threat even to _____.
_____. Matthew 24:24.

There are things that perhaps you do not consider so bad, but may be reaching the limit to God's dislikes; and even if you do not believe it, you are being directed by a hidden power. It is best to avoid all such things.

11. Does Satan work for free, or does he charge for his "favors"? Romans 6:16; John 8:44.

The devil charges a heavy price to those who consult him. He may bring upon that person:

- Unbelief, doubt, lack of faith in God's word and prayer.
- Depression, anxiety, even suicide attempts.
- Mental illness, complexes and paranoia.
- Sexual deviations, adultery, alcoholism, drug addiction.
- Uncontrollable anger. • Possession by evil spirits. • Diseases, poverty, etc.

After asking God forgiveness for consulting with such persons or looking for help from persons other than God, decide not to do it again.

12. What should be done with books about magic or anything similar? Acts 19:19.

13. What divine advice will set us free from satanic influence? James 4:7.

- a) _____ to God
b) Resist _____. Do not listen to him or believe him.
c) The devil _____.

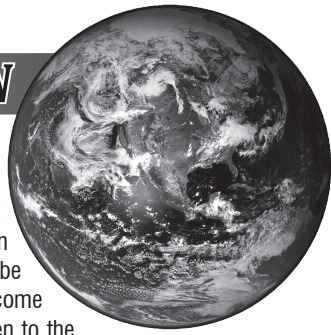
14. What should we trust in to obtain complete victory? Revelation 12:10, 11.

CONCLUSION

- When Adam and Eve separated from God, they were promised that Christ would defeat Satan and bruise his head (Genesis 3:15). This happened at Jesus' death.
- Jesus wants to defend you, help you, forgive you, and hide you in His loving arms.

15. After setting the possessed Gadarene free (Luke 8:26-28), what advice did Jesus give him? Luke 8:38, 39. _____

.....
My decision: I believe that we should only seek help in Jesus; not in seers, healers, astrologers, or spiritualists. ☐ Yes ☐ No
.....



What will happen to our planet at the end of the world? Will it disappear? What will happen after that? Where will we live - in heaven or on the earth? God created this planet to be inhabited, but Paul wrote that we will be caught up in the clouds of heaven (1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17). Will we ever come back to earth? When will the last judgment take place and what will happen to the wicked? Will they be punished? The book of Revelation tells of a universal war; where will it take place? It also mentions a millennium, what does it consist of? What will be the devil's vacation?

THE DEVELOPMENT OF EVENTS

- 1. Today it is still possible to be saved. We are living in the time of grace. With what petition, does God address humanity? Revelation 14:6, 7.**

In Rev. 18:4, He calls us to come out of Babylon which represents the religious confusion of our time.

- 2. Soon the door of grace will close. All opportunity to choose God's way will come to an end, and Christ will stop interceding for men. What will then be heard in heaven? Revelation 22:11.**

"He that is unjust, let him _____ still... and he that is righteous, let him _____..."

In other words, every person's eternal destiny will have been sealed, for salvation or perdition.

- 3. What will come after the time of grace is over? Daniel 12:1; Revelation 15:1.**

The time of _____, meaning the _____ last plagues.

- 4. What is the name of the terrible war that will break out during the sixth plague? Revelation 16:16.**

-
- a) The setting for this war will be the Middle East, near Jerusalem.
 - b) All the nations of the world will be involved (Joel 3:9-14).
 - c) There will be great bloodshed (Revelation 14:20).
 - d) This war will also be a battle between Satan and his followers against Christ and His people.
 - e) Who will win this war? Christ will be the great victor (Revelation 19:13-16).

EVENTS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MILLENIUM

- 5. What event will mark the end of the world and the beginning of the one-thousand-year period? Revelation 14:14-16.**

The second _____ of _____.

- Every eye will see Him (Revelation 1:7), and every ear will hear Him (1 Thessalonians 4:16).
- The sky will roll up as a scroll, and the islands will be moved out of their places (Revelation 6:14).

- 6. After a great earthquake, what will happen to those who have died in Christ? Revelation 16:18; 1 Thessalonians 4:16.**

-
- Those who are raised in this resurrection, are called blessed. Revelation 20:6.

7. What will happen to those who are resurrected and the righteous who are alive at Jesus' coming? 1 Thessalonians 4:17.

They will be changed to immortality (1 Corinthians 15:51-54) and _____ in the clouds. The righteous will take a trip through space up to the heavenly dwellings where they will reign with Christ for a thousand years.

8. What will happen to the wicked who are still alive when Jesus comes? 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9. _____

The wicked who are dead remain dead.

EVENTS DURING THE MILLENNIUM

9. What will happen to Satan? Revelation 20:1-3.

Satan will be bound for _____ years.

He will not be literally bound but will be tied up by circumstances in that he will have no one to deceive since the wicked will be dead and the righteous will be in heaven. This will be a vacation for the devil.

10. What will the earth be like during those one thousand years? Jeremiah 4:23-27.

What makes the earth desolate?

- The seven plagues will have destroyed much.
- Armageddon will leave many dead. Jeremiah 25:33; Isaiah 24:22.
- The terrible earthquake of the seventh plague will destroy all the cities of the world.
- The coming of Christ amid the flames of fire will complete the destruction. 2 Thessalonians 1:7, 8.

11. What will the saints (redeemed ones) do in heaven? Revelation 20:4.

- _____
 - They will evaluate the punishment that the wicked deserve. 1 Corinthians 6:2, 3.
 - God's justice will be vindicated through the participation of the saints in the judgment.

EVENTS AT THE END OF THE MILLENNIUM

12. Jesus will come to this earth after the thousand years. Who will accompany Him? Zechariah 14:4-6. _____

The Straubinger version says, "On that day there will be no light, only cold and ice." Zechariah 14:6.

13. What did the Apostle John see coming down from heaven? Revelation 21:2.

14. What will happen to the others that are dead (the wicked)? Revelation 20:5.

15. What will happen to Satan? Revelation 20:7.

He will be _____ his prison.

- a) The circumstances that kept him bound will disappear, as there will be people to deceive.
- b) The great deception will take place. Revelation 20:8, 9.
 - Satan will assure them that he resurrected them.
 - He will tell them that they can conquer the city of God and establish their own kingdom.

- c) At that moment, the great white throne with the Judge of the Universe sitting on it will be seen. Revelation 20:11.
- Every human being will see their own life, like a film, passing in front of their eyes.

16. What will fall from heaven as Satan and the wicked try to attack the city? Revelation 20:9.

- a) The punishment will be according to what each one deserves. Revelation 20:13.
 b) That second death will be final. Revelation 20:14, 15.
 c) There will be neither root nor branch left. There will be just ashes, which means that at a certain point the fire will be quenched. Malachi 4:1-3.

17. What will God do with the earth after it has been purified with fire? 2 Peter 3:11-13.

- a) The saved will live happily in this new earth for eternity. Revelation 21:3, 4.
 b) The plan of God to restore the harmony of the Edenic paradise will be fulfilled.

CONCLUSION

- Where will you be during the thousand years - in heaven or on earth?
- Where will you be at the end of the millennium - in the New Jerusalem or among the ones who perish outside?
- Where do you plan to spend eternity?
- Jesus has done everything for you. He wants to save you. Will you allow Him to do so?

***My decision:** I believe in eternal life and that God will create a new earth after the millennium.*

☐ Yes

☐ No

Review of final events:



THE 1,000 YEARS



JUDGMENT

IN HEAVEN



SECOND COMING

**RESURRECTION
OF THE RIGHTEOUS**

**WICKED
SLAIN**

**RIGHTEOUS
TRANSLATED**

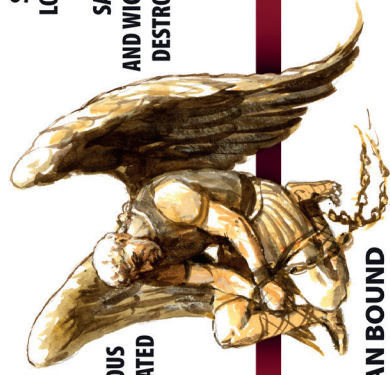
**RESURRECTION
OF THE WICKED**

**SATAN
LOOSED**

**SATAN
AND WICKED
DESTROYED**



**NEW JERUSALEM
DESCENDS**



SATAN BOUND

TODAY

ETERNITY

VISION OF A BETTER WORLD



Is it God's purpose to leave us in this world of suffering?

For many, life has turned into a nightmare, as they are tormented by sicknesses; consumed by anguish; in a conquest for bread; misunderstood in the home; disappointed by loved ones; enslaved by work. For many more, life has become a heavy burden.

How many dreams have not been fulfilled! Many look for friendship and find rejection. Some desire health but instead suffer from an illness. Some want their own home, but it seems impossible. We all wish to have our loved ones near us that death has taken from us.

1. God has promised a home without shadows. When will we receive it? John 14:1-3.

- We will be given a new world like the one given to our first parents (Genesis 1:31). Everything will be beautiful including plants, flowers, and animals. We will enjoy perfect peace and happiness.
- Man received 4 gifts when created: eternal life, a perfect character, a wonderful home, and dominion over everything.
- Sin brought suffering in place of all these gifts.

2. What was the purpose of Christ's death? 1 John 2:25.

- Through Christ we will be free from slavery to the devil, and in Him will all things be made new. Isaiah 45:22.

WHAT WILL THE NEW HEAVEN AND THE NEW EARTH BE LIKE?

3. How many heavens exist now, according to the Bible? 2 Corinthians 12:2-4.

- The first heaven is the atmosphere around the earth - the air.
- The second heaven is the firmament - the starry sky (Psalms 19:1).
- The third heaven is the throne of God (1 Kings 8:30).

4. What has God prepared for us? 1 Corinthians 2:9.

5. As they contemplated the heavenly home with eyes of faith, what did the believers of the past say as they considered their earthly life? Hebrews 11:13-16.

6. What will the new earth be like? Isaiah 35:1, 2, 6 (second part), 7.

- There will be no vast deserts or huge oceans.
- The whole earth will be a garden of incredible beauty (Isaiah 55:13).
- More beautiful flowers than the most beautiful orchids (Revelation 22:2).
- Delicious fruits that no human being has tried here.
- A more pure and intense greenery than the spring greenery.
- There will be rivers, brooks and lakes of crystal clear beauty.

7. How does prophecy describe the harmony of the animal kingdom? Isaiah 11:6-9; 32:17, 18.

8. What will there not be? Isaiah 33:24; 35:3-6.

9. What will there be in place of sadness? Isaiah 35:9, 10; 65:17-25.

10. Will we work or live in idleness? Isaiah 65:21-23.

11. What will the capital city, the New Jerusalem, be like? Revelation 21:1-5, 10-12.

- a) It will measure 12,000 furlongs (verse 16) or 2,200 km. (550 km. on each side).
- b) It is made of _____, similar to clear glass (verse 18).
- c) The wall has _____ foundations made of precious stones (verses 19, 20).
- d) The 12 doors are made of giant pearls (verse 21).
- e) There will be no night because Christ will be their light (verse 23).
- f) From the throne of God a pure river of crystal clear waters flows and on either side of the river is the tree of life (Revelation 22:1, 2).
- g) We will be with Jesus forever (verses 3, 4).

12. On what day will we gather to worship God? Isaiah 66:22, 23.

13. How do we know that all these promises are true?

- You can trust God's promises. We are not talking about fantasy or fiction but about the promises of a God of love.
- a) The 2,300 prophecies that are fulfilled before our eyes are the guarantee that God does not lie.
- b) The sacrifice on Calvary would be meaningless if this were not true.
- c) When Christ comes; we will be changed into immortal beings (1 Corinthians 15:51-58).

HOW CAN I SECURE A PLACE IN HEAVEN?

14. What should I do in the first place? Acts 16:31.

Accept Christ, through faith, as my personal Savior and Lord of my life.

15. What should I do to have eternal life? What did Jesus teach? Matthew 19:17 (last part).

- a) He that _____ will inherit all things (Revelation 21:7).
- b) There will be no room for transgressors there; only those whose names are written in the book of life will have access to that place (Revelation 21:8, 27).

While the word "do" is used, it should be made clear that this is not the cause, but the effect of salvation. Only the merits of Christ are the basis for our redemption. Our surrender and obedience are our response to God's love, Him whom we have accepted not only as Savior but also as Lord of our lives.

CONCLUSION

- Christ did His part on Calvary. The rest depends on you. "If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land" (Isaiah 1:19).
- Now is the time to make a decision and cling to the rock of salvation that is Christ Jesus.
- Accept God's invitation today! (Ephesians 5:14-17).

.....
My decision: I long to take part in that better world. ☐ Yes ☐ No
.....

Studies 10-19

REVIEW QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire's purpose is to assess your understanding of the content of the studies you have completed. If you wish, you may complete it in the presence of the instructor and later track the questions you answered correctly. If you have any doubts, review the lessons once again or ask the instructor.

1. What were Adam and Eve dressed with? What does it symbolize?

2. What did God ask Moses to build?

3. What did the candlestick symbolize?

4. What was the most important element in the sanctuary?

5. What principles were given to man in Eden?

6. What is the law for?

7. What is the foundation of the law of God?

8. Do we buy heaven by keeping the law? What is the role of the law of God?

9. How many types of laws are there?

10. Were the Ten Commandments abolished?

11. That 3 things did God do on the seventh day?

a.

b.

c.

12. What day did Jesus keep holy?

13. Did Jesus Christ change the day of rest from the seventh to the first day?

14. What does the Lord call the Sabbath in Isaiah 58?

15. The first 4 commandments show our love to: _____

16. The remaining 6 commandments show our love to: _____

17. To what is death compared to?

18. Is man conscious in death? _____

19. Can the dead communicate with us?

20. What does the Bible say about those who practice Astrology?

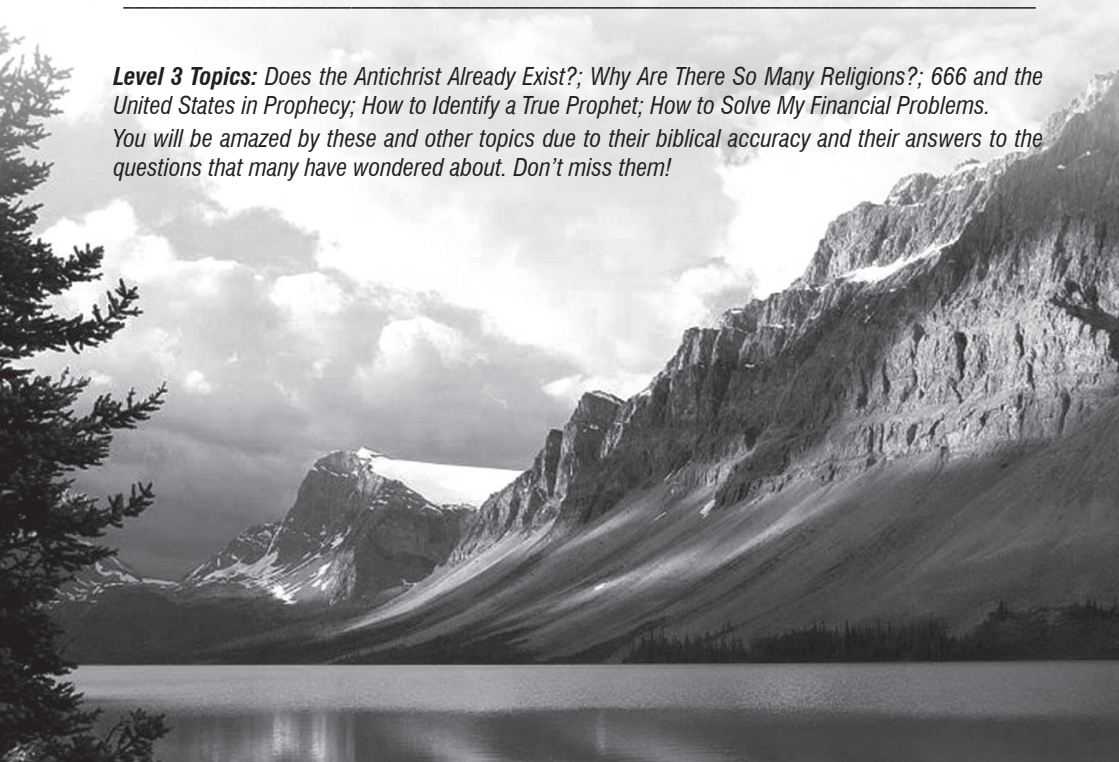
21. When the time of grace ends, there will be a great time of _____

22. What will be the earth's state during the thousand years?

23. According to the Bible, how many heavens exist?

24. What will not exist in the heavenly home?

Level 3 Topics: Does the Antichrist Already Exist?; Why Are There So Many Religions?; 666 and the United States in Prophecy; How to Identify a True Prophet; How to Solve My Financial Problems. You will be amazed by these and other topics due to their biblical accuracy and their answers to the questions that many have wondered about. Don't miss them!



At the feet of Jesus

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**INTERNATIONAL MISSIONARY SOCIETY
SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH REFORM MOVEMENT
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