

TEN COMMANDMENTS

God commanded that an omer of manna be stored by the Testimony and kept there. (In other words, a jar of manna was stored inside the Ark of the Covenant with the two tablets of stone that God wrote the **Ten Commandments** on, which are also called the Testimony.)

- **Exodus 16:33-34:** "And Moses said unto Aaron, Take a pot, and put an omer full of manna therein, and lay it up before the Lord, to be kept for your generations. As the LORD commanded Moses, so Aaron laid it up before the Testimony, to be kept."

The **Ten Commandments** came from God.

- **Exodus 20:1:** "And God spake all these words, saying,"

The Israelites heard the voice of God speak the **Ten Commandments**.

- **Exodus 19:19:** "And when the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and waxed louder and louder, Moses spake, and God answered him by a voice."
- **Exodus 20:1:** "And God spake all these words, saying,"
- **Deuteronomy 5:23:** "And it came to pass, when ye heard the voice out of the midst of the darkness, (for the mountain did burn with fire,) that ye came near unto me, even all the heads of your tribes, and your elders;"
- **Deuteronomy 9:10:** "And the LORD delivered unto me two tables of stone written with the finger of God; and on them was written according to all the words, which the

LORD spake with you in the mount out of the midst of the fire in the day of the assembly."

- **Deuteronomy 10:4:** "And he wrote on the tables, according to the first writing, the ten commandments, which the LORD spake unto you in the mount out of the midst of the fire in the day of the assembly: and the LORD gave them unto me."

When God spoke the **Ten Commandments** to Moses, the Israelites were gathered at the base of the mountain and could hear Him.

- **Exodus 19:17:** "And Moses brought forth the people out of the camp to meet with God; and they stood at the nether part of the mount."

When God spoke the **Ten Commandments** to Moses, and the Israelites heard the thunder and trumpet, and saw the lightning and smoke, they were afraid (and fled).

- **Exodus 20:18:** "And all the people saw the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking: and when the people saw it, they removed, and stood afar off."

After God spoke the **Ten Commandments** to Moses, the Israelites told Moses they were afraid that if they heard the voice of God again they would die. (They wanted Moses to speak to God on their behalf.)

- **Exodus 20:19:** "And they said unto Moses, Speak thou with us, and we will hear: but let not God speak with us, lest we die."

After God spoke the **Ten Commandments** to Moses, Moses went closer to God to receive more commandments from Him.

- **Exodus 20:21:** "And the people stood afar off, and Moses drew near unto the thick darkness where God was."

When God spoke the **Ten Commandments** to Moses, He was in thick darkness upon the mountain.

- **Exodus 20:21:** "And the people stood afar off, and Moses drew near unto the thick darkness where God was."

The Israelites only heard God speak the **Ten Commandments**. After that, they left the mountain and God spoke the rest of His commands directly to Moses.

- **Exodus 20:22:** "And the LORD said unto Moses, Thus thou shalt say unto the children of Israel, Ye have seen that I have talked with you from heaven."

God didn't give Israel the **Ten Commandments** and then leave them up to individual interpretation. Instead He illustrated how they were to be used by providing examples.

- **Exodus 21:1:** "Now these are the judgments which thou shalt set before them."

The **Ten Commandments** were part of a covenant that God made with the Israelites. (That's why the ark was called the Ark of the Covenant. It contained the covenant that God made with the Israelites – the Ten Commandments.)

- **Exodus 24:8:** "And Moses took the blood, and sprinkled it on the people, and said, Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD hath made with you concerning all these words."
- **1 Kings 8:21:** "And I have set there a place for the ark, wherein is the covenant of the LORD, which he made with our fathers, when he brought them out of the land of Egypt."

The two tablets of stone (also called the tablets of testimony), which were kept in the Ark of the Covenant, had the **Ten Commandments** written upon them.

- **Exodus 34:28:** "And he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he did neither eat bread, nor drink water. And he wrote upon the tables the words of the covenant, the ten commandments."
- **Deuteronomy 4:13:** "And he declared unto you his covenant, which he commanded you to perform, even ten commandments; and he wrote them upon two tables of stone."

The words of the covenant that God wrote upon the two tablets of stone were the **Ten Commandments**.

- **Exodus 34:28:** "And he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he did neither eat bread, nor drink water. And he wrote upon the tables the words of the covenant, the ten commandments."
- **Deuteronomy 4:13:** "And he declared unto you his covenant, which he commanded you to perform, even ten commandments; and he wrote them upon two tables

of stone."

After God wrote the **Ten Commandments** on the two tablets of stone, Moses went down from mount Sinai.

- **Exodus 34:29:** "And it came to pass, when Moses came down from mount Sinai with the two tables of testimony in Moses' hand, when he came down from the mount, that Moses wist not that the skin of his face shone while he talked with him."

The reason the Ark of the Covenant was also called the Ark of the Testimony was because it contained the testimony (that is, the stone tablets that had the **Ten Commandments** written upon them).

- **Exodus 40:20:** "And he took and put the testimony into the ark, and set the staves on the ark, and put the mercy seat above upon the ark:"

Moses is the one who put the testimony (the stone tablets that had the **Ten Commandments written** upon them) inside the ark of the testimony. (He did it at Horeb, when he was setting up the tabernacle for the first time.)

- **Exodus 40:18, 20:** "And Moses reared up the tabernacle, and fastened his sockets, and set up the boards thereof, and put in the bars thereof, and reared up his pillars. ... And he took and put the testimony into the ark, and set the staves on the ark, and put the mercy seat above upon the ark:"
- **1 Kings 8:9:** "There was nothing in the ark save the two tables of stone, which Moses put there at Horeb, when

the LORD made a covenant with the children of Israel, when they came out of the land of Egypt."

The tabernacle was also called the tabernacle of testimony. (The Ark of the Covenant was called the Ark of the Testimony because it contained the two tablets of stone, upon which was written the testimony – the **Ten Commandments**. The tabernacle contained that ark, which is where it got its name.)

- **Numbers 1:50:** "But thou shalt appoint the Levites over the tabernacle of testimony, and over all the vessels thereof, and over all things that belong to it: they shall bear the tabernacle, and all the vessels thereof; and they shall minister unto it, and shall encamp round about the tabernacle."
- **Numbers 1:53:** "But the Levites shall pitch round about the tabernacle of testimony, that there be no wrath upon the congregation of the children of Israel: and the Levites shall keep the charge of the tabernacle of testimony."
- **Numbers 9:15:** "And on the day that the tabernacle was reared up the cloud covered the tabernacle, namely, the tent of the testimony: and at even there was upon the tabernacle as it were the appearance of fire, until the morning."

God made a covenant with the Israelites (when He gave them His **Ten Commandments**).

- **Deuteronomy 4:23:** "Take heed unto yourselves, lest ye forget the covenant of the LORD your God, which he made with you, and make you a graven image, or the likeness of any thing, which the LORD thy God hath forbidden thee."

- **Deuteronomy 9:9:** "When I was gone up into the mount to receive the tables of stone, even the tables of the covenant which the LORD made with you, then I abode in the mount forty days and forty nights, I neither did eat bread nor drink water:"

Moses told the Israelites to take heed that they didn't forget their covenant of God (the **Ten Commandments**).

- **Deuteronomy 4:23:** "Take heed unto yourselves, lest ye forget the covenant of the LORD your God, which he made with you, and make you a graven image, or the likeness of any thing, which the LORD thy God hath forbidden thee."

God wrote the **Ten Commandments** on two stone tablets and then gave those stones to Moses.

- **Deuteronomy 5:22:** "These words the LORD spake unto all your assembly in the mount out of the midst of the fire, of the cloud, and of the thick darkness, with a great voice: and he added no more. And he wrote them in two tables of stone, and delivered them unto me."

When God spoke the **Ten Commandments** to Israel, He didn't add any other commandments. Those were the only ones He gave to them.

- **Deuteronomy 5:22:** "These words the LORD spake unto all your assembly in the mount out of the midst of the fire, of the cloud, and of the thick darkness, with a great voice: and he added no more. And he wrote them in two tables of stone, and delivered them unto me."

God spoke the **Ten Commandments** to all of Israel with a great voice.

- **Deuteronomy 5:22:** "These words the LORD spake unto all your assembly in the mount out of the midst of the fire, of the cloud, and of the thick darkness, with a great voice: and he added no more. And he wrote them in two tables of stone, and delivered them unto me."

God spoke the **Ten Commandments** to all of Israel out of the midst of thick darkness.

- **Deuteronomy 5:22:** "These words the LORD spake unto all your assembly in the mount out of the midst of the fire, of the cloud, and of the thick darkness, with a great voice: and he added no more. And he wrote them in two tables of stone, and delivered them unto me."

God spoke the **Ten Commandments** to all of Israel out of the midst of the cloud.

- **Deuteronomy 5:22:** "These words the LORD spake unto all your assembly in the mount out of the midst of the fire, of the cloud, and of the thick darkness, with a great voice: and he added no more. And he wrote them in two tables of stone, and delivered them unto me."

God spoke the **Ten Commandments** to all of Israel out of the midst of the fire. (Although God was in darkness, when He spoke the mountain itself was on fire.)

- **Deuteronomy 5:22-23:** "These words the LORD spake

unto all your assembly in the mount out of the midst of the fire, of the cloud, and of the thick darkness, with a great voice: and he added no more. And he wrote them in two tables of stone, and delivered them unto me. And it came to pass, when ye heard the voice out of the midst of the darkness, (for the mountain did burn with fire,) that ye came near unto me, even all the heads of your tribes, and your elders;"

- **Deuteronomy 9:10:** "And the LORD delivered unto me two tables of stone written with the finger of God; and on them was written according to all the words, which the LORD spake with you in the mount out of the midst of the fire in the day of the assembly."
- **Deuteronomy 10:4:** "And he wrote on the tables, according to the first writing, the ten commandments, which the LORD spake unto you in the mount out of the midst of the fire in the day of the assembly: and the LORD gave them unto me."

After God spoke the **Ten Commandments** to Israel, the leaders of Israel told Moses that on that day God had talked with them, and they had lived (and not died).

- **Deuteronomy 5:24:** "And ye said, Behold, the LORD our God hath shewed us his glory and his greatness, and we have heard his voice out of the midst of the fire: we have seen this day that God doth talk with man, and he liveth."

After God spoke the **Ten Commandments** to Israel, the leaders of Israel told Moses that they had heard the voice of God out of the midst of the fire.

- **Deuteronomy 5:24:** "And ye said, Behold, the LORD our

God hath shewed us his glory and his greatness, and we have heard his voice out of the midst of the fire: we have seen this day that God doth talk with man, and he liveth."

After God spoke the **Ten Commandments** to Israel, the leaders of Israel told Moses that God had showed them His glory and His greatness.

- **Deuteronomy 5:24:** "And ye said, Behold, the LORD our God hath shewed us his glory and his greatness, and we have heard his voice out of the midst of the fire: we have seen this day that God doth talk with man, and he liveth."

After God spoke the **Ten Commandments** to Israel, the leaders of Israel didn't want to hear the voice of God any longer. (They were afraid that if God kept speaking to them then they would die.)

- **Deuteronomy 5:25:** "Now therefore why should we die? for this great fire will consume us: if we hear the voice of the LORD our God any more, then we shall die."

The words that God wrote upon the two stone tablets that He gave to Moses were the same words that God spoke to the Israelites (the **Ten Commandments**).

- **Deuteronomy 9:10:** "And the LORD delivered unto me two tables of stone written with the finger of God; and on them was written according to all the words, which the LORD spake with you in the mount out of the midst of the fire in the day of the assembly."

The stone tablets that had the **Ten Commandments** written upon them were also called the tables of the covenant.

- **Deuteronomy 9:11:** "And it came to pass at the end of forty days and forty nights, that the LORD gave me the two tables of stone, even the tables of the covenant."
- **Deuteronomy 9:15:** "So I turned and came down from the mount, and the mount burned with fire: and the two tables of the covenant were in my two hands."

The two sets of stone tablets (the one Moses destroyed, and its replacement) were the same. God wrote the **Ten Commandments** on both sets.

- **Deuteronomy 10:2:** "And I will write on the tables the words that were in the first tables which thou brakest, and thou shalt put them in the ark."
- **Deuteronomy 10:4:** "And he wrote on the tables, according to the first writing, the ten commandments, which the LORD spake unto you in the mount out of the midst of the fire in the day of the assembly: and the LORD gave them unto me."

After God wrote the **Ten Commandments** on the second set of stone tablets (to replace the set that Moses broke), God gave them to Moses.

- **Deuteronomy 10:4:** "And he wrote on the tables, according to the first writing, the ten commandments, which the LORD spake unto you in the mount out of the midst of the fire in the day of the assembly: and the LORD gave them unto me."

Once the Israelites reached the promised land, they were to set up large stones on mount Ebal and write upon them all of the words of the Mosaic Law. (This seems to be a reference to writing upon them the **Ten Commandments**.)

- **Deuteronomy 27:2-4, 8:** "And it shall be on the day when ye shall pass over Jordan unto the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee, that thou shalt set thee up great stones, and plaister them with plaister: And thou shalt write upon them all the words of this law, when thou art passed over, that thou mayest go in unto the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, a land that floweth with milk and honey; as the LORD God of thy fathers hath promised thee. Therefore it shall be when ye be gone over Jordan, that ye shall set up these stones, which I command you this day, in mount Ebal, and thou shalt plaister them with plaister. ... And thou shalt write upon the stones all the words of this law very plainly."

When the Ark of the Covenant was placed in the temple that Solomon built, there was nothing inside it except for the two stone tablets (which had the **Ten Commandments** written upon them).

- **1 Kings 8:9:** "There was nothing in the ark save the two tables of stone, which Moses put there at Horeb, when the LORD made a covenant with the children of Israel, when they came out of the land of Egypt."

Asaph said that the tabernacle contained the ways of God. (The tabernacle is where the Ark of the Covenant was located, which stored the **Ten Commandments**. It's also where God manifested His presence.)

- **Psalm 77:13:** "Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary: who is so great a God as our God?"