

THE10 | The Ten Commandments *a teaching series*

The Rev. Eric M. Moulton | Session 4.0

Scripture Text

You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain. | **Exodus 20:7**

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

| **Exodus 20:8-11**

The Teaching of the Church

WHY THE LAW WAS GIVEN. We teach that this law was not given to men that they might be justified by keeping it, but that rather from what it teaches we may know (our) weakness, sin and condemnation, and, despairing of our strength, might be converted to Christ in faith. For the apostle openly declares: "The law brings wrath," and, "Through the law comes knowledge of sin" (Rom. 4:15; 3:20), and, "If a law had been given which could justify or make alive, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. But the Scripture (that is, the law) has concluded all under sin, that the promise which was of the faith of Jesus might be given to those who believe....Therefore, the law was our schoolmaster unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith" (Gal.3:21 ff.)

| **Second Helvetic Confession, Ch. 7; Sec. 4**

Q. What is God's will for you in the fourth commandment?

A. **First,**

*that the gospel ministry and education for it be maintained,¹
and that, especially on the festive day of rest,
I regularly attend the assembly of God's people²
to learn what God's Word teaches,³
to participate in the sacraments,⁴
to pray to God publicly,⁵
and to bring Christian offerings for the poor.⁶*

Second,

*that every day of my life
I rest from my evil ways,
let the Lord work in me through his Spirit,
and so begin already in this life
the eternal Sabbath.⁷*

¹ Deut. 6:4-9, 20-25; 1 Cor. 9:13-14; 2 Tim. 2:2; 3:13-17; Tit. 1:5

² Deut. 12:5-12; Ps. 40:9-10; 68:26; Acts 2:42-47; Heb. 10:23-25

³ Rom. 10:14-17; 1 Cor. 14:31-32; 1 Tim. 4:13

⁴ 1 Cor. 11:23-25 | **The Heidelberg Catechism, Question 103**

Notes & Main Ideas

1. Watson's Rules for the Right Understanding of the Law

- a. The Law and the heart*
- b. In the Law, more is intended than is spoken (synecdoche)*
- c. Where a command forbids, the occasion is also forbidden*
- d. Where one relation is mentioned, the other is implied*
- e. Where greater sins are forgiven, lesser sins are also forbidden.*
- f. The Law is One, it is entirely connected (Lex est copulativa)*
- g. The law forbids our own participation in sin and being an accessory to another's sin.*
- h. Though we fail to obey the law, yet doing what we are able (quoad posse), the Lord provides encouragement for us.*

2. Revering the Name of God, God's name as revelation

3. The Sabbath and Christianity

Explore These:

www.newcitycatechism.com

Our World Belongs To God

http://www.biblicaltheology.ca/blue_files/Our%20World%20Belongs%20to%20God.pdf

The Doctrine of the Christian Life

John M. Frame

The Ten Commandments

Thomas Watson

God of Promise

Michael Horton



www.stjohnsepiscopalchurch.org