

## House Rules For Israel

A Look At The 10 Words

## The Context Of The 10 Words

- 19:16-20 – The physical context is fearfully awesome
- 20:1 – God spoke, “I am **Jehovah**, who delivered you”
- 20:2 – Their deliverer is now speaking to free people
- God’s purpose is not binding with rules, but freedom
- Ex. 34:28 and Deut.4:13 tell us there are 10 Words. How to divide them up becomes the problem.
- Differences revolve around the first 5 and the last 2
- Since the Bible refers to them as 10 Words, it is plausible to have a Word that is not a command.

## The 10 Words

- Ex.34:28 – This passage refers to them as the 10 Words
- Sometimes referred to as Decalogue. Gk. *deka* – ten, *logos* –word. Heb. word *dabar* – word, matter, thing
- Ex.31:18; 32:15-16 – 2 Tablets written with the finger of God, on the front and on the back
- Why were there 2 tablets?
- Some teach the first 4 are about our relationship God and the next 6, our relationship with man.
- Every part of Life is an expression of worship, loyalty

## What Is The First Word?

- Reformed take “no other gods” and “no idols” as 1,2
  - Preamble – I am Yahweh your God - 2
  - #1 – You must have no other gods - 3
  - #2 – You must not make an image - 4-6
- Catholic/Lutheran –
  - Preamble – I am Yahweh your God - 2
  - #1 – You must have no other gods and you must not make an image 3-6

## What Are The Words?

- These could be taken as one or two commands
  - I am Yahweh, so, you must have no other gods and you must not make an image – 2-6
- Historically, worship and images went together.
  - You couldn’t properly worship without an image of that deity. The point of images is worship. Means of worship are images
- Vs.5 Them is plural. no image belongs to the no other gods
- 1 or 2, the point is worship only Yahweh
- Vs.7 Do not take, to carry or bear, the name of the Lord in vain
- Often thought of as using God’s name as a curse word

## Represent Him Well!

- Ex.28:9-12 – Aaron is “bearing” the names of the sons of Israel on his shoulders before the Lord. Same word in 20:7.
- We are to bear the Name of Jehovah before this world. Adam was created to bear the image of Jehovah. So are we too
- Summed up- Worship only Yahweh! Represent Him well!
- When you do these well, the rest fall into place
- Are there other gods more important to you than Yahweh?
- Is Yahweh (Jesus) seen in you? Does your co-worker have a better understanding of what God is like because of your life?
- Worship only Jehovah, Represent Him well!