

Are The Ten Commandments for Me?

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Introduction



Are the ten (10) commandments for me? Some Bible-reading Christians say yes, while other Bible-reading Christians say no. Despite reading the same Bible, they have different answers.

Today, we will answer the following questions in order to get to the truth of the subject matter.

1. What are the 10 commandments?
 2. Who gave the 10 commandments?
 3. What did Jesus say about commandment keeping?
 4. What is the penalty of commandment violators?
 5. Is there restitution for the violation?
 6. Does the grace of God nullify the law?
 7. What was Christ's example?
 8. Did Jesus replace the 10 commandments with another law?
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What are the 10
Commandments?



The 10 commandments are basically 10 principles of living a godly life. The first encounter with the 10 commandments in the Bible is in the Book of Exodus.

The Israelites arrived at the desert of Sinai shortly after they left Egypt. On the 50th day, God appeared to the assembly on Mt. Sinai. God spoke to them from the cloud. God made a covenant to be their God reviving the covenant He made with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God promised to make them a treasured possession and a peculiar people, if they live according to His principles and precepts.

Exodus 19

1 On the first day of the third month after the Israelites left Egypt—on that very day—they came to the Desert of Sinai.

2 After they set out from Rephidim, they entered the Desert of Sinai, and Israel camped there in the desert in front of the mountain.

Exodus 19

3 Then Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain and said, “This is what you are to say to the descendants of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel:

4 ‘You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself.

Exodus 19

5 Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine,

6 you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.”

Exodus 19

7 So Moses went back and summoned the elders of the people and set before them all the words the LORD had commanded him to speak.

8 The people all responded together, “We will do everything the LORD has said.” So Moses brought their answer back to the LORD.

Exodus 19

9 The LORD said to Moses, “I am going to come to you in a dense cloud, so that the people will hear me speaking with you and will always put their trust in you.” Then Moses told the LORD what the people had said.

10 And the LORD said to Moses, “Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow. Have them wash their clothes

Exodus 19

11 and be ready by the third day, because on that day the LORD will come down on Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people.

12 Put limits for the people around the mountain and tell them, 'Be careful that you do not approach the mountain or touch the foot of it. Whoever touches the mountain is to be put to death.'

Exodus 19

13 They are to be stoned or shot with arrows; not a hand is to be laid on them. No person or animal shall be permitted to live.' Only when the ram's horn sounds a long blast may they approach the mountain."

14 After Moses had gone down the mountain to the people, he consecrated them, and they washed their clothes.

Exodus 19

15 Then he said to the people, “Prepare yourselves for the third day. Abstain from sexual relations.”

16 On the morning of the third day there was thunder and lightning, with a thick cloud over the mountain, and a very loud trumpet blast. Everyone in the camp trembled.

Exodus 19

17 Then Moses led the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain.

18 Mount Sinai was covered with smoke, because the LORD descended on it in fire. The smoke billowed up from it like smoke from a furnace, and the whole mountain trembled violently.

Exodus 19

19 As the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke and the voice of God answered him.

20 The LORD descended to the top of Mount Sinai and called Moses to the top of the mountain. So Moses went up

Exodus 19

21 and the LORD said to him, “Go down and warn the people so they do not force their way through to see the LORD and many of them perish.

22 Even the priests, who approach the LORD, must consecrate themselves, or the LORD will break out against them.”

Exodus 19

23 Moses said to the LORD, “The people cannot come up Mount Sinai, because you yourself warned us, ‘Put limits around the mountain and set it apart as holy.’ ”

Exodus 19

24 The LORD replied, “Go down and bring Aaron up with you. But the priests and the people must not force their way through to come up to the LORD, or he will break out against them.”

25 So Moses went down to the people and told them.

Exodus 20 – 1st Command

1 And God spoke all these words:

2 “I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

3 “You shall have no other gods before me.

Exodus 20 – 2nd Command

4 “You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below.

Exodus 20 – 2nd Command

5 You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me,

6 but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

2nd Command

Many do not properly understand this command. The command is not to worship any graven image. God hates the worshipping of idols. God is angry with a righteous indignation and jealousy because people are replacing the One True God with man-made idols. The word for jealousy also means zealous which is a passionate intensity to protect the people from error.

2nd Command

The word punishing is also rendered “dealing with.” “Dealing with” has a corrective notion. There is a disciplinary and a restorative aspect because the tendency to follow the same pattern of sinfulness from generation to generation need to be “dealt with” so that the act will not continue to escalate to the next.

2nd Command

God is showing here that He deals justly with the people. There would be a period of chastisement followed by a period of restoration. We have seen this kind of dealing by God with the nation Israel. God is a God of love and His mercy transcends His anger. That is why He punishes for the sins of the people only to the third and fourth generation. And, His blessings and love is perpetually upon those who love Him from generations to generations.

Exodus 20 – 3rd Command

7 “You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.

The command prohibits using and invoking God’s name in frivolous and insincere purpose. This includes swearing, making an oath and promises in the name of God that is not kept.

Exodus 20 – 4th Command

8 “Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

9 Six days you shall labor and do all your work,

10 but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns.

Exodus 20 – 4th Command

11 For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

This is to remember that the One True God is the God of creation who rested on the seventh (7th) day. On the day of the Sabbath we rest from all our work to remember and worship Him.

Exodus 20 – 5th Command

12 “Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

This is the first command with both a national and personal promise. Honor means to give our parents the authority, respect and dignity they deserve. Dignity includes providing and taking care of them in their old age. Next to God, parents are to be highly valued, cared for and loved.

Exodus 20 – 6th Command

13 “You shall not murder.

This command teaches the sanctity of the man, which was fashioned in the image and likeness of God. The word murder comes from the word “rasah” which means premeditated or unauthorized taking of a life. The life that God gives to each person is precious. No one is allowed to intentionally take the life of another.

6th Command

This law is at the heart of loving your neighbor. We know that a murderous act comes from hatred, anger and rage. Jesus touched the core when He said in Matthew 5:22

“But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to a brother or sister, ‘Raca,’ is answerable to the court. And anyone who says, ‘You fool!’ will be in danger of the fire of hell.”

Exodus 20 – 7th Command

14 “You shall not commit adultery.

This command points to the sanctity of marriage. Marriage is a godly institution. The marital bed is sacred between husband and wife. Adultery is a great evil and mischief as it destroys marriage and family.

Exodus 20 – 8th Command

15 “You shall not steal.

This law protects property rights. Today, it is protected by the constitution. Ultimately, everything one owns is from God. What God has given to an individual, no one can take away.

Exodus 20 – 9th Command

16 “You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

This law protects the justice system. It is a prohibition against perjury of a lying witness to the harm of others. Again, there is malicious intent in the act to harm a brother.

9th Command

James clarified it in James 5:12 Above all, my brothers and sisters, do not swear—not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. All you need to say is a simple “Yes” or “No.” Otherwise you will be condemned.

9th Command

The final judge of all things is God. Lying to the harm of others is not only an offense to your neighbor but to God who is our judge.

Exodus 20 – 10th Command

17 “You shall not covet your neighbor’s house. You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

10th Command

This is a prohibition against lust and greed. This command is aimed at curtailing the greedy and wicked desires that are off limits, particularly those that belong to a neighbor. On the other hand, a godly life is one that finds contentment with the portion that God has blessed him with.

These are the 10 commandments, the simple 10 godly principles of life leads to a happy, fulfilled and enlightened relationship with God.

Leviticus 26

1 “ ‘Do not make idols or set up an image or a sacred stone for yourselves, and do not place a carved stone in your land to bow down before it. I am the LORD your God.

2 “ ‘Observe my Sabbaths and have reverence for my sanctuary. I am the LORD.

3 “ ‘If you follow my decrees and are careful to obey my commands,

Leviticus 26

4 I will send you rain in its season, and the ground will yield its crops and the trees their fruit.

5 Your threshing will continue until grape harvest and the grape harvest will continue until planting, and you will eat all the food you want and live in safety in your land.

Leviticus 26

6 “ I will grant peace in the land, and you will lie down and no one will make you afraid. I will remove wild beasts from the land, and the sword will not pass through your country.

7 You will pursue your enemies, and they will fall by the sword before you.

Leviticus 26

8 Five of you will chase a hundred, and a hundred of you will chase ten thousand, and your enemies will fall by the sword before you.

9 “ I will look on you with favor and make you fruitful and increase your numbers, and I will keep my covenant with you.

Leviticus 26

10 You will still be eating last year's harvest when you will have to move it out to make room for the new.

11 I will put my dwelling place among you, and I will not abhor you.

Leviticus 26

12 I will walk among you and be your God, and you will be my people.

13 I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt so that you would no longer be slaves to the Egyptians; I broke the bars of your yoke and enabled you to walk with heads held high.

The 10 commandments are God's moral principles of a righteous life and with them comes divine providence. By these 10 simple laws, we know what is right and pleasing before God and what is wrong and evil before God. The angels too observe these laws and principles. These are God's eternal spiritual laws.

Romans 7

12 So then, the law is holy, and the commandment is holy, righteous and good.

13 Did that which is good, then, become death to me? By no means! Nevertheless, in order that sin might be recognized as sin, it used what is good to bring about my death, so that through the commandment sin might become utterly sinful.

14 We know that the law is spiritual; but I am unspiritual, sold as a slave to sin.

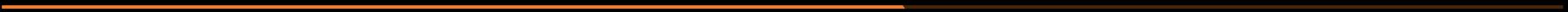
If you believe the 10 commandments are God's righteous spiritual laws that lead to godly life, then they are for you!

Some people say the 10 commandments are only for the Jews. God gave the 10 commandments to the Israelites because they were His people. Therefore, the 10 commandments are not for Israelites only but for all the people of God then, now and in the future.

If you consider yourself belonging to God, then the 10 commandments for righteous living is for you!

If you believe the commands are given to God's chosen people and you belong to God, then the 10 commandments are for you!

Who is the author of
the 10
commandments?



God is the author of the 10 commandments. God gave them to Moses and Moses to the people.

We know God is personally involved in the writing of the Bible. The authorship of the Bible is God.

2 Timothy 3

14 But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it,

15 and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

2 Timothy 3

16 All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

17 so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Peter 1

20 Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation of things.

21 For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

“Has God written any part of the Bible?” Most people would say NO - God did not write any part of the Bible. At the most, He inspires it or dictated it to be written.

The right answer is YES, God wrote the most important part of the Bible – the 10 Commandments.

Exodus 31:18

When the LORD finished speaking to Moses on Mount Sinai, he gave him the two tablets of the covenant law, the tablets of stone inscribed by the finger of God.

Deuteronomy 9:10

The LORD gave me two stone tablets inscribed by the finger of God. On them were all the commandments the LORD proclaimed to you on the mountain out of the fire, on the day of the assembly.

Yes, God personally wrote with His finger the 10 Commandments on 2 tablets of stones. And, these stones were kept visible to the Hebrew people as a witness of the covenant God made with them at Mt. Sinai.

Hebrews 9:4

Which had the golden censer, and the ark of the covenant overlaid round about with gold, wherein was the golden pot that had manna, and Aaron's rod that budded, and the tables of the covenant.

Hebrews 8

10 This is the covenant I will establish with the people of Israel after that time, declares the Lord. I will put my laws in their minds and write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.

11 No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, 'Know the Lord,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest.

In the Book of Hebrews we read that God is renewing His covenant with the house of Israel and Judah once more. This time, the same set of 10 simple godly living principles and precepts are to be written in their hearts. Jesus will personally write them on the tablets of their hearts.

If you believe God wrote the 10 commandments with His finger, then the 10 commandments are for you!

What did Jesus say
about commandment
keeping?

The commandments have the highest authority from
God.

Matthew 5:18

“For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.”

A rich young man approached Jesus with a question.

Matthew 19

16 Just then a man came up to Jesus and asked, “Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life?”

17 “Why do you ask me about what is good?” Jesus replied. “There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life, keep the commandments.”

Matthew 19

18 “Which ones?” he inquired. Jesus replied, “ ‘You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, 19 honor your father and mother,’ and ‘love your neighbor as yourself.’”

Matthew 19

20 “All these I have kept,” the young man said. “What do I still lack?”

21 Jesus answered, “If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

22 When the young man heard this, he went away sad, because he had great wealth.

Jesus exhortation is always to keep and obey the commandments.

John 14:15

“If you love me, keep my commands.”



John 14:21

“Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.”

John 15:10

“If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love.”

1 John 5:3

“For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.”

If you love Christ, then keep the 10 commandments!
They are for you!

What is the penalty of
commandment
violators?



The Scripture says a law-breaker is one who sins and rebellious.

1 John 3:4

Everyone who sins breaks the law; in fact, sin is lawlessness.

The 10 commandments are spiritual laws. Therefore,
there are spiritual consequences.

Romans 6:23

The penalty of sin is death. The death referred here is not physical death but the spiritual death.

Revelation 21:8

But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—they will be consigned to the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death.

If you desire eternal life, then the 10 commandments
are for you!

Is there a
restitution for sin?

Yes, through the process of repentance brought about by the gracious sacrifice of Christ.

Mark 1

14 After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God.

15 “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”

Sin is the transgression of the law. Repentance means we have to acknowledge our lawlessness before God and ask for forgiveness. Then, God in His graciousness, will be merciful toward us and our sins will be forgiven through the redemptive sacrifice of Christ.

Romans 5

1 Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,

2 through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.

Romans 5

3 Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance;

4 perseverance, character; and character, hope.

5 And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

Romans 5

6 You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.

7 Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die.

8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5

9 Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!

10 For if, while we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!

Romans 5

11 Not only is this so, but we also boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Does grace nullify the
law of God?



What happens after our sins are forgiven? Do Christians continue to keep the law or are we exempt from the law?

Romans 6

1 What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase?

2 By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?

3 Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?

Romans 6

4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his.

Romans 6

6 For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—

7 because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

8 Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.

Romans 6

9 For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him.

10 The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

11 In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Romans 6

12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires.

13 Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness.

Romans 6

14 For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace.

15 What then? Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? By no means!

Romans 6

16 Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness?

17 But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you have come to obey from your heart the pattern of teaching that has now claimed your allegiance.

Romans 6

18 You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.

19 I am using an example from everyday life because of your human limitations. Just as you used to offer yourselves as slaves to impurity and to ever-increasing wickedness, so now offer yourselves as slaves to righteousness leading to holiness.

The Scripture is clear even in the writings of Paul that after receiving the redemptive grace of Christ, we cannot go on living a lawless sinful life.

Hebrews 10

26 If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left,

27 but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God.

1 John 3:9

No one who is born of God will continue to sin, because God's seed remains in them; they cannot go on sinning, because they have been born of God.

The Scripture is clear. Once our sins are washed clean by the blood of Christ, we do not return to the mud of lawlessness.

2 Peter 2

20 If they have escaped the corruption of the world by knowing our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and are again entangled in it and are overcome, they are worse off at the end than they were at the beginning.

2 Peter 2

21 It would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than to have known it and then to turn their backs on the sacred command that was passed on to them.

22 Of them the proverbs are true: “A dog returns to its vomit,” and, “A sow that is washed returns to her wallowing in the mud.”

If you are washed clean by the blood of Christ, would you return to wallow in the mud? If your answer is a NO, then the 10 commandments are for you!

What was Christ's
Example?

As Christians, Christ is our model, lead and example.
We follow Christ. His sinless life should be our goal.

1 Peter 2

21 To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

22 “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

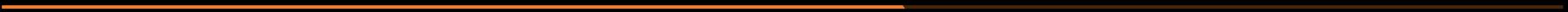
1 Peter 2

23 When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly.

24 “He himself bore our sins” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by his wounds you have been healed.”

If you want to live a life like Christ, then the 10 commandments are for you!

Did Jesus replace the
10 commandments
with another law?



Now, in three recorded occasions Jesus was asked which among the 10 commandments was the greatest. The accounts are recorded in the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke.

Matthew 22

34 Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together.

35 One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question:

36 “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

Matthew 22

37 Jesus replied: “‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’

38 This is the first and greatest commandment.

39 And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’

40 All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments.”

Luke 10

25 On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

26 “What is written in the Law?” he replied. “How do you read it?”

Luke 10

27 He answered, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind”; and, ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ”

28 “You have answered correctly,” Jesus replied. “Do this and you will live.”

The interesting point in this account is that answer came from the expert in the law and not from Jesus.

Mark 12

28 One of the teachers of the law came and heard them debating. Noticing that Jesus had given them a good answer, he asked him, “Of all the commandments, which is the most important?”

Mark 12

29 “The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.

30 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’

31 The second is this: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.”

Mark 12

32 “Well said, teacher,” the man replied. “You are right in saying that God is one and there is no other but him.

33 To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.”

Mark 12

34 When Jesus saw that he had answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” And from then on no one dared ask him any more questions.

In this instance, the teacher of the law completely agrees with Jesus that the most important commandment in the law “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’

Many professing Christians believe and teach that this is a brand new commandment coming from Jesus. But everyone of Jesus' audience – the Pharisees, Sadducees and common Jews were quite familiar with it. They all know this particular verse by heart. To the Jews this verse is called the "SHEMA."

Many churches and ministers teach that this greatest commandment of loving the Lord, together with its sister command to love your neighbor, replaced the 10 commandments of God. This is a grievous error and a misunderstanding of the most basic of Scripture.

In English, the Shema means “hear.” It comes from the first word of Deuteronomy 6:4 “Hear O Israel, the Lord is our God, the Lord is One” (Shema Yisrael Adonai eloheinu Adonai echad).

The Shema is an affirmation of Jewish faith in the Almighty God. Jews are obligated to recite the Shema twice a day. The Shema is separate from the obligation to pray. Shema is often the first Scripture that a child learns. Therefore, even a small Jewish child, knows this verse by heart.

The Jews recite the shema by pronouncing each word very carefully and cover their eyes with their right hand as in deep devotion. Parts of the Shema are written in a piece of scroll and placed in a leather pouch tied to the forehead and forearm during prayer, it is called the Tefillin or phylacteries.

The “Shema” consists of three portions.
Deuteronomy 6:4-9, 11:13-21, and Numbers 15:37-41. But, the main portion is in Deuteronomy 6:4-9.

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

4 Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.

5 Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

6 These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts.

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

8 Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads.

9 Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

So, the greatest commandment of the law is not a new command. Jesus was not giving a new commandment as others erroneously believe. The Shema has always been there and the Jews knew it by heart. The "*Shema*" is the heart of the 10 commandments.

Summation

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The 10 commandments are God's 10 simple, moral, righteous principles of godly living. The 10 commandments as a whole embody God's way of life. God wants His people to live their lives according to His principles.

God gave his people the 10 commandments so that we may live a life similar to His. The commands of God define what is holy and what is sinful and unholy. We are exhorted to be holy before God.

1 Peter 1

13 Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming.

14 As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance.

1 Peter 1

15 But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do;

16 for it is written: “Be holy, because I am holy.”

17 Since you call on a Father who judges each person’s work impartially, live out your time as foreigners here in reverent fear.

Are the 10 commandments of God for you? The answer is it depends if you belong to God or not! Pagans, gentiles and atheists are not required to live by God's standard because they have no part with Christ.

If you think you belong to Christ, then the 10 commandments are for you. Keep it for it is your life.

END

