

KEEPING THE COMMANDMENTS OF GOD IN THE NEW TESTAMENT: -

Copyright 2016 - <http://lookingfortheLosttruthsofjesus.org>

NOTE: - All Bible texts are taken from the King James Version; and the compiler has supplied all emphasis throughout this article.

The following New Testament passages are quite plain and unambiguous in enforcing the keeping the Commandments of God upon the followers of Christ.

1 Corinthians 7:19: - "Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing, **but the keeping of the commandments of God.**"

1 John 5:2 & 3: - "By this we know that we love the children of God, **when we love God, and keep his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.**"

Revelation 12:17: - "And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, **which keep the commandments of God**, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ."

Revelation 14:12: - "Here is the patience of the saints: **here [are] they that keep the commandments of God**, and the faith of Jesus."¹

Revelation 22:14: - "**Blessed [are] they that do his commandments**, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city."

Yet when seventh-day Sabbath-keepers refer to these passages as their authority for enforcing obedience to God's Ten Commandments, they are often met by first-day observers with the following argument: - "The 'Commandments of God' referred to in these passages are not referring to the Ten Commandment Law at all, but to all the other instructions and commands Christ has given to his followers in the New Testament."

What these first-day observers have done by their sophistry is to include everything in the New Testament Scriptures **BUT** the Ten Commandments under the expression "the Commandments of God"; they have excluded the Ten Commandments entirely from being included in this distinctive expression.

¹ The expression "**the faith of Jesus**" refers to the precepts and teachings of our Lord Jesus as recorded in the New Testament Scriptures. The faith to which a great company of the priests were obedient to (Acts 6:7); which was resisted by Elymas the sorcerer (Acts 13:8); which was committed to the apostles for the obedience of all nations (Romans 1:5); which Paul testified that he had kept (2nd Timothy 4:7); and which the saints are exhorted earnestly to contend for (Jude 3), must refer to the precepts and teachings of the everlasting gospel of Christ. That the expression "**the faith of Jesus**" is used in this sense in Revelation 2:13 concerning the church in Pergamos which did not deny Jesus' faith - "my faith", testifies to this truth. That this is the sense, in which it is used in Revelation 14:12, is further evident from the fact that it is spoken of as being kept by the saints in the same manner as they are keeping the Commandments of God.

We shall now show from the New Testament Scriptures alone, that the expression “the Commandments of God”, or “the Law of God”, do indeed refer to the Ten Commandments. And thus Seventh-day Sabbath-keepers are legitimately entitled to include the Ten Commandments in the expression “the Commandments of God” as used by the apostles of Christ, in the above Scripture passages.

Matthew 15:3 - 6: - “But he answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress **the commandment of God** by your tradition? For God commanded, saying, **Honour thy father and mother:** and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death. But ye say, Whosoever shall say to [his] father or [his] mother, [It is] a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me; And honour not his father or his mother, [he shall be free]. Thus have ye made **the commandment of God** of none effect by your tradition.”

Matthew 19:16 - 19: - “And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life? And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? [there is] none good but one, [that is], God: but if thou wilt enter into life, **keep the commandments.** He saith unto him, Which? **Jesus said, Thou shalt do no murder, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Honour thy father and [thy] mother:** and, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.”

Luke 23:54 - 56: - “And that day was the preparation, and the sabbath drew on. And the women also, which came with him from Galilee, followed after, and beheld the sepulchre, and how his body was laid. And they returned, and prepared spices and ointments; **and rested the sabbath day according to the commandment.**”

Romans 7:7 - 14: - “What shall we say then? **[is] the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.** But sin, taking occasion by **the commandment,** wrought in me all manner of concupiscence. For without **the law** sin [was] dead. For I was alive without **the law** once: but when **the commandment** came, sin revived, and I died. And **the commandment,** which [was ordained] to life, I found [to be] unto death. For sin, taking occasion by **the commandment,** deceived me, and by it slew [me]. **Wherefore the law [is] holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good.** Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by **the commandment** might become exceeding sinful. For we know that **the law** is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin.”

Ephesians 6:2 & 3: - “**Honour thy father and mother; which is the first commandment with promise;** That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.”

James 2:8 - 12: - “**If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture,** Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well: But if ye have respect to persons, **ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors.** For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one [point], he is guilty of all. For he that said, **Do not commit adultery,** said also, **Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law.** So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty.”

John 14:15: - “If ye love me, keep my commandments.”