

GOD'S MORAL LAW OF TEN COMMANDMENTS EXISTED BEFORE MT. SINAI: -

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

THE ISSUE TO BE EXAMINED: -

It is often asserted by those Christians who observe the first-day of the week as the weekly Sabbath [that is, Sunday], *“that God’s Moral Law of Ten Commandments did not exist before the Lord gave his Moral Law to the children of Israel at Mount Sinai. Therefore, the seventh-day Saturday, Sabbath of the Fourth Commandment, was not instituted before Mount Sinai, when the Lord commanded the children of Israel to keep it holy.”*

The purpose of this small article will be to provide the reader with four clear and unambiguous lines of Biblical evidence that refutes this popular assertion.

EVIDENCE 1 – GOD’S LAW EXISTED IN HEAVEN WHEN WAR COMMENCED THERE: -

Revelation 12:7 – 9: - “And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.”

NOTE: - This passage is describing the start of the “**Great Controversy**” between Michael – Jesus Christ and his angels, and Satan and his angels. It is describing the entrance of SIN into God’s sinless Universe.

WHY WERE SATAN AND HIS ANGELS CAST OUT OF HEAVEN?

Never let us forget that Satan and his angels were cast out of heaven, because they had sinned against God’s Law of Ten Commandments.

1 John 3:8: - “He that committeth sin is of the devil; **for the devil sinneth from the beginning.** For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil.”

2 Peter 2:4: - “**For if God spared not the angels that sinned,** but cast *them* down to hell, and delivered *them* into chains of darkness, to be reserved unto judgment.”

NOTE: - Paul has made it crystal clear that “where no law is, *there is* no transgression” - Romans 4:15; and, “sin is not imputed when there is no law” – Romans 5:13. The apostle John has told us that the Devil sinned

from the beginning (John defines sin as being “**the transgression of the law**” – 1 John 3:4), thus proving that God’s Law was in existence in heaven in eternity.

Jesus has told us what were the specific sins that the Devil committed from the beginning of the war in heaven. He was a murderer and the first liar.

John 8:44: - “Ye are of *your* father **the devil**, and the lusts of your father ye will do. **He was a murderer from the beginning**, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. **When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.**”

NOTE: - The Devil transgressed the 6th and 9th Commandments from the beginning, namely – “Thou shalt not kill.” And, “Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.” – Exodus 20:13 & 16. This statement of Jesus’ is conclusive proof that God’s Law of Ten Commandments was in existence in eternity. God had to have in heaven, a moral code for his angels to live by, that forbade murder and lying, for Jesus to charge the Devil with committing these sins from the beginning!

The Devil “abode not in the truth” when he sinned from the beginning, because he abode not in God’s Law which **IS** the truth.

Psalms 119:142: - “Thy righteousness *is* an everlasting righteousness, **and thy law is the truth.**”

Concerning Jesus’ statement that the Devil was a murderer from the beginning: - the Devil did **not** actually kill any of the holy angels in the war in heaven. Yet Jesus calls him “a murderer”. Obviously he hated Jesus and the holy angels in his heart; and the apostle John stated that, “Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer” – 1 John 3:15. Therefore, God has from eternity considered his Ten Commandment Law violated, when thoughts and motives are cherished in the mind, which are contrary to the principles of that Law.

The prophet Isaiah tells us that Lucifer in heaven wanted to be like God; he wanted to be worshipped as God.

Isaiah 14:12-15: - “**How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning!** *how* art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! **For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.** Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.”

NOTE: - Lucifer in heaven violated the 1st Commandment – “Thou shalt have no other gods before me.” – Exodus 20:3, by wanting to be worshipped as God. He was a self-idolater, and covetous as well. That is, he coveted the worship that belonged to God alone!

Matthew 6:10: - “**Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as *it is* in heaven.**”

God’s holy angels keep God’s Commandments.

Psalms 103:20 & 21: - “Bless the LORD, **ye his angels**, that excel in strength, **that do his commandments, hearkening unto the voice of his word.** Bless ye the LORD, all ye his hosts; ye **ministers of his, that do his pleasure.**”

☞ The conclusion that is to be drawn from these last two simple passages is irresistible: -

- In heaven, the holy angels do God’s will.
- The holy angels keep God’s Commandments. They are Commandment-keepers.

EVIDENCE 2 – THE APOSTLE PAUL TEACHES THAT GOD’S LAW EXISTED IN THE TIME OF ADAM: -

The following passage for the pen of the Apostle Paul, when it is carefully examined, establishes the truth that God’s Law existed in the time of Adam.

Romans 5:12 - 14: - “Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law. Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam’s transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.”

NOTE: - A brief summary of this passage will help make clear to the reader the fundamental gospel truths that Paul is teaching us here: -

- **DEATH ENTERED OUR WORLD BECAUSE OF SIN.**

Romans 6:23: - “For the wages of sin *is* death; ... ”

James 1:15: - “... and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.”

- **ALL PASS UNDER THE SENTENCE OF DEATH BECAUSE ALL HAVE SINNED.**

Romans 3:23: - “For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.”

Ezekiel 18:4: - “... the soul that sinneth, it shall die.”

- **SIN IS NOT IMPUTED WHEN THERE IS NO LAW.**

Romans 4:15: - “... for where no law is, *there is* no transgression.”

- **DEATH REIGNED FROM ADAM TO MOSES.**

☞ Based upon the fundamental principle ***that sin is not imputed when there is no law***, the following conclusions can be drawn from this passage: -

- ***The Law of God existed in Adam’s day for him to have committed sin, and thus for him to come under the sentence of death.***
- ***As death causes sin, and death reigned from the time of Adam until the time of Moses, the Law of God existed from Adam’s time right through to the time of Moses.***

EVIDENCE 3 – RIGHTEOUS FATHER ABRAHAM KEPT GOD’S LAWS AND COMMANDMENTS: -

Righteous Father Abraham kept God’s commandments and laws.

Genesis 26:5: - “Because that **Abraham** obeyed my voice, and **kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes, and my laws.**”

NOTE: - In no way can these Commandments and Laws be referring to the Law of Moses, as Abraham lived hundreds of years **before** Moses was born.

EVIDENCE 4 – THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL WERE TESTED BY THE SEVENTH-DAY SABBATH COMMANDMENT, BEFORE THEY ARRIVED AT MOUNT SINAI.

God tested the children of Israel in the wilderness of Sin, whether they would keep his law and commandments, concerning the manna and the seventh day Sabbath. This was some time **BEFORE** they reached Mount Sinai.

Exodus 16:4, 5 & 28 - 30: - "Then said the Lord unto Moses, Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, that I may prove them, **whether they will walk in my law**, or no. And it shall come to pass, that on the sixth day they shall prepare that which they bring in; and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily. ... And the Lord said unto Moses, **How long refuse ye to keep my commandments and my laws** See, for that the Lord hath given you the sabbath, therefore he giveth you on the sixth day the bread of two days; abide ye every man in his place, let no man go out of his place on the seventh day. So the people rested on the seventh day."

NOTE: - This passage again establishes beyond any doubt, that God's Ten Commandment Law, which includes the seventh day Sabbath, existed **BEFORE** the children of Israel had even reached Mount Sinai.

 *All of God's Commandments have and shall exist throughout eternity.*

Psalm 111:7 & 8: - *"The works of his hands are verity and judgment; all his commandments are sure. They stand fast for ever and ever, and are done in truth and uprightness.*