

Chapter Fourteen – God Gives the Ten Commandments

When the Israelites reached Mount Sinai, Moses went up the mountain to meet God and to receive the Commandments. God told the Israelites, “If you obey me and keep my covenant, you will be my own people.”

Then God gave them the Ten Commandments.

“I, the Lord, am your God. You shall not make other gods of your own nor worship them.

Do not use my name for evil purposes.

Observe the Sabbath (the seventh day) and keep it holy. You have the first six days to do your work. The seventh day is a day for rest and for worshipping me.

Honour your father and your mother.

Do not kill.

Do not commit adultery.

Do not steal.

Do not accuse your neighbour falsely.

Do not desire your neighbour’s wife.

Do not desire your neighbour’s house or property.”

All the people stood terrified when they heard God.

Moses replied, “Do not be afraid. God has come here to test your obedience. If you fear God, you will not commit sin.”

After the death of Moses, Joshua succeeded him as leader of the Israelites. He led them to the Promised Land and also in battle. He guided them with the instructions given by God to Moses. These instructions are often called the Law of Moses.



Moses receives the Ten Commandments from God

Questions:

1. Why did God give the Ten Commandments to the Israelites?
2. What "other gods" do some people worship today?
3. Give THREE ways in which you can honour your father and mother.
4. What should be done with people who steal?
5. Why is it bad to be greedy?
6. Why do some people find it hard to observe the Ten Commandments?