



## Commandments 1-4: Loving God.

- No other gods
- No idols
- Honouring God's name.
- Practicing Sabbath rest

## Commandments 5-10: Loving Others.

- Honouring parents
- Murder
- Adultery
- Stealing
- False Testimony
- Coveting

1. God aligned Himself with them:

- *"I am the LORD, **your** God..."*

2. God revealed Himself to them:

- *"**I brought you out of Egypt**, out of the land of slavery."*

3. God created meaning for them:

- ***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, you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation."*

## The History of the Jewish Nation after Egypt:

### 1. They were careless with God's Covenant.

- they treated it as a set of rules to be followed, instead of a relationship to be embraced.  
... and because they had refused to embrace God, they had no incentive to love others.

**Result:** They forgot their purpose .... to draw the entire world back to God.

- they even lost the law at one point ... finding it in the bowels of the long unused temple they built. (2 Kings 22)

<sup>3</sup> In the eighteenth year of his reign, King Josiah sent Shaphan son of Azaliah and grandson of Meshullam, the court secretary, to the Temple of the LORD. He told him, <sup>4</sup> “Go to Hilkiyah the high priest and have him take the money raised ... to the men assigned to supervise the restoration of the LORD’s Temple – they can use it to pay workers to repair the Temple.

<sup>6</sup> They will need to hire carpenters, builders, and masons, and buy the timber and the finished stone needed to repair the Temple ...”

<sup>8</sup> During the restoration, Hilkiyah the high priest said to Shaphan the court secretary, “I have found the Book of the Law in the LORD’s Temple!” Then Hilkiyah gave the scroll to Shaphan, and he read it.

*<sup>9</sup> Shaphan went to the king and reported, “Your officials have turned over the money collected for the restoration of the Temple.” <sup>10</sup> Shaphan also told the king, “Hilkiah the priest has given me a scroll.” So Shaphan read it to the king.*

*<sup>11</sup> When the king heard what was written in the Book of the Law, he tore his clothes in despair ... “The LORD’s great anger is burning against us” he cried, “because our ancestors have not obeyed the words in this scroll. We have not been doing everything it says we must do.”*

2 Kings 22

## The History of the Jewish Nation after Egypt:

1. They were careless with God's Covenant.
  - they treated it as a set of rules to be followed, instead of a relationship to be embraced.
2. They experienced the consequences of being careless.
  - a. God removed His favour from them ... but not His attention.

*<sup>2</sup> Listen, ... This is what the LORD says:*

*“The children I raised and cared for have  
rebelled against me.*

*<sup>3</sup> Even an ox knows its owner,  
and a donkey recognizes its master’s care—  
but Israel doesn’t know its master.  
My people don’t recognize my care for them.”*

*<sup>4</sup> Oh, what a sinful nation they are—loaded  
down with a burden of guilt.  
They are evil people, corrupt children who have  
rejected the LORD.  
They have despised the Holy One of Israel, and  
turned their backs on him.*

*<sup>5</sup> Why do you continue to invite punishment?  
Must you rebel forever?*

*Your head is injured, and your heart is sick.*

*<sup>6</sup> You are battered from head to foot— covered  
with bruises, welts infected wounds—  
without any soothing ointments or bandages.*

*<sup>7</sup> Your country lies in ruins, and your towns are  
burned.*

*Foreigners plunder your fields before your eyes  
and destroy everything they see...*

*<sup>9</sup> If the LORD of Heaven’s Armies had not spared  
a few of us, we would have been wiped out  
like Sodom, destroyed like Gomorrah.*

*11 “What makes you think I want all your sacrifices?” says the LORD.*

*“I am sick of your burnt offerings of rams and the fat of fattened cattle.*

*I get no pleasure from the blood of bulls and lambs and goats.*

*12 When you come to worship me, who asked you to parade through my courts with all your ceremony?*

*13 Stop bringing me your meaningless gifts; the incense of your offerings disgusts me!*

*15 When you lift up your hands in prayer, I will not look. Though you offer many prayers, I will not listen, for your hands are covered with the blood of innocent victims.*

Isaiah 1

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2. They experienced the consequences of being careless.
  - a. God removed His favour from them ... but not His attention.
  - b. God reminded them that the covenant they shared had not expired ... and that it applied to all their choices ... both wise and foolish.

*16 Wash yourselves and be clean! Get your sins out of my sight. Give up your evil ways.*

*17 Learn to do good. Seek justice. Help the oppressed. Defend the cause of orphans. Fight for the rights of widows.*

*18 “Come now, let’s settle this,” says the LORD. “Though your sins are like scarlet, I will make them as white as snow. Though they are red like crimson, I will make them as white as wool.*

*19 If you will only obey me, you will have plenty to eat.*

*20 But if you turn away and refuse to listen, you will be devoured by the sword of your enemies.*

*I, the LORD, have spoken!”*

Isaiah 1

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  - b. God reminded them that the covenant they shared had not expired.
  - c. God assured them of His love, and of a promised future.

*<sup>2</sup> In the last days, the mountain of the LORD's house will be the highest of all—the most important place on earth. It will be raised above the other hills, and people from all over the world will stream there to worship.*

*<sup>3</sup> People from many nations will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of Jacob's God. There he will teach us his ways, and we will walk in his paths."*

*For the LORD's teaching will go out from Zion; his word will go out from Jerusalem.*

*<sup>4</sup> The LORD will mediate between nations and will settle international disputes.*

*They will hammer their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will no longer fight against nation, nor train for war anymore.*

Isaiah 2

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  - a. God removed His favour from them ... but not His attention.
  - b. God reminded them that the covenant they shared had not expired.
  - c. God assured them of His love, and of a promised future.
3. As they struggled to honour their covenant with Him, God promised something new .... for them, and for everyone!
  - a. A New Government: "A Throne". (Isaiah 9:1-7)

*9 Nevertheless, the time of darkness and despair will not go on forever ... there will be a time in the future when Galilee of the Gentiles, which lies along the road that runs between the Jordan and the sea, will be filled with glory.*

*2 The people who walk in darkness will see a great light.*

*For those who live in a land of deep darkness, a light will shine ...*

*5 The boots of the warrior and the uniforms bloodstained by war will all be burned.*

*They will be fuel for the fire.*

*6 For a child is born to us, a son is given to us.*

*The government will rest on his shoulders.*

*And he will be called:*

*Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,*

*Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

*7 His government and its peace will never end.*

*He will rule with fairness and justice from the throne of his ancestor David for all eternity.*

*The passionate commitment of the LORD of Heaven's Armies will make this happen!*

Isaiah 9

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  - b. God reminded them that the covenant they shared had not expired.
  - c. God assured them of His love, and of a promised future.
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  - a. A New Government: "A Throne". (Isaiah 9:1-7)
  - b. A New Covenant: "A Lamb". (Isaiah 53)

**52** <sup>13</sup> See, my servant will prosper;  
he will be highly exalted...

<sup>15</sup> And he will startle many nations.  
Kings will stand speechless in his  
presence.

For they will see what they had not been told;  
they will understand what they had not  
heard about.

**53** <sup>3</sup> He was despised and rejected— a man of  
sorrows, acquainted with deepest grief.  
We turned our backs on him and looked the  
other way. He was despised, and we did  
not care.

<sup>4</sup> Yet it was our weaknesses he carried;  
it was our sorrows that weighed him down.  
And we thought his troubles were a  
punishment from God for his own sins!

<sup>5</sup> But he was pierced for our rebellion and  
crushed for our sins.

He was beaten so we could be whole.

He was whipped so we could be healed.

<sup>6</sup> All of us, like sheep, have strayed away.

We have left God's paths to follow our own.

Yet the LORD laid on him the sins of us all.

<sup>7</sup> He was oppressed and treated harshly,  
yet he never said a word.

He was led like a lamb to the slaughter.

And as a sheep is silent before the shearers,  
he did not open his mouth.

<sup>10</sup> It was the LORD's good plan to crush him and  
cause him grief.

And though his life is made an offering for sin,  
he will have many descendants.

He will enjoy a long life, and the LORD's good  
plan will prosper in his hands.

*<sup>10</sup> But it was the LORD's good plan to crush  
him and cause him grief.*

*Yet when his life is made an offering for sin,  
he will have many descendants.*

*He will enjoy a long life, and the LORD's  
good plan will prosper in his hands.*

