



## BULLEEN BAPTIST CHURCH

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**SERIES : "10 DUMB WAYS TO MESS UP OUR LIVES"**

**October 16, 2005 Study 1 "Introduction to the 10 Commandments"**

## INTRODUCTION

### .... TO THE SERIES

10 Dumb Ways To Mess Up Our Lives .... a fresh look at the 10 Commandments (See Exodus 20 and Deuteronomy 5) Note that they are not the Ten Suggestions! They are not arbitrary religious rules. They are not outdated curiosities that belong to an ancient and less sophisticated society. Whilst their introduction has a specific context, the 10 Commandments are not bound to a particular culture or time or nation.

They continue as the BASIC moral laws of creation for all people. If followed, they produce a healthy society by fostering proper relationships with God and with others. If ignored, they produce a mess in both our individual lives and our society as a whole.

Our task in this series is to understand what they mean and how to follow them in our lives and circumstances today.

### .... TO THE 10 COMMANDMENTS

## A. PURPOSE

### 1. To Reveal God's REQUIREMENTS.

*.... observe what the LORD your God requires: Walk in his ways, and keep his decrees and commands, his laws and requirements, as written in the Law of Moses. 1Kng2:2*

*I desire to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart." Ps40:8*

### 2. To Reveal Our SHORTCOMINGS .

*Take this Book of the Law and place it beside the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God. There it will remain as a witness against you. Deut31:26*

*.... so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world held accountable to God. Therefore no one will be declared righteous in his sight by observing the law; rather, through the law we become conscious of sin. Rom3:19-20*

### 3. To Point To JESUS As Our Only Hope .

*.... we were held prisoners by the law, locked up until faith should be revealed. So the law was put in charge to lead us to Christ that we might be justified by faith. Now that faith has come, we are no longer under the supervision of the law. Gal3:23-25*

## B. SUMMARY

The 10 Commandments speak to the RELATIONSHIP between ourselves, God, and others.

*Jesus replied, " Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."*

**Mat 22:37-40**

*So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets. Mat7:12*

## C. CONTEXT

The 10 Commandments were the legal basis of the Covenant RELATIONSHIP established between God and the descendants of Abraham upon their rescue from slavery in Egypt.

*'You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. 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.'* Ex19:4-6

### 1. The Covenant is ESTABLISHED on the Faithfulness and compassion of God

*The LORD did not set his affection on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples. 8 But it was because the LORD loved you and kept the oath he swore to your forefathers that he brought you out with a mighty hand and redeemed you from the land of slavery, from the power of Pharaoh king of Egypt. 9 Know therefore that the LORD your God is God; he is the faithful God .... Therefore, take care to follow the commands, decrees and laws I give you today.* Deut 7:7-11

### 2. The Law of God, calls us to be faithful to God IN RETURN, and to be considerate of those around us.

### 3. Failing to obey the law is breaking relationship with (REJECTING) God.

*Those who deal with the law did not know me; the leaders rebelled against me.* Jer2:8

*(we have) transgressed your law and turned away .... we have sinned against you.* Dan9:11

### 4. As Christians, ours is the greater "rescue" ..... and the greater relationship with God.

**Our obedience to what God requires of us is not from fear, but GRATITUDE.**

**It is not enforced by an external law, but from the promptings of the Spirit of God who has taken up residence in us.**

*There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus .... the law of the Spirit of life (has) set me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law was powerless to do .... God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering .... we do not live according to the sinful nature but according to the Spirit. .... those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires .... the sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you.* Rom8 :1-9

*"This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time," declares the LORD. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.* Jer31:33

### 5. A person "after God's Heart" in the 21st Century will gladly AFFIRM these ancient words.

*I desire to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart."* Ps40:8

*Teach me, O LORD, to follow your decrees; then I will keep them to the end. Give me understanding, and I will keep your law and obey it with all my heart. Direct me in the path of your commands, for there I find delight.* Ps119:33-35