

**"New Commands & A New Covenant"**

Wednesday Evening Adult Class by Ray Reynolds (October 2, 2013)

Introduction: Everyone wants to buck authority and resist the rules (from time to time). That is why people have trouble with the Ten Commandments. Humans often view God as a Judge and a cosmic killjoy. Instead, God revealed himself as "*I am that I am*" and with mighty power He brought the new nation out of Egyptian slavery into freedom. God's plan is to be with us. God wants to be with his people. The Big Idea of the whole Story is God's declaration, "I want to come down and dwell with you." God continues to reveal that He will not dwell with us until we get these three things worked out. Let's study those three things together....

Discussion:

**I. God's People Need Guidelines for Living (Exodus 20:1-7)**

- A. There is love in the Godhead.
- B. There should be love in God's community.
- C. These laws can keep us from sin.

**II. God's People Need Blueprints for Worship (Exodus 25)**

- A. God gave specific directions for the production of the Tabernacle.
- B. God gave specific directions for the purpose of the Tabernacle.
- C. God gave specific directions for the placement of the Tabernacle.

**III. God's People Need Atonement for Sin (Leviticus, Exodus 33:14-16)**

- A. Sin brings separation from God.
- B. Separation requires sacrificing to God.
- C. Sacrifice appeases God's wrath for sin.

Conclusion: There are three important applications... First, Jesus is our great High Priest and his blood once and for all atones for (covers) our sin (**Hebrews 10:1-18**). With the blood of Jesus on the doorframe of your life, you are forgiven and given direct access into the Most Holy Place. Second, we are the place where God dwells. We are the new tabernacle. The church is not a building, the church is us and we are the place where God resides (**I Corinthians 3:16-17**). Third, the Great Commandment is the guideline Jesus gives to and models for us. The guideline of sacrificial love: **Matthew 22:38-40** and **John 13:35**. God has created you for a purpose. He has also sent His Son to die in your place. Are you covered by His precious blood? Are you ready to surrender to His will?

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If we learn nothing else from ***The Story***, we should learn that every command, every character, and every teaching has application today. Often times they may serve as a copy or shadow of something reflective in our own lives. Specifically, worship in the Old Testament has much to communicate to us. When Jesus died on the cross the veil in the temple was rent and Jewish worship ceased to be appealing to God. A new form of worship was established based on the copies of the old style of worship. Therefore, in the New Testament we have similar patterns to follow. Consider the parallels:

***The Gate = Jesus Christ***

**John 3:16, 14:6, John 10:7-10, Ephesians 2:18, Ephesians 3:12**

***The Altar = The Cross***

**Hebrews 10:1-10, Romans 6:10, I Peter 3:18**

***The Laver = Baptism***

**I Peter 3:21-22, Acts 22:16, Hebrews 10:22**

***The Candlestick = Life of Saints***

**Matthew 5:16, Philippians 2:15, I John 1:7**

***The Table of Showbread = Communion***

**Acts 2:42, Acts 20:7, 11, I Corinthians 10:16-18**

***The Altar of Incense = Prayers of Saints***

**Revelation 8:3-4, Philippians 4:18, Ephesians 5:2**

***The Ark of the Covenant & The Holy of Holies = Heaven***

**Hebrews 9:1-15, Romans 5:1-2, I Peter 3:18-22**

***The High Priest = Jesus Christ***

**Hebrews 2:17-18, Hebrews 3:1, Hebrews 4:14-15, Hebrews 6:20,  
Hebrews 10:11-22**

***Instruments = Voices of the Saints***

**Ephesians 5:19, Colossians 3:16, I Corinthians 14:15**