

## Exodus 20: 1-20 "I am"

Focus Verse Fragments: "I am the LORD your God...I am a jealous God..." Ex 2a, 6 mid

The Ten Commandments reveal the Kingdom of God.

- I. The second tablet of the Law presents what is universally recognized as the basis of happy and stable communities. Commandments 6 through 10. However, almost universally, we think we need something outside those boundaries in order to be happy as individuals. Is that a statement you think is true?

We do not find satisfaction in our hearts by keeping the commandments, indeed, we cannot keep the commandments. Romans 7:7 The disjoint between what we acknowledge as a good way of life, the inability we have to keep the commandments as interpreted by Jesus Christ (Mt. 22:36-40) and the emptiness of our hearts make it impossible for us to enter the Kingdom of God by receiving this excellent Law.

- II. The first tablet of the Law establishes the relationship between God and God's people. The first through fourth commandments are **not** universally recognized and separate the human community into people who accept their jurisdiction and those who do not.
  - A. We enter God's Kingdom by God's call and invitation. We respond to the grace and faithfulness of God and become thankful to be a part of God's Kingdom.
  - B. The Kingdom of God is already here among us through Christ. (Lk 4:21)
  - C. The Kingdom of God continues eternally. (Rev 21,22)
- III. God reveals Godself to Moses and the community of Israel through these Commandments.
  - A. God is and was and always will be. "I Am." (Ex 3:6; John 8:58)
  - B. God enters a relationship with a people through God's free decision. "I am the LORD your God." (Ex 20:2a)
  - C. God is serious about God's relationship with us. "I am a jealous God." (Ex 20:6 mid) This is attested to throughout the Bible. (Ex 34:14; Deut 4:24; Nahum 1:2-15; Is 42:8; Josh 24:19; 1 Cor 10:22; James 4:5)
  - D. Christ lived in the Kingdom. His example and teaching, with His presence through the Holy Spirit, are how we also live in the Kingdom (Rom 8:1,2; 7:5,6)
  - E. How's that going for us?