



# THE 10

# Eternal Commandments

# Recap

You must not testify **falsely** against your neighbour. **Exodus 20:16**

Deception in human relationships leads to greater brokenness and eventually to injustice

**Exodus 23:1-13, A Call for Justice**

You must not pass along **false** rumours **vs 1a**

Pay close attention to all my instructions. You must not **call (testify)** on the name of any other gods. Do not even speak their names. **vs 13**

# Recap

## The Progression of a lie

### Self Deception (nudge)

**This** lie is harmless, its for the best or for the greater good

### Self Justification (posture)

**They** should have known better, they will never find out, what does it matter

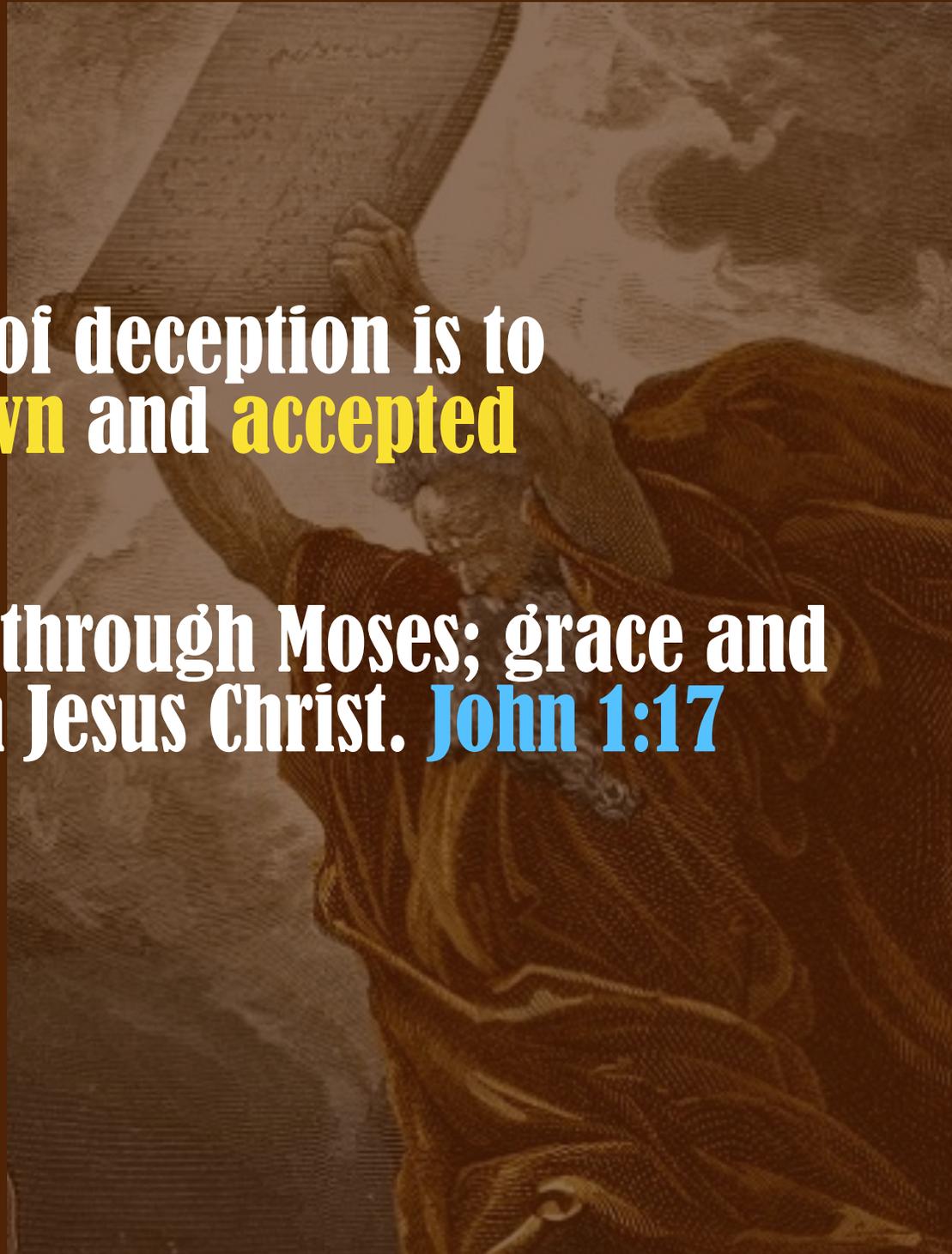
### Self Righteousness (me centred)

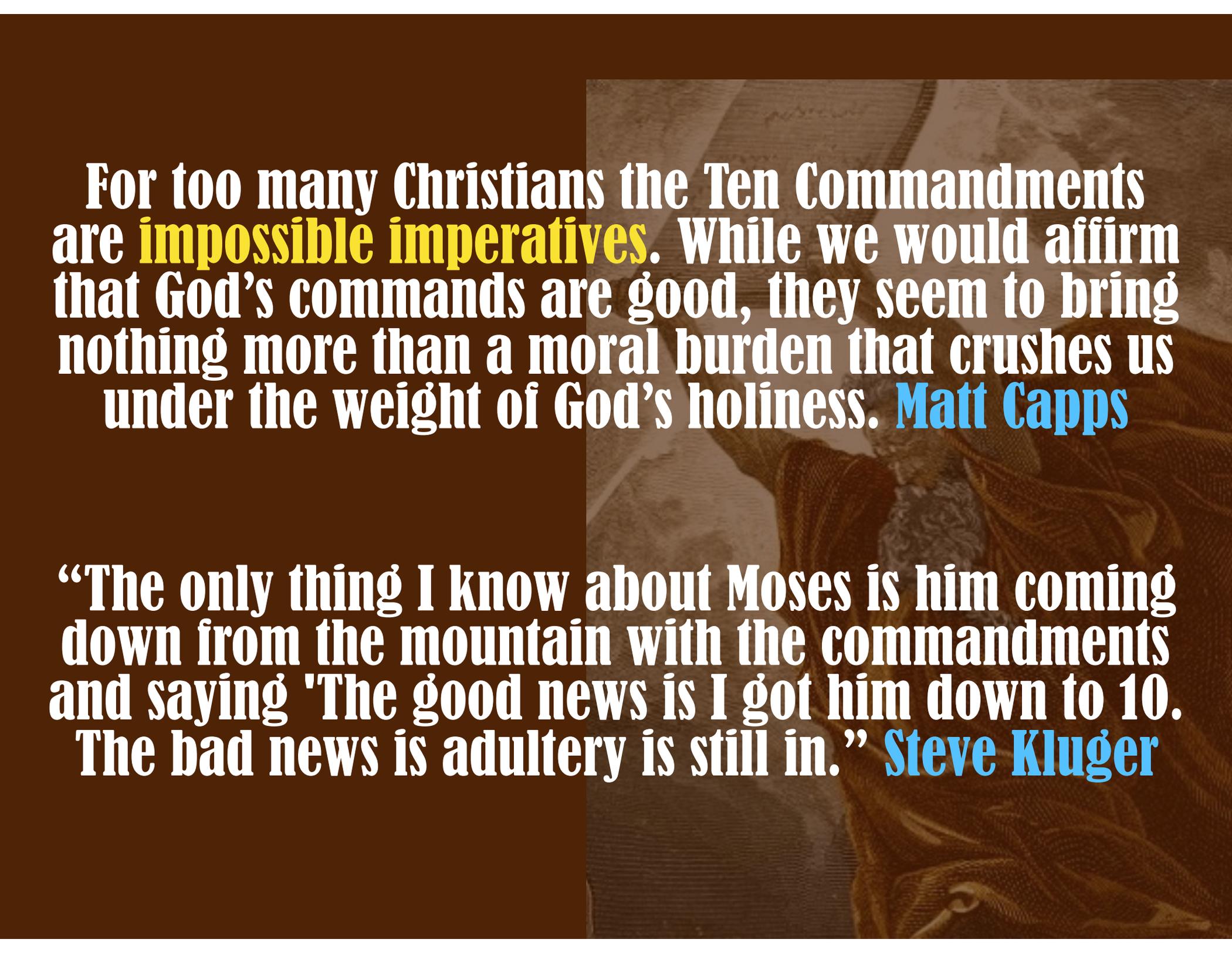
**I** know what's best, I know what is true, living my truth

# Recap

The **opposite** of deception is to be fully **known** and **accepted**

For the law was given through Moses; grace and **truth** came through Jesus Christ. **John 1:17**





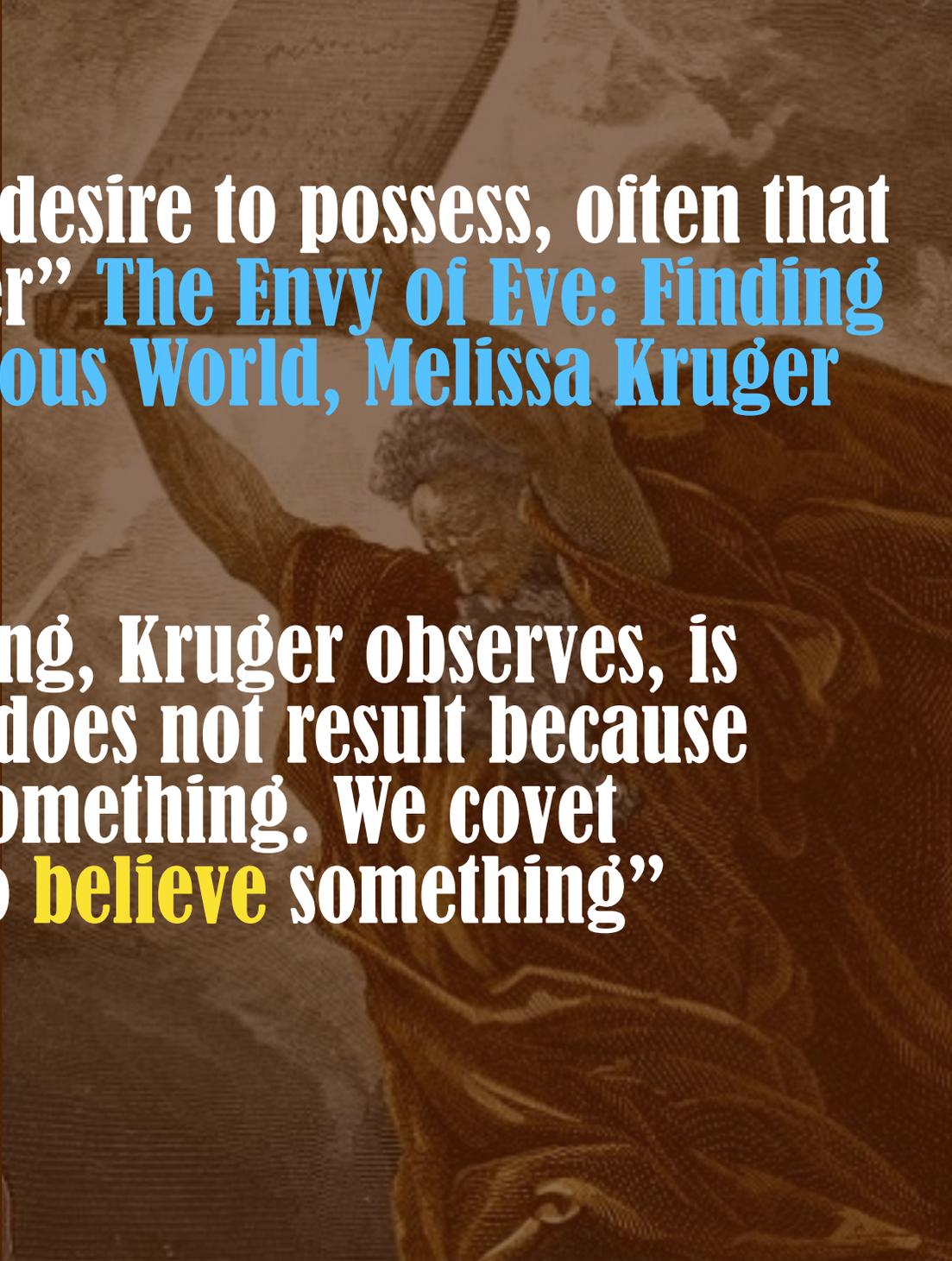
For too many Christians the Ten Commandments are **impossible imperatives**. While we would affirm that God's commands are good, they seem to bring nothing more than a moral burden that crushes us under the weight of God's holiness. **Matt Capps**

“The only thing I know about Moses is him coming down from the mountain with the commandments and saying 'The good news is I got him down to 10. The bad news is adultery is still in.’” **Steve Kluger**

You must not **covet**  
your neighbour's  
house. You must  
not covet your  
neighbour's wife,  
male or female  
servant, ox or  
donkey, or anything  
else that belongs to  
your neighbour.

**Exodus 20:17**





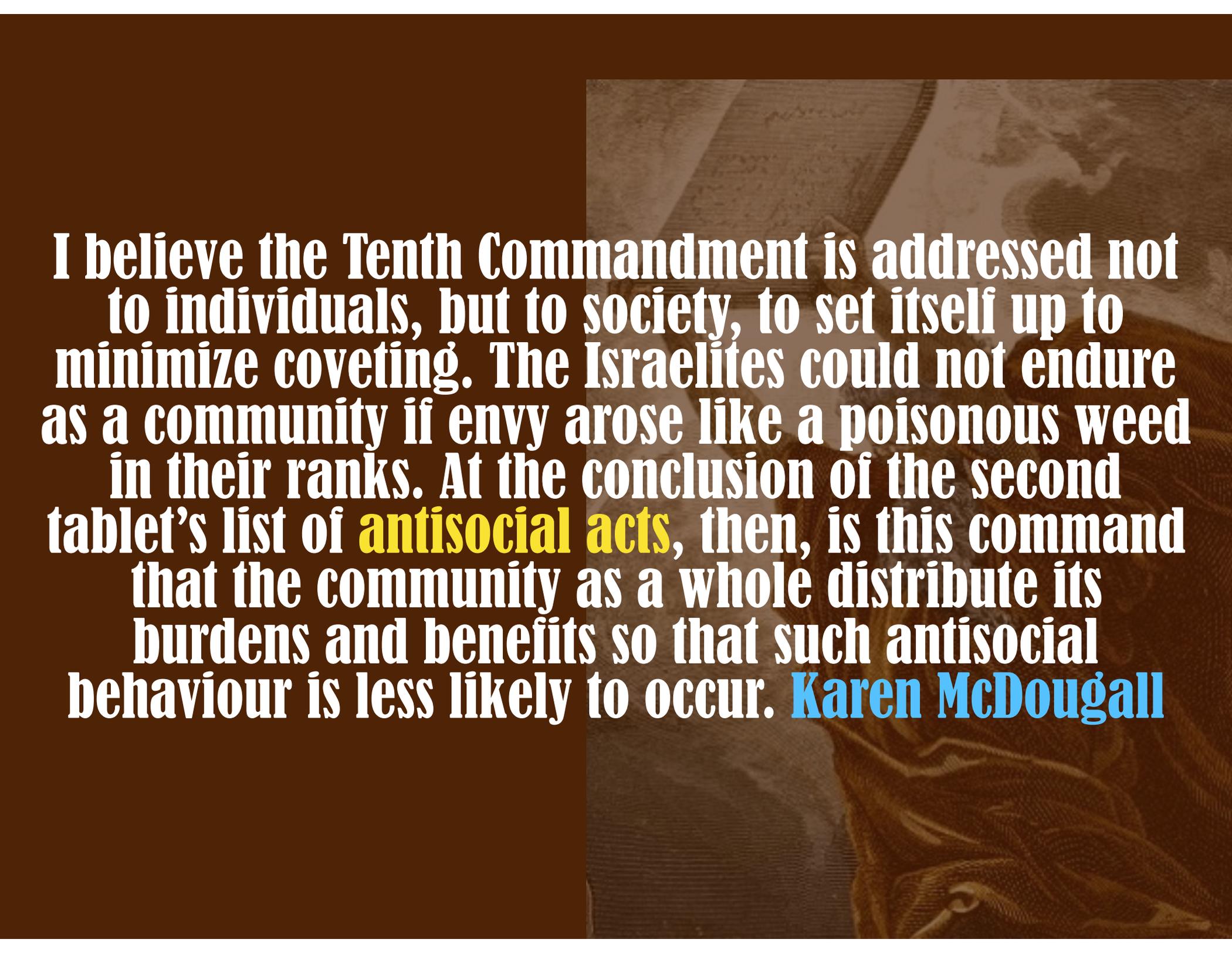
**“inordinate or culpable** desire to possess, often that which belongs to another” **The Envy of Eve: Finding Contentment in a Covetous World, Melissa Kruger**

At the root of coveting, Kruger observes, is unbelief: “Coveting does not result because we don’t have something. We covet because we fail to **believe** something”

**“The Scriptures never tell us to find our joy in the fact that our situation is not as unfortunate as possible. We are told to find our joy in the fact that all our circumstances flow from God’s loving hand.**

**One day, we may face the earthquake, flood, or other disaster that we once used to gain perspective. If we are holding onto our contentment because circumstances could be worse, what happens when our situation is more difficult than anyone else’s we know?”**

**Coveting combines our desires for “stuff” with our insecurities of our relationships. The perfect storm of relational destruction**



**I believe the Tenth Commandment is addressed not to individuals, but to society, to set itself up to minimize coveting. The Israelites could not endure as a community if envy arose like a poisonous weed in their ranks. At the conclusion of the second tablet's list of **antisocial acts**, then, is this command that the community as a whole distribute its burdens and benefits so that such antisocial behaviour is less likely to occur. **Karen McDougall****

The commandments are the **minimum** requirements of God for His followers

**Old Testament**

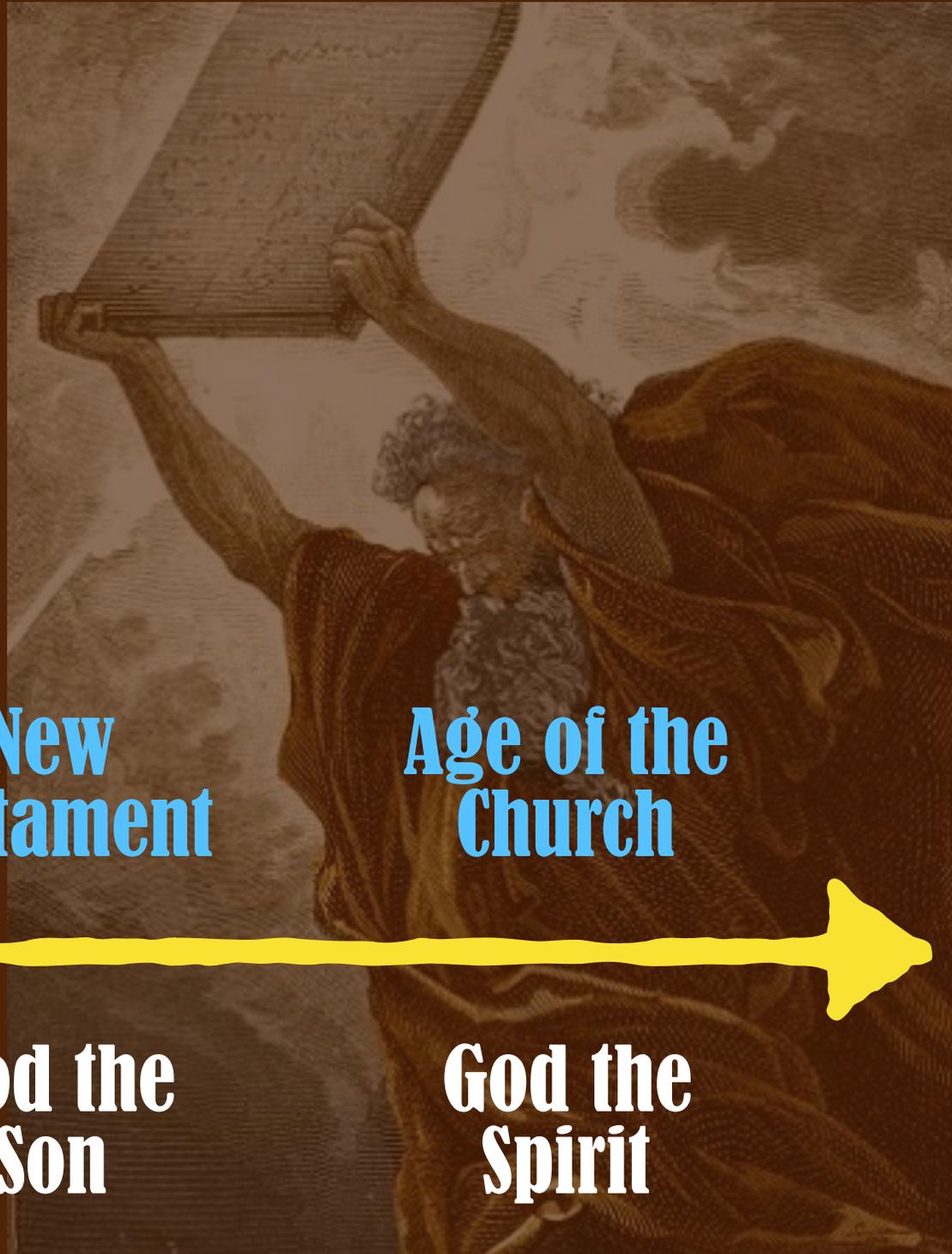
**New Testament**

**Age of the Church**

**God the Father**

**God the Son**

**God the Spirit**



Someone came to Jesus with this question: “Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?”

“Why ask me about what is good?” Jesus replied.

“There is only One who is good. But to answer your question—if you want to receive eternal life, keep the commandments.” “Which ones?” the man asked.

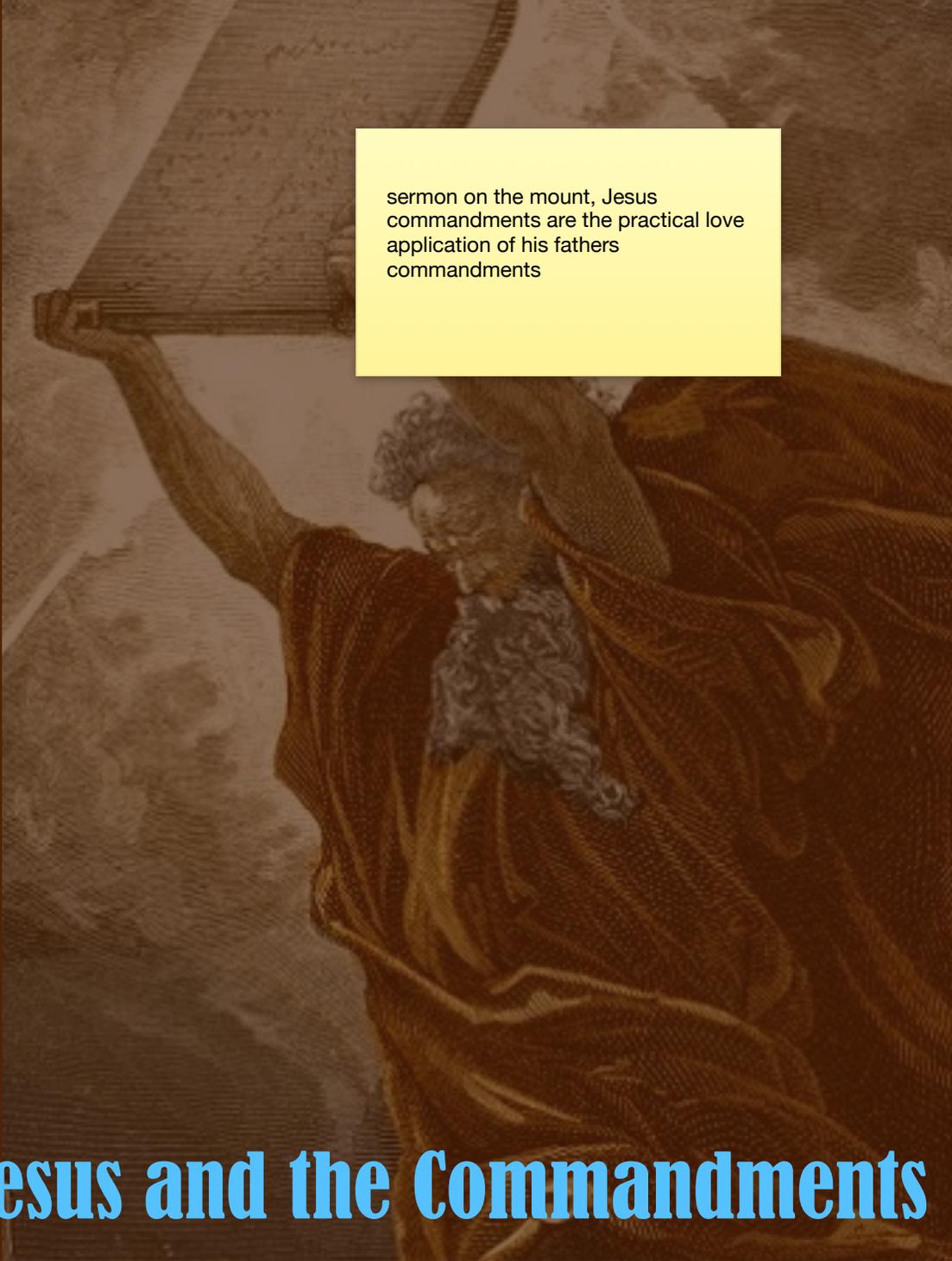
And Jesus replied: “You must not murder. You must not commit adultery. You must not steal. You must not testify falsely. Honour your father and mother. Love your neighbour as yourself.” **Matthew 19:16-19**

**Jesus and the Commandments**

Jesus plainly said He did not come to “destroy” the law. The Greek word translated destroy (Greek, *katalyo*) can also be translate “dissolve,” “demolish,” “abrogate” or “deprive of force.” Instead of abolishing the law, He came to fulfill (*pleroo*) it—which means to “make full,” “fill up” or “accomplish.” Not only did He come to fulfill Old Testament prophecies, **He also came to perfectly obey the 10 Commandments** and, by doing so, fill them with greater meaning and relevance—just as the Messiah was prophesied to do (Isaiah 42:21).

**Jesus and the Commandments**

When you obey **my commandments**, you remain in my love, just as I obey my **Father's commandments** and remain in his love. **John 15:10**



sermon on the mount, Jesus commandments are the practical love application of his fathers commandments

**Jesus and the Commandments**

Jesus replied, “You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.’ This is the **first** and greatest commandment.

A **second** is equally important: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments.” **Matthew 22:37-39, Luke 10:27**

These two statements - loving God and loving neighbour as oneself - encapsulate the **first four** and the **last six** commandments respectively. The commandments merely define further **how to love God and love man.**

**Jesus and the Commandments**

**Commandment 1**, Matt. 4:10, 22:37, Mark 12:30

**Commandment 2**, Luke 4:8, John 4:24

**Commandment 3**, Matt. 6:9, 12:31, Mark 7:20-22

**Commandment 4**, Matt. 12:11-12, 24:20, Mark 2:27

**Commandment 5**, Ma ), Luke 18:20

**Commandment 6**, Ma  5:19-20, Luke 18:20

**Commandment 7**, Matt. 5:27-28, 19:9, Mark 10:11-12

**Commandment 8**, Matt. 19:18, Luke 18:20, Mk 7:22-23

**Commandment 9**, Matt. 5:33-34, 15:19-20, Luke 18:20

**Commandment 10**, Mark 7:22-23

Well then, am I suggesting that the law of God is sinful? Of course not! In fact, **it was the law that showed me my sin.** I would never have known that **coveting** is wrong if the law had not said, “You must not covet.” **Romans 7:7**



**Early Church and the Commandments**

And we can be sure that we know him **if we obey his commandments**. If someone claims, “I know God,” but doesn’t obey God’s commandments, that person is a liar and is not living in the truth. But those who obey God’s word truly show how completely they love him. That is how we know we are living in him. Those who say they live in God should live their lives as Jesus did. **1 John 2:3-6**

**Early Church and the Commandments**

**For it makes no  
difference  
whether or not a  
man has been  
circumcised. The  
important thing  
is to keep **God's  
commandments.**  
**1 Corinthians 7:19****



**Early Church and the Commandments**

But He who raised Him up from the dead will raise up us also, if we do His will, **and walk in His commandments**, and love what He loved, keeping ourselves from all unrighteousness, covetousness, love of money, evil speaking, falsehood; "not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing," or blow for blow, or cursing for cursing **Polycarp, 120 A.D**

Preparing man for this life, the Lord Himself did speak in His own person to all alike the words of the **Decalogue**; and therefore, in like manner, do **they remain permanently with us**, receiving by means of His advent in the flesh, extension and increase, but not abrogation (abolition) **Irenaeus, 180 AD**

**Early Church and the Commandments**



Gustave Doré, 1866

The Levites obeyed  
Moses' command,  
and about **3,000**  
people died that  
day. **Exodus 32:28**

Those who believed  
what Peter said were  
baptized and added  
to the church that  
day—about **3,000**  
in all. **Acts 2:41**

The **Spirit** is vital to  
live out the love of  
the commandments

