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BIB 102

### **Assignment 3: Ten Commandments**

The Ten Commandments are one of the most fundamental elements of the Christian faith and can be found several times throughout the Bible. I will address the origin of the Ten Commandments, whether they should be obeyed, and how they were connected to salvation in the Old Testament. Also, the essay will provide evidence to support the claim that the Ten Commandments provided a consistent path toward salvation in the Old Testament. By examining this evidence, a clear conclusion regarding the relevance of the commandments to Old Testament salvation will be able to be formed.

The Ten Commandments, found in both the Old and New Testament of Scripture, have served a lot for Christian faith for centuries. As noted by T Wells and F Zaspel in Frederick: New Covenant Media, 2002, the Ten Commandments provide a framework for understanding the relationship between God and man. In the Old Testament, they are seen as a set of laws given by God to His chosen people. They are seen as a way to show obedience to God and a way to live in harmony with His will.

In the New Testament and Old Testament, the Ten Commandments have been a source of guidance and teaching for religious believers. According to JD Hays in BIBLIOTECA

SACRA-DALLAS (2001), the Ten Commandments are seen as a moral code that serves as a reminder of God's holiness and perfection. In the Old Testament, the Ten Commandments were seen as an expression of God's law that required obedience from the Israelites.

In his book, *The Biblical Basis of the 10 Commandments: Examining their Place in Scripture and their Role in Old Testament Salvation*, GJ Wenham (2015) delves into the role of the Ten Commandments in the Old Testament. He argues that the Decalogue (the 10 Commandments) serves as a critical theological foundation for the Old Testament by providing a moral code for the Israelites to follow, then ensuring their salvation. Also, Wenham argues that the Ten Commandments are not only a moral code for salvation, but also a theological statement about the character of God. He argues that the commandments demonstrate God's holiness, His mercy, and His justice. This is evident in the fact that the commandments are divided into two parts: the first four commandments deal with God and the remaining six deal with man's relationship to his neighbor. This demonstrates God's love, mercy, and justice, since He is both the one being worshipped and the one providing the moral code. This is further demonstrated by the fact that the commandments provide a holistic approach to salvation, as they provide a way of life that is based on holiness and justice. Therefore, it can be seen that the Ten Commandments have an important role in Old Testament salvation, as they serve as a theological foundation for the Old Testament and provide a moral code for salvation.

In conclusion, In the Old Testament salvation was not seen as something to be earned, but rather a result of a relationship with God. This relationship was nurtured through obedience of

the Ten Commandments, and while it may not have necessarily led to salvation, they were certainly seen as important to upholding the relationship, and the faith of the Israelites.

#### Work Cited

"New covenant theology." <https://go-newfocus.co.uk/resources/app/category/reviews/article/new-covenant-theology-a-review.pdf>

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