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### The Commandments of Present Time:

"There is no need for Christians to obey the Law (Ten Commandments) anymore because we cannot gain our righteousness through it, but only through faith in Christ." This quote can bring much controversy into a discussion, especially today. The Ten Commandments constitute a significant aspect of understanding the beliefs and truths within our religion today. However, they were initially created for the Jewish religion to pursue and follow in order for them to have a set of rules to keep them in order. This was for them to understand what God wants and expects from them and show them the authentic ways to worship. Since then, they have worshiped sculptures and turned away from the Father. Nevertheless, these commandments can still be found in daily teachings and studies today, showing us the importance and reason why God provided them to Moses in the first place.

The Ten Commandments are introduced in Exodus 19:20-25. In this part of the Bible, the Lord comes down on Mount Sinai. At this time, Moses is called by the Lord to come to the top of the mountain. He then states to them, "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me." (NIV Exod 20:2-3) When he states this, he then provides Moses with the Ten Commandments, which will be made into an altar on earth, where there will be burnt offerings and fellowship. This is where you can pray,

worship the Lord, and honor him for all his glory and light. Moses took these to the people and stated, "Do not be afraid. God has come to test you so that the fear of God will be with you to keep you from sinning." (NIV Exod 20:20). With that, these are the rules that the Israelites will follow. Those who obey these rules will provide you with freedom, protection from danger, and spiritual blessing. Following these Ten Commandments and following them thoroughly and truthfully, you will be led to eternal life in the presence of the Heavenly Father.

Reading these scriptures and breaking them down for their proper understanding shows the true importance of Christians following the Ten Commandments. God gives us humans instructions on how to live a good life and get to Heaven after death on earth. So why wouldn't Christians use them in a way to not only grow closer to God but the ability to grow in understanding what God wanted from us on earth, the first commandment implies we shall not worship other Gods. This is quickly obeyed and followed through the Christian religion as we only believe in the Heavenly Father. Though the Sabbath day differs from the Jews, we still obey the commandment of keeping the Sabbath holy. This may be like setting aside time for God, attending church and relaxing, and spending time with family. With these understandings, teachings, and beliefs we Christians have, it is essential to obey the Ten Commandments and follow them just as they were in the past.

The New Testament tells us many times in the different books to follow and keep the Commandments of the Lord. John 14:15 "If you love me, keep my commands." (NIV) This line from John in the New Testament is directly related to the Ten Commandments that are given in the Old Testament. This is one example of this. The books tell us to "honor your father and mother" (Matt 19:19 NIV). With that being said, Jesus had come down to earth to teach all those who did not believe the truth of God to love and obey him, for he is all-knowing. Jesus comes to

us in the New Testament to save us from sins and provide us to receive everlasting life with God himself. With that, the Old Testament views salvation as the Savior coming. This is commonly mentioned throughout the Old Testament, promising the Messiah would "save His people from their sins" (Matt 1:21 NIV). The idea of salvation through the Old Testament as a reality is more physical than spiritual and socially more than individual. In Genesis, the theme of God's blessing rests on individuals who share the information, one example being Joseph in Egypt, where he saves the lives of his family "For two years now there has been famine in the land, and for the next five years there will be no plowing and reaping. But God sent me ahead of you to preserve a remnant on earth for you and to save your lives by a great deliverance." (Gen 45:6-7) We see God provide salvation through others here. In the beginning, the Israelites struggled with the understanding of God. God worked through Moses to convey the importance of the commandments. Moses spoke to them, saying, "If you carefully observe all these commands I am giving you to follow—to love the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to him and to hold fast to him—then the Lord will drive out all these nations before you, and you will dispossess nations larger and stronger than you." (Deut 11:22-24 NIV). The people took the words and began to apply them to life. Once Moses died, Joshua followed the laws of the Israelites. This shows how the people believed that if they followed the Commandments, God would protect them and lead them to salvation.

The Old Testament is the starting point to lead to all that came within it. With that, the beginning of time was the first brick, and we could build a wall as we turned the pages. As we went through the chapters, we made it to a roof. By the end of the Old Testament, we had a house. This is not a physical house, but metaphorically speaking. By this, I mean we have the house of God, the start of all to come. God provides us with rules on how to love and trust him.

With that comes many different ways to learn from our brothers and sisters' mistakes before us. He provides the Ten Commandments to lead us to success. They are not to be treated as a checklist, for we will never be able to succeed in them perfectly, but we ask the Lord for His forgiveness to grow from them. We follow these Laws through our love for God himself. How we choose to follow and understand His Commandments will lead us to eternal life and true salvation.