

# Recap of Last Week

- ▶ God gave Moses the Ten Commandments after freeing the Israelites from bondage in Egypt
- ▶ Moses was entrusted with them - he received them from God on Mt. Sinai
- ▶ There are two parts of the Ten Commandments –we can think of them as tables.
- ▶ Last week we talked about the first table – Commandments one to three: How to have a strong relationship to God



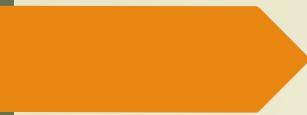
# Introduction to this Week

- ▶ This week we will talk about the second table – Commandments four to five: How to have a great relationship with one another
- ▶ Jesus said about the second table of the Law, “Love your neighbor as yourself.”
- ▶ He also gave us a “simple rule” to live by, known popularly as “the Golden Rule,” which says, “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.” (Mt. 7:12)

# The 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment

## Honor your father and mother

- ▶ This commandment is the only commandment written in *positive* terms of duties to be fulfilled.
- ▶ It covers several areas:
  - ▶ (directly) Duties to parents and family
  - ▶ (indirectly) Duties to the state and society
  - ▶ (remotely) Duties to anybody in authority

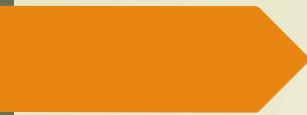


# The 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment

- As written in the book of Genesis, this commandment comes with a promise:

*“that it may go well with you, and that you may live long upon the land the Lord your God is giving to you.”*

- The gift of the Promised Land of Israel was a strong symbol of the Covenant God made with Abraham and his descendants.



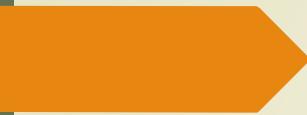
# The 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment

- ▶ To honor, respect, and obey one's parents is to honor, respect, and obey God.
- ▶ It is through our parents that we inherit God's Covenant promises.
- ▶ There are both rights imparted to and duties imposed upon God's people who desire to live the faith and inherit an eternal reward.

# The 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment

- ▶ Just as parents have a right to respect from their children, so they also have a duty to provide their children with a good example, and a stable and holy home environment to equip their children for life in this world, as well as the world to come.
- ▶ This commandment also extends to elders and persons in authority (government) BUT:

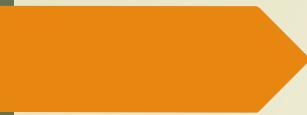
Civil power must be wielded in terms of service, not of domination



# The 5<sup>th</sup> Commandment

## You shall not kill

- ▶ This Commandment refers to the direct taking of human life.
- ▶ God is the giver of all life, and human life is particularly precious to Him, as He made human beings in His own image and likeness.



# The 5<sup>th</sup> Commandment

- ▶ The most obvious way to break this Commandment is to murder someone.
- ▶ But there are also many other ways to break this Commandment.



# The 5<sup>th</sup> Commandment

- ▶ **Recklessness**, which endangers one's own life or the lives of others
- ▶ **Abortion**, which kills an unborn human life (supporting or counseling someone to have an abortion also make one guilty)

# The 5<sup>th</sup> Commandment

- In short, any disrespect or harm toward human life offends God and breaks the fifth Commandment, including physical abuse, verbal abuse, and contempt for another person.

# The 5<sup>th</sup> Commandment

## What about war?

- ▶ When a government makes decisions to go to war, those who kill the enemy are NOT guilty of breaking this Commandment.
- ▶ War displeases God, and human life is taken but soldiers are not culpable for murder, as long as they do not kill needlessly, or kill the innocent.
- ▶ Also, police officers, or others in self-defense, or in defense of innocent life, are not guilty of breaking this Commandment.