

The Unity of the Commandments

THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

Hear, O Israel: YHWH is our Elohim, YHWH is One!
(Deuteronomy 6:4)

And Yeshua answered him, The first of all the commandments is, **Hear, O Israel, YHWH is our Elohim, YHWH is One...** (Mark 12:29)

This first Commandment is explained by

THE TWO GREAT COMMANDMENTS

And thou shalt love YHWH thy Elohim with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.
(Deuteronomy 6:5; Mark 12:30)

But thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself; I am YHWH.
(Leviticus 19:18; Mark 12:31)

The two great Commandments are explained by

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

The Love of Elohim

1. I am YHWH your Elohim; you shall have no other elohim before me.
2. Thou shalt make no graven images to worship them.
3. Thou shalt not take the name of YHWH in vain.
4. Remember the Sabbath to keep it holy.
5. Honor thy father and mother.

The Love of Neighbor

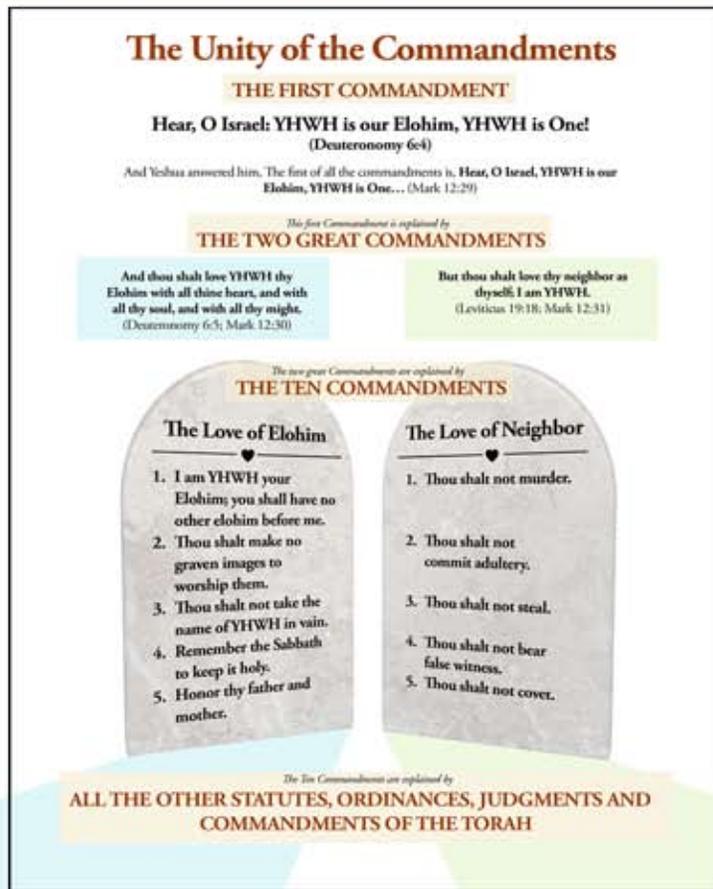
1. Thou shalt not murder.
2. Thou shalt not commit adultery.
3. Thou shalt not steal.
4. Thou shalt not bear false witness.
5. Thou shalt not covet.

The Ten Commandments are explained by

**ALL THE OTHER STATUTES, ORDINANCES, JUDGMENTS AND
COMMANDMENTS OF THE TORAH**

The Vertical Relationship Between the Commandments

The first Commandment is explained by the two Great Commandments, which are further illuminated by the Ten Commandments. The Ten Commandments are further explained by the rest of the Commandments, laws, ordinances and judgements in the Torah. The love of God is explained by the first five Commandments. The love of neighbor is explained by the second 5 Commandments. The first Commandment on each tablet by the ones following it.



The Love of Elohim

1. I am YHWH your Elohim; you shall have no other elohim before me.

2. Thou shalt make no graven images.

If we love YHWH we will not make graven images of other elohim

3. Thou shalt not take the name of YHWH in vain.

If we love YHWH we will not desecrate His name or use it inappropriately

4. Remember the Sabbath to keep it holy.

If we love YHWH we will desire to spend uninterrupted time with Him

5. Honor thy father and mother.

If we love YHWH we will love and honor those whom He has chosen to represent Him in our lives

The Love of Neighbor

1. Thou shalt not murder

2. Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Committing adultery is a form of murdering the spouse of another, pretending mentally they do not exist or matter

3. Thou shalt not steal.

Stealing from someone is the same as murdering them, pretending that their thoughts and feelings do not matter

4. Thou shalt not bear false witness.

Bearing false witness is likewise a form of murdering someone's reputation and integrity

5. Thou shalt not covet.

Coveting is the same as wishing someone dead so that you could have their blessings and good fortune

The Horizontal Relationship Between the Commandments

To Love YHWH ELOHIM is to Love Your Neighbor

Each of the Ten Commandments may likewise be further explained by its corresponding Commandment on the opposite tablet. This demonstrates the unity between the love of YHWH and the love of neighbor.

The Commandments

THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

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(Deuteronomy 6:4)

And Yeshua answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel, YHWH is our Elohim, YHWH is One... (Mark 12:29)

The first Commandment is explained by

THE TWO GREAT COMMANDMENTS

And thou shalt love YHWH thy Elohim with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. (Deuteronomy 6:5; Mark 12:30)

But thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself; I am YHWH. (Leviticus 19:18; Mark 12:31)

The two great Commandments are explained by

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

The Love of Elohim

1. I am YHWH your Elohim; you shall have no other elohim before me.
2. Thou shalt not make no graven images to worship them.
3. Thou shalt not take the name of YHWH in vain.
4. Remember the Sabbath to keep it holy.
5. Honor thy father and mother.

The Love of Neighbor

1. Thou shalt not murder.
2. Thou shalt not commit adultery.
3. Thou shalt not steal.
4. Thou shalt not bear false witness.
5. Thou shalt not cover.

The Ten Commandments are explained by

ALL THE OTHER STATUTES, ORDINANCES, JUDGMENTS AND COMMANDMENTS OF THE TORAH

1. I am YHWH your Elohim; you shall have no other elohim before me. **1. Thou shalt not murder**

Man was created in the image of Elohim. To murder another man in any way is to desecrate the image of Elohim. To alter the image of YHWH ELOHIM is to create another image; an idol. We are called to honor, respect, and preserve the dignity of the image of Elohim in every man, woman and child.

2. Thou shalt not make no graven images to worship them **2. Thou shalt not commit adultery**

Bowing to worship another elohim other than the one we are bound to in covenant is the same as cheating on a spouse that we are bound to by the covenant of marriage. Idolatry and adultery are often described as the same thing in the Bible.

3. Thou shalt not take the name of YHWH in vain **3. Thou shalt not steal**

To take, claim or use the name of YHWH upon oneself for personal gain or other vain pursuits is the same as stealing YHWH'S honor, glory, and integrity for oneself.

4. Remember the Sabbath to keep it holy **4. Thou shalt not bear false witness**

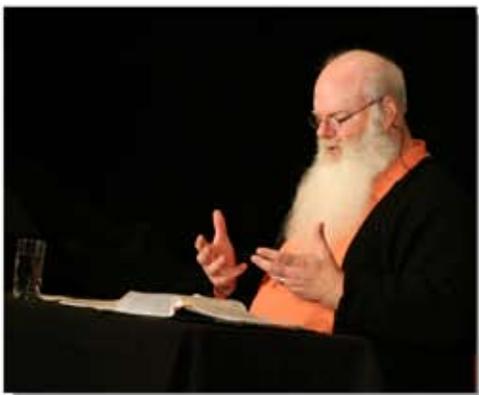
The Sabbath was given as a token of the covenant between YHWH and the children of Israel. To break the Sabbath is to give the false testimony that we are not a member of the covenant nor bound by the Torah. It is also a false testimony as to who is the Creator and Sovereign of the universe.

5. Honor thy father and mother **5. Thou shalt not covet**

Since Elohim is SPIRIT and cannot be seen, He has chosen to manifest Himself through His creation. Parents are the first authorities placed over us to manifest YHWH in our lives. When we covet, we are showing our dissatisfaction with those in authority over us and with their leadership. We must remember that YHWH chose our parents. There is, however, the reality of human sin, and not all parents are honorable in the way they exercise their office before Elohim. We must understand that to honor our parents means that even when our earthly parents are dishonorable in their conduct, we still live in such a way as to bring honor to their names. We must not covet other leaders or parents than those whom YHWH has appointed over us.

The Unity of the Torah

What we have demonstrated is that there is a unique unity to the Torah. The Shema, “Hear O Israel...,” is explained by the Two Great Commandments to “Love Elohim” and to “Love thy neighbor.” How to love Elohim and love our neighbor is explained by the two tablets of the Ten Commandments. How to keep the Ten Commandments is further explained and elaborated on by the 613 commandments illuminated in the rest of the Torah. We should note here that the number 613 is not an exact number, but rather is simply another way of referring to the whole Torah. We witness in these simple charts that there is no way to love YHWH without loving our neighbor. We cannot divide the Torah nor the commandments one from the other, for they are truly ONE as YHWH is ONE.



For years, Glenn McWilliams has been teaching Torah, developing, recording and writing teaching materials to help other believers grow in their understanding of the proper place of the Torah in their lives. His ministry is an educational ministry dedicated to encouraging believers to live a Torah observant life. It is Glenn's hope that he will be able to inspire and equip others to study, teach and live the Torah.