

LESSON 18

Name _____

The Decalogue

Directions: Read the cited scripture passages and related biblical footnotes to help you to fill in the blanks for each item.

1. In any country or society, the citizens agree on certain ways of doing things so that there is peace and harmony between the people. These ways are put down in a code and are commonly called _____.
2. In Exodus 20, the Israelites receive from God the basis for all the other laws of their society. These are called _____.
3. The Ten Commandments, or the Decalogue as it is more formally known, sets out a way for the Israelites to live peacefully with each other and in harmony with God's will. (The Decalogue can be found in two places in the Torah: in Exodus and in Deuteronomy. Refer to Deuteronomy 5:6-21 for the following questions.)
 - A. For instance, the first three commandments have to do with how we act towards _____.
 - B. The last seven commandments have to do with how we act towards _____.
4. In the first commandment, the Israelites are taught
 - A. that there are not many gods but only _____;
 - B. that God holds the _____ place in our lives;
 - C. that they are not to worship idols or other gods, but only the one true _____.
5. The second commandment protects against the use in frivolous or sacrilegious ways of using the name of _____.
6. The third commandment points out the importance of putting aside one day for the Lord. On this day, we worship the Lord and rest from work to renew ourselves spiritually and physically, much in the same way God did on the seventh day of _____.
7. The fourth commandment protects the basic unit of society, the _____. (Dt 5:16)
8. The fifth commandment protects _____. (Dt 5:17)
9. The sixth commandment protects the holiness of _____. (Dt 5:18)
10. The seventh commandment protects the right of a person to own _____. (Dt 5:19)
11. The eighth commandment (Dt 5:20) commands a person not to lie and therefore protects the value of _____.
12. The ninth and tenth commandments forbid a person from wanting something to the point of jealousy, such as a person's _____. (Dt 5:21b)

Lesson 18 continued

13. These Ten Commandments are all summed up in the greatest of all commandments which is known as the Shema. It is found in Deuteronomy 6:4-5. Write it here:

14. In Exodus 21:22-24 another principle of Hebrew law is stated, the very famous *lex talionis*, a Latin phrase meaning the law of talion. It is best summed up in verses 23-24 which state

What would be the purpose of demanding such rigorous justice? (see footnote)

15. These laws are all given to Moses on Mt. Sinai at an event known biblically as _____.
(see heading above Ex 19:16)