

The Cordova Connector

...Connecting our community to Christ

A Publication of the Cordova Church of Christ

Romans 16:16

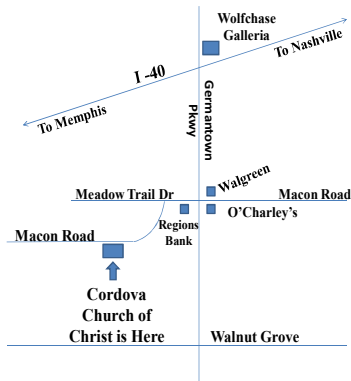
WHAT ABOUT THE TEN COMMANDMENTS?

Rick Owens

Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Study	9:00 A.M.
Sunday Worship	10:00 A.M.
Sunday Worship	1:00 P. M.
Wed. Bible Study	7:00 P.M.

(Attended nursery at all services)



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A common topic that is considered in religious discussions is the Ten Commandments. The conversation may begin with a question similar to, "Do we still live under the authority of the Ten Commandment Law today?" The answer to this question is not one that is easily answered without a close look at what the Bible has to say about the subject. In order to come to an understanding of the Ten Commandment Law we will notice what the Bible has to say about the Jew and the Gentile, the recipients of the Commandments, whether they were a permanent law or a temporary one, and why we still have the Old Testament.

Throughout history mankind has lived in one of three spiritual dispensations of time. From the time of Adam to the time of Moses mankind lived during the Patriarchal Dispensation. This was the time when God spoke to the heads of each household so they would understand what He desired for them to do. Job is a good example of what the duties of the Patriarch were. "And it was so, when the days of *their* feasting were gone about, that Job sent and sanctified them, and rosenumber of them all: for Job said, It may be that my sons have sinned, and cursed God in their hearts. Thus did Job continually" (Job 1:5). The Patriarch acted as the priest and up early in the morning, and offered burnt offerings *according* to the spiritual leader for the family. From the time of Moses until the death of Christ, mankind lived under the Mosaic Dispensation or the Ten Commandment Law. During this

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Look at What's Happening at Cordova!

Sunday Morning Bible Classes and Worship Services

Classes for all ages @ 9 a.m., worship @ 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. every Sunday

Tuesday Morning Bible Class 10 a.m., during the school year

Wednesday Evening Bible Study Classes for all ages @ 7 p.m. every Wednesday evening

Mother's Day Out Program Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30-2:30

Fellowship Luncheons each Sunday

Age Specific Group Programs

Young at Heart Program for those
50 and over

Free Bible Correspondence Courses

Upcoming Activities

Mon., July 9 - Wed., July 11 - Vacation
Bible School for all ages @ 7 p.m.

Sat., July 14 - Young at Heart Outing

Mon., July 16 - Ladies' Night Out @
6:45 p.m.

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Dispensation God had organized the nation of Israel as His chosen people which were the descendents of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Jacob's twelve sons. After the death of Christ the Christian dispensation came into effect and is so even until the present time.

The Jews were God's chosen people during one dispensation of time, the Mosaic Dispensation. The Jews acknowledged to Jesus that they were the descendents of the great man of faith, Abraham (Jn. 8:31-33). In Acts chapter seven Stephen gives a short history of the Jewish people beginning with Abraham, the Egyptian bondage, the Exodus from Egypt under the leadership of Moses, and their entrance into the Land of Canaan. Under the Jewish law, association with a Gentile or anyone that was not a Jew was not allowed. Peter acknowledged that fact when he said; "Ye know how that it is an unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation" (Acts 10:28). However, he continued by saying that God no longer showed a difference between the Jew and the Gentile during the Christian dispensation, "...but God hath shewed me that I should not call any man common or unclean" (Acts 10:28). Peter said a few sentences later, "Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons: But in every nation he that feareth him, and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him" (Acts 10:34-35). God's chosen people became those that submit to the commandments of Christianity after the death of Jesus Christ.

Understanding to whom the commandments were given in the first place is fundamental in knowing whether people in today's time are bound by them. When Moses was on Mount Sinai receiving the Ten Commandments, God said to him, "Write thou these words: for after the tenor of these words I have made a covenant with thee and with Israel. And he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he did neither eat bread, nor drink water. And he wrote upon the tables the words of the covenant, the ten commandments" (Ex. 34:27-28). It is clear that God intended for His covenant at that time to be between Him and the Jewish people alone and not with any Gentile nation. When Paul wrote to the Christians at Ephesus he pointed out that the Gentile nations never had a covenant relationship with God during the time of the Law of Moses. He wrote, "Wherefore remember, that ye *being* in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands; That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world" (Eph. 2:11-12). Like Peter, Paul went on to tell them that God's covenant was now with those that obeyed the Law of Christ, "But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition *between us*;" (Eph. 2:13).

We will continue next time with our discussion concerning the Ten Commandments and whether we are bound by their authority today.