

An Appropriate Response

Description

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Exodus 20:1-17

While still in the wilderness, God called Moses to a meeting on Mount Sinai. God cited that His relationship with Israel was evident in His actions to bring the people out of slavery in Egypt. God desired that Israel be a “kingdom of priests and a holy nation” (19:6) through which the whole earth would be blessed.

The Ten Commandments came from within the established relationship between God and Israel. The proper response to God’s goodness was to live within the parameters outlined in the commandments. Keeping the law did not provide a way to get God’s attention, but served as an appropriate reaction to the relationship they already enjoyed. Since God had initiated a relationship with Israel, Israel had a duty to live in a way that God’s holiness would be evident to all.

Most of the Ten Commandments stand without explanation. Two commandments provide a glimpse of the benefit for those who fulfill the obligation. When we live within God’s design, we are immersed in the flow of God’s love and know the promised reality of God’s security and blessing.

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