

Sermon Handout
“Love the Lord thy God”
Exodus 20:1-17

- I.** The meaning of the Ten Words
Setting forth true good, true righteousness
- A.** At the beginning – summarized by Heidelberg Q6
 - B.** But then came the fall – summarized by WSC Q17
Gen 6:5; Rom 5:12; Isa 59:1-2
 - C.** Redemption in Christ – Isa 53:6; Eph 4:20-24
In Christ we are restored to a position of true holiness
 - D.** Why then must we still do good? (Heidelberg Q86)
 - 1. To show our gratitude to God
 - 2. So he may be praised through us
 - 3. So we may be assured of our faith by its fruits
 - 4. So our neighbors may be won to Christ
- Rom 6:13; 12:1-2; I Cor 6:19-20; Gal 5:22-26;
Mt 5:14-16; Rom 14:17-18
- II.** Turretin’s Rule #2 (of 4) “Observation of the Law”
- A.** Principle: “true and sincere . . .” I Tim 1:5
 - B.** Parts: “that it may be universal . . . with regard to all” Jas 2:10-12
 - C.** Degrees: “that it may be intense . . . not adding to it” Rev 22:18-19
 - D.** Duration: “perpetual and constant, from beginning to end”
Rev 2:25-29 (*cf.* Mt 10:22)
- III.** Summary of the Law in two commandments (WSC Q42)
- A.** Jesus’ words Mt 22:36-40 (*see* Dt 6:5; Lev 19:18)
 - B.** Loving God = keeping his commandments I Jn 5:3; Dt 11:1
 - C.** Loving men = keeping the Second Table Rom 13:8-1
- IV.** The key to understanding the commandments
- A.** They speak to attitudes, not merely actions
 - B.** Pharisaical strictures are insufficient
Mt 5:20-48 (*cf.* Mic 6:8; Jas 1:27)
 - C.** Learn the meaning of “mercy, not sacrifice” Mt 9:10-13
See I Sam 15:22; Hos 6:6; Ps 51:16-17
 - D.** The unity of the two great commandments I Jn 4:12, 20-21
The two cannot be separated without eternal consequences
cf. Heb 12:14