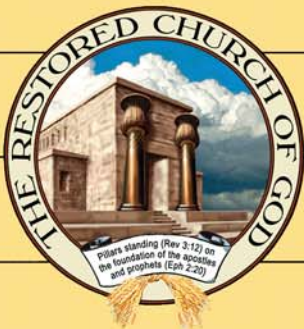


THE RESTORED CHURCH OF GOD

# CHILDREN'S BIBLE LESSONS



Israel Receives the Ten Commandments



LEVEL 2  
LESSON 9

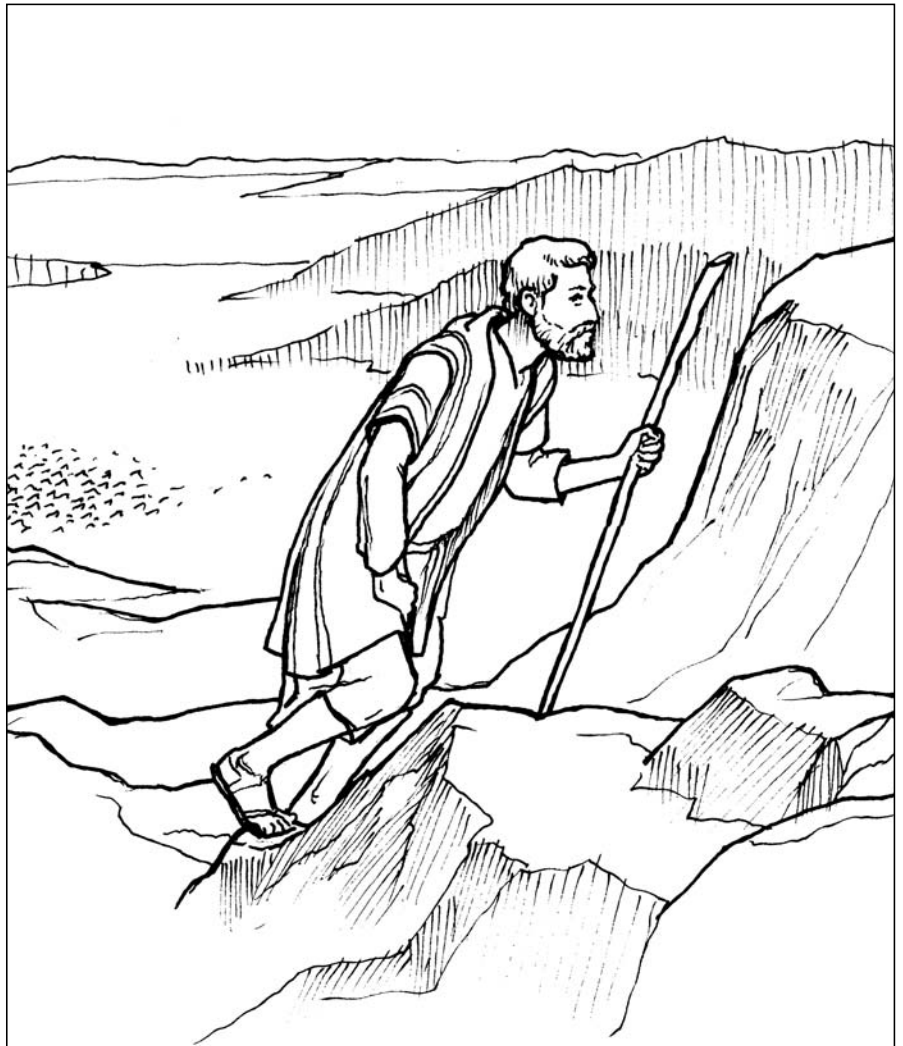
# Israel Receives the Ten Commandments

**A**fter leaving Rephidim, the Israelites arrived at the Wilderness of Sinai and camped before the mountain. Moses climbed Mt. Sinai to receive instructions from God.

“If the Israelites obey Me,” God said, “they will be My special people.” God wanted Israel to set a good example so other nations on earth would see that obeying God brings blessings.

Moses went down the mountain to tell the Israelites what God had spoken. “We will do what God has said,” they answered. So Moses returned to the mountain to give God their answer and receive more instructions.

“I will come to you in a thick cloud,” God said. “Tell the Israelites to bathe and wash their clothes for I will come down upon Mt. Sinai on the third day. When

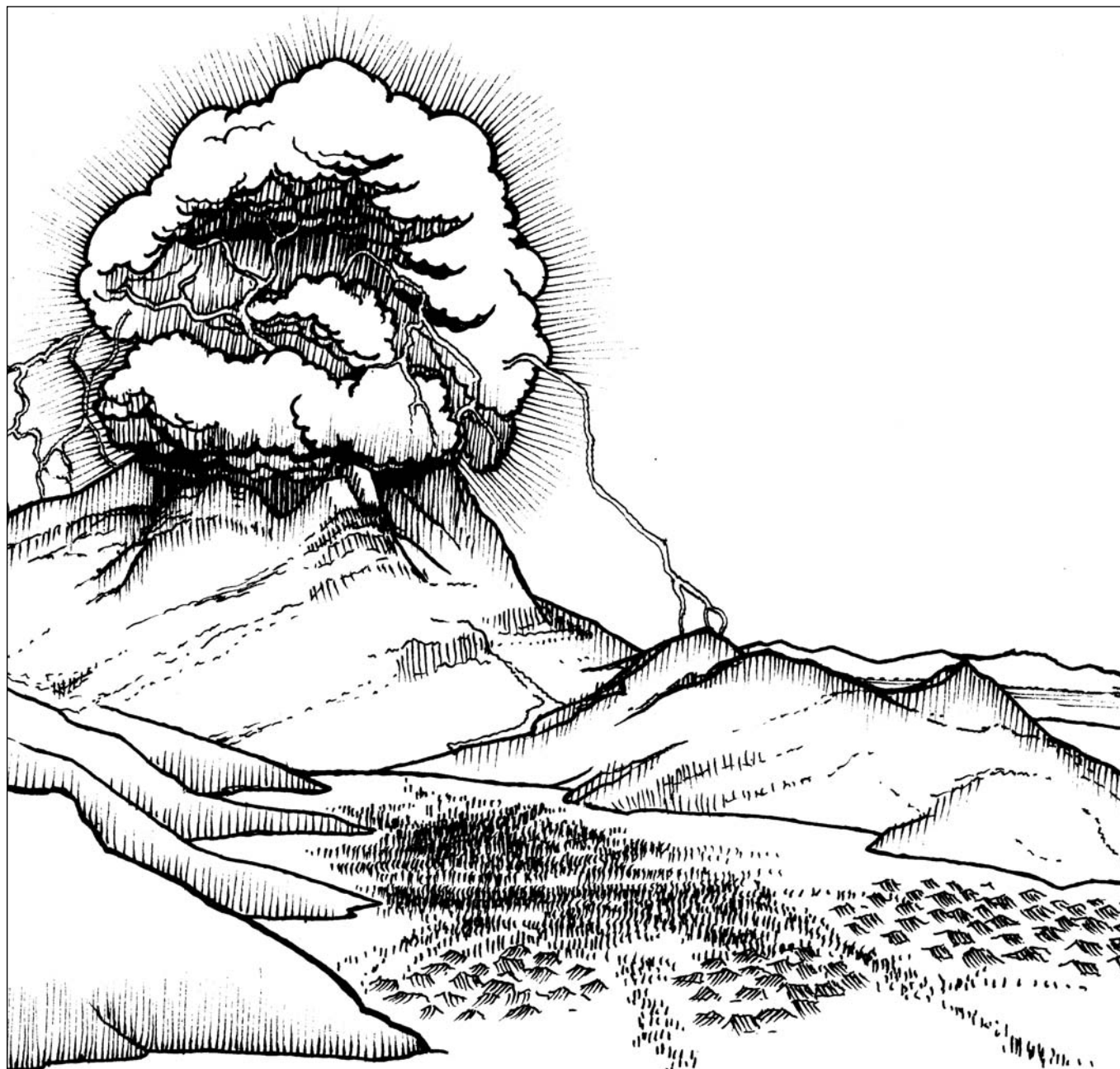




they hear the trumpet blast, they are to come closer to the mountain. But beware of touching the mountain because any person or animal that does will be put to death.” Moses returned to the people and told them what God had said.

In the morning on the third day, the Israelites saw a spectacular

sight! Mt. Sinai was covered in a thick cloud of smoke and fire. The mountain was like a trembling furnace with smoke rolling upward! The Israelites shuddered at the booming thunder as lightning filled the sky. When the trumpet blasted long and loud, God arrived on top of the moun-



tain. This event happened on the day we now call the Feast of Pentecost.

After Moses again warned the people that they were not to set foot on the mountain, God spoke the Ten Commandments. This God-Being was later born as Jesus Christ about 1,500 years later.

## The Ten Commandments

The first four commandments show us how to love God. "I am the Lord your God who brought you out of slavery in Egypt," God thundered. "You shall have no other gods but Me.



“You shall not bow down to worship images of things in heaven, earth or the sea. I am a jealous God and punish those who hate Me, but am merciful to those who love Me and obey My commandments.

“You shall not take My name in vain,” God continued. God punishes those who are not careful and respectful when they use His name.

“Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. You shall work on the other six days, but the seventh day is My Sabbath, which I have blessed. In six days I made the heavens, earth and sea and rested on the seventh day.” Make a list of activities that are acceptable to do on the Sabbath and activities that are more appropriate for the other six days of the week.

The next six commandments show us how to love other people. “Honor and respect your father and mother so that you will live a long life.” On a separate sheet of paper, write out Ephesians 6:1-3. Do you obey your parents the first time they speak?

“You shall not murder.” God ordered. You should not even hate other people.

“You shall not commit adultery.” Husbands must have only one wife, and wives must have only one husband. In addition, husbands and wives must be faithful to one another. This also means that you must show respect to others in how you behave and dress.

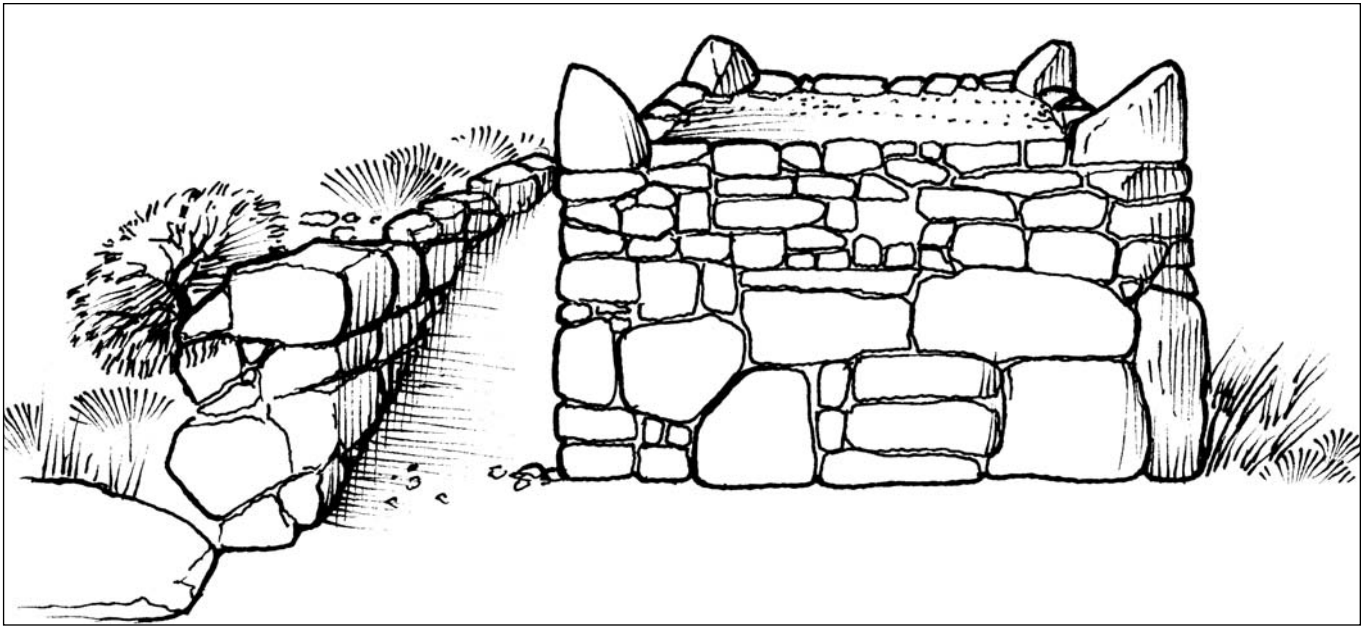
“You shall not steal.” Taking something that does not belong to you is stealing.

“You shall not lie.” Sometimes it is hard to tell the truth, but one lie usually leads to more lies and problems.

“You shall not covet anything that is your neighbor’s,” God concluded. To covet means to want something in a wrong way that does not belong to you. For example, you should be happy for your friends when they receive a new toy or game, and be content with what you already have.

The Israelites shook and backed away from the mountain when they saw and heard this incredible display. “You speak with us, Moses,” the people said,





“but do not let God speak with us, in case we die.”

So Moses walked into the thick cloud to receive more instructions from God, but the people returned to their activities.

God then gave rules, called judgments, which describe the Ten Commandments in more detail. The judgments concern things such as how to treat strangers, widows and orphans; how to deal with sorcerers, fierce animals and disrespectful children; and how to observe the Holy Days.

Moses walked back to the camp and spoke God’s words to the Israelites. They agreed to obey God, saying, “All that God has said we will do!”

The next day, early in the morning, Moses built an altar at the foot of the mountain. He also built twelve pillars, one for each of the twelve tribes of Israel. He sprinkled the altar with blood from the sacrificed animals, and took the Book of the Covenant in which he had written God’s words and read it to the Israelites. Afterward, the Israelites answered, saying, “We will do all that God has said and be obedient!” Moses sprinkled more of the blood on the Israelites to make the covenant (agreement) official.

## **Israel Disobeys**

God told Moses to climb Mt. Sinai to receive tablets of stone on

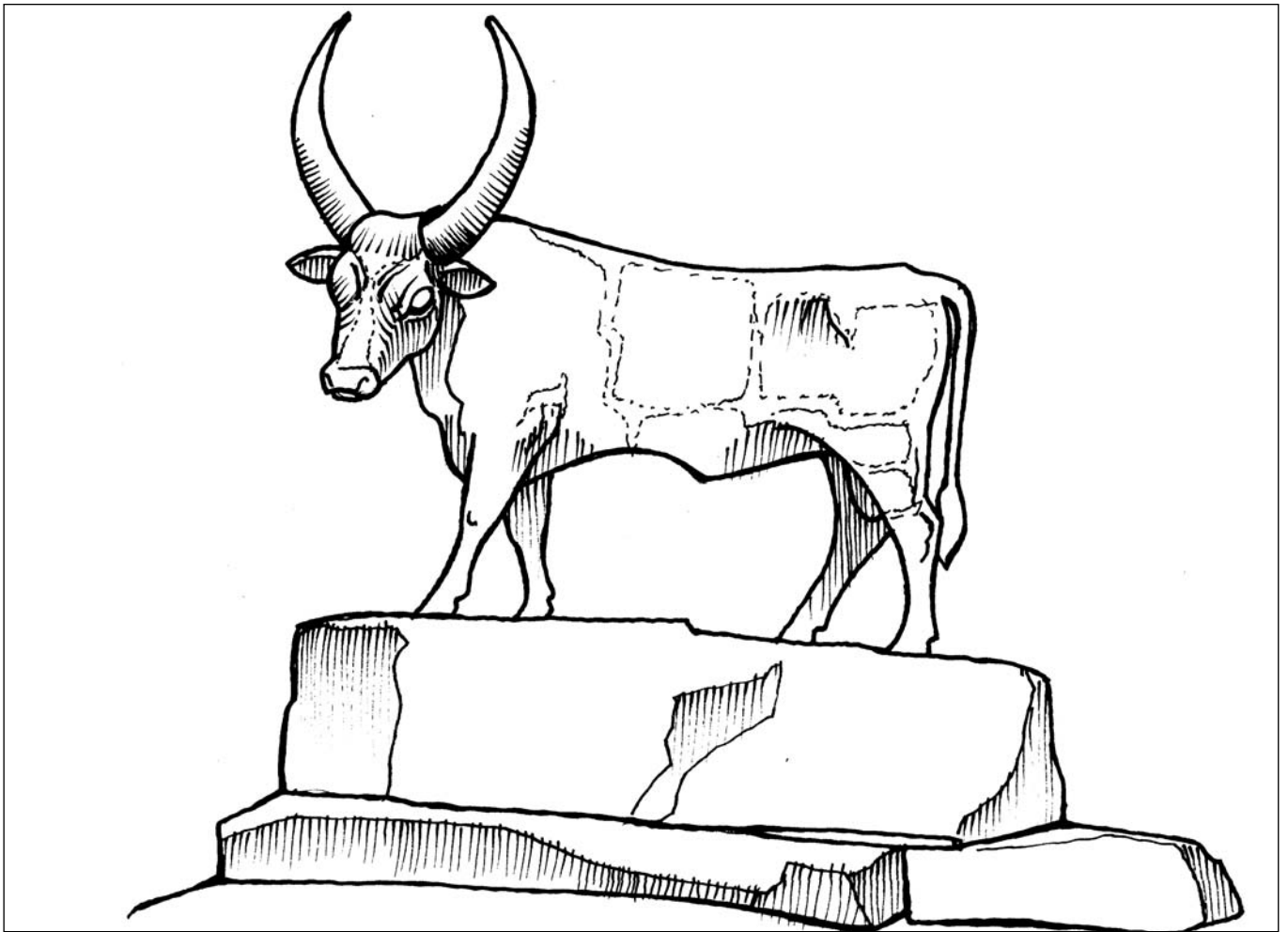
which He had written the Law and Commandments. Moses took Joshua, his assistant, with him and put Aaron and Hur in command of the Israelites.

Moses and Joshua waited in a thick cloud for six days. On the seventh day, God called Moses to go higher into the mountain while Joshua waited behind. For 40 days, God instructed Moses on things such as how to build the Holy Tabernacle (a large tent where God would be with the Israelites on their way to Canaan);

how Aaron and his sons were to perform their priesthood duties; and how the Sabbath was to be a sign between God and the children of Israel forever.

When Moses did not soon return to the camp as the Israelites had expected, they began to worry. They thought he might never come back. Even though they had seen tremendous miracles, such as the plagues in Egypt, the dividing of the Red Sea and manna, they began to doubt God. They told



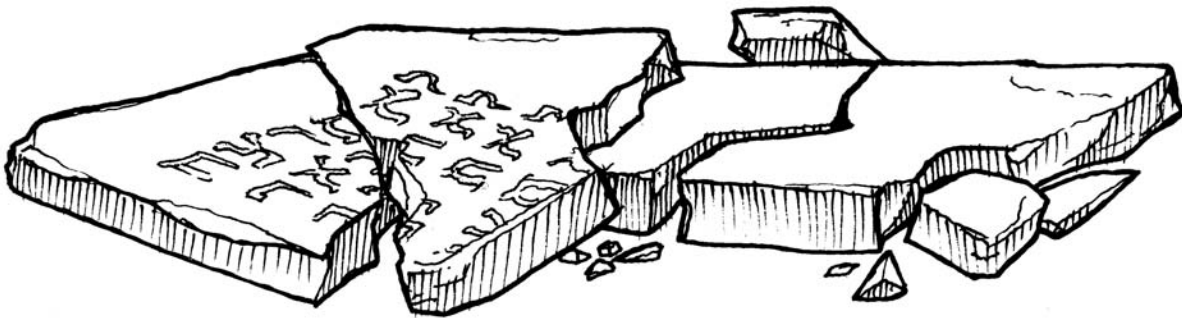


Aaron they wanted a god they could see.

So Aaron melted gold earrings that the people brought to him and made a golden calf. Seeing it, the Israelites cried, “This is the god who brought us out of Egypt!”

Aaron built an altar in front of the calf and announced, “Tomorrow we will honor God with a feast!”

Early the next day, they sacrificed animals, ate, drank and behaved very improperly. God saw this, of course, and com-





manded Moses to return to the camp. “How quickly they have disobeyed Me!” God said. “These people are stubborn. I will destroy them and make a great nation of you.”

Moses pleaded with God, saying, “The Egyptians will say that You brought the Israelites out of Egypt to kill them in the mountains. Please remember Your promise to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and do not harm this people.”

God heard Moses and decided not to destroy the Israelites. So Moses took the two tablets of stone on which God had written the Ten Commandments and went down the mountain.

When he saw the Israelites dancing



indecently by the calf, Moses became so angry that he threw the tablets to the ground, shattering them in pieces! He then melted the golden calf in fire and ground it into powder. To help the Israelites remember their sin, Moses scattered the powder in their drinking water. Since the tribe of Levi did not worship the calf, God used them to punish the Israelites.

Moses returned to the mountain to ask God to forgive Israel. God in His mercy said He would continue to lead His people to the land of Canaan.

### **Moses Sees God**

Moses asked God if he could see Him. God explained that His glory was so bright that Moses



would die if he saw His face. However, God would permit him to see His back. He instructed Moses to cut two tablets of stone like the ones he had broken and bring them up the mountain.

Early the next morning, Moses climbed Mt. Sinai and stood in a cave while God passed by. Moses was almost blinded by just briefly seeing God's back!

"I am merciful, gracious, long-suffering, and abounding in goodness and truth," God proclaimed. Moses quickly bowed his head toward the ground and worshiped God.

God renewed His covenant with Israel and again wrote the Ten Commandments on tablets of stone.

### **Moses' Face Shines**

Moses spent 40 days and 40 nights on the mountain with God. During this time, he fasted, meaning he did not eat or drink.

When Moses returned to the camp, Aaron and all the children of Israel were afraid to come near him because his face glowed! Moses was unaware of this earlier. Out of consideration for others, he

placed a veil over his face. He taught the Israelites all that God commanded him.

In the next Lesson, we will learn about the building of the Tabernacle and God's instructions about clean and unclean animals.

### **Test Your Memory:**

1) What is the Fourth Commandment? \_\_\_\_\_

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2) On which Holy Day did God give the Ten Commandments? \_\_\_\_

3) What is another word for "covenant"? \_\_\_\_\_

4) A classmate at school has a new eraser. You like it so much that you decide to take it and keep it in your desk. Which two Commandments have you broken? \_\_\_\_\_

5) What does "longsuffering" mean? \_\_\_\_\_

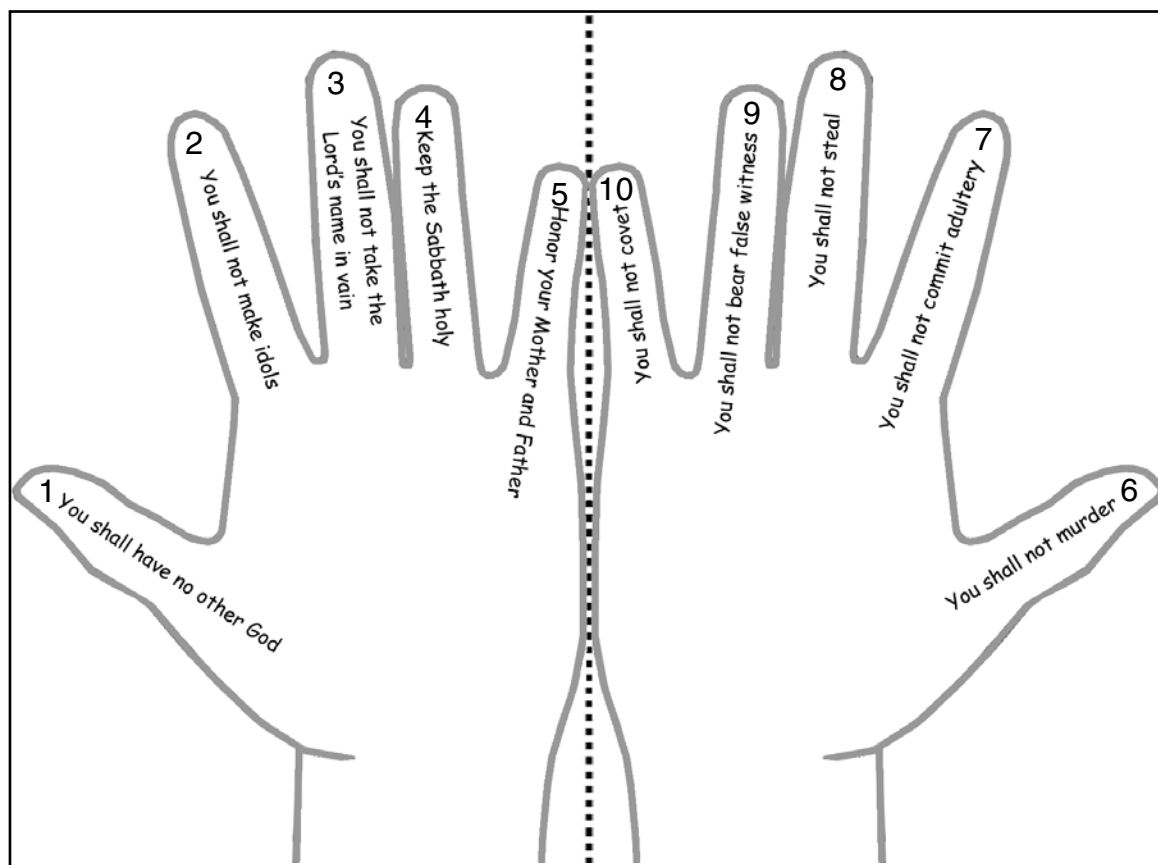
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## BIBLE MEMORY: Exodus 20:12

# The Ten Commandments

Fold a piece of paper in half. Put the heel of your hand along the fold and trace around your hand on one half of the paper. With the paper folded, cut out the outline of your hand. Then open the folded paper, and you will have two hands hinged in the middle. Now with the help of your parents, write a short form of each of the Ten Commandments on each of the corresponding numbered fingers.



Writing the short form of each of God's laws in your "hand-book" will help you remember them. Each time you see your own hands, you will think of God's laws.