

# Chapter 5

## The Law and the Ten Commandments



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### Why Did God Invent the Law?

God revealed His will to mankind so that we could continue to seek a deeper relationship with Him by giving mankind ten basic commandments by which to live. This began a process that culminated in a complete image of Himself presented as a gift to all of humanity. God's Son, Jesus of Nazareth, the Messiah/Christ came as a natural human being Who was born and lived only to demonstrate the perfect model of a person Who only followed God's will. Jesus also even died so that those of us who could not duplicate His role model 100% of the time could believe in and accept Him as a ransom to get us to God. We will discuss the relevance of His life and death in more detail later.

Mankind's separation from God and its consequences still are expanding even today, centuries later. God still loved His creation even after they in effect abandoned Him by listening to and following directions of behavior from a hostile source. When they turned away He seemingly had to abandon them, although in truth He never left them. In order to restore our once intimate relationship He does not need to change or be changed, we do.

*"Until the Law sin was in the world, but sin is not calculated when there is no Law." (Romans 5:13)*

*"My Covenant I will not break; nor, alter the Word that has gone forth from My lips once I have sworn by My holiness...." (Psalm 89:34-35)*

Once the first man and woman completely opposed God's will and commands for

their well-being, they became like a leavening agent to Him and the Garden of Eden--an opposing influence that would expand, eventually mutating everything it came into contact with to be like itself, somewhat if not totally, imperfect and corrupted. Immediately after God knew what had transpired to kidnap them away from His perfect influence, God devised a plan to reclaim and restore His creation. However, it required time, and endless patience, to insinuate Himself into this world again in order to be able to set-up and achieve His strategy--the birth, life, and death of His Own Son as a substitute for the damage that only one choice opposing Him instigated.

As stated previously, at one point in history God even was considering destroying mankind, until He found one righteous man, Noah. (Genesis 5:5-9, 12) Subsequently, God gave mankind a set of regulations to follow in the meantime, a set of commands (the Law) that demonstrated His perfect desires for their behavior. If they indeed followed its requirements they would receive blessings in their lives. Whenever they either were ignorant of or deliberately chose to ignore His rules for life, the results would be disastrous, culminating in the curses of the Law. As Satan had told the woman in the Garden, they now knew both good and evil, and had the freedom to make choices between the two.

### **The Introduction of God's Law to Mankind: The Ten Commandments**

*"God spoke all these words saying, 'I am the Lord your God....*

- (1) You shall have no other gods but Me.*
- (2) You shall not make for yourself a carved image--any likeness of anything that is in Heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the waters under the earth. You shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For, I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the sins of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing mercy to thousands to those who love Me and keep My commandments.*
- (3) You shall not take the Name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes His Name in vain.*
- (4) Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God. In it you shall do no work.... In six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore, the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and sanctified it.*
- (5) Honor your father and your mother that your days may be long upon the land.*
- (6) You shall not murder.*
- (7) You shall not commit adultery.*
- (8) You shall not steal.*
- (9) You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*
- (10) You shall not covet your neighbor's house, you shall not covet your neighbor's wife,... nor anything that is your neighbor's." (Exodus 20:1-26)*

The very first commandment that God the Father told people was to acknowledge and establish was that He was the only true God. This is significant because if the Adams had adhered to this command they never would have given heed to anyone that contradicted Him, no matter what the circumstances. Thus, they would have ignored the voice that tempted them. Thus, they never would have sinned, and never fallen into the clutches of a being that was opposed to their welfare. Jesus taught that loving God with all your being, as well as loving others the same way, were the two most important directions that God ever gave mankind. For, in doing these things the rest would fall into place naturally and we never would oppose the will of the Godly Trinity.

*"Then one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question testing Him and saying, 'Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?'*

*Jesus said to Him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment and the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.'"*  
(Matthew 22:35-40)

God's second instruction would insure the people's support of the first. It gives more detail of what God means by recognizing only Himself as God. Yielding to anyone or anything other than Him and His will is nothing more than following a false idol, and to worship that ultimately will lead nowhere but devastation. Although it may seem for awhile that pursuing the counterfeit god will prove to be dependable, doing so will be a complete waste of time and energy. Since the person or image really will deny the true God in some aspect, following it will only prove harmful. The genuine God is a vigilant God and knows already that doing anything but obeying Him will lead only to ruin, even if the decline takes years or generations to be evident. His Son taught that if people would be faithful to observe just these two commandments, they would conform to the rest of them, and the entire Law.

The third commandment is never to use the Name of the Lord arrogantly, unjustly, or untruthfully, for He has set His Name above everything. He swore an oath to Abraham using it, and therefore Himself, as the collateral to guarantee His promises to mankind. When a person says His Name thoughtlessly, to condemn another person or situation, it is like calling God a liar.

*"I say to you do not swear at all, neither by Heaven for it is God's throne, nor by the earth for it is His footstool, nor by Jerusalem for it is the city of the great King. Nor shall you swear by your head because you cannot make one hair white or black. But, let your 'Yes' be 'Yes' and your 'No' be 'No' for whatever is more than these is evil."* (Matthew 5:34-37)

*"No man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil full of poison. With it we bless our God and Father and with it we curse men who have been made in the image of God. Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so. Does a spring send fresh water*

*and bitter from the same opening? Can a fig tree, my brethren, bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Thus, no spring yields both salt water and fresh."*  
(James 3:8-12)

God's Son taught that people's words reflected their innermost thoughts and desires. Their speech always would illustrate their most prevalent reactions to and beliefs about other people and surroundings, so it was vital to discipline and guard it. Every individual will be held accountable for his or her personal utterances when they are before God, and to take His Name in vain is the culmination of foolish, sloppy and immature behavior.

*"Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or else make the tree bad and its fruit bad. For, a tree is known by its fruit.... Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. A good man, out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things and an evil man out of the evil treasures brings forth evil things. But, I say to you that for every idle word men may speak they will give account of it in the Day of Judgment. For, by your words you will be justified and by your words you will be condemned."* (Matthew 12:33)

Commemorating the day that God rested after creating the universe and everything in it, including us is to show Him honor, respect, and gratitude. The Lord Himself blessed and observed it; and, just as we should imitate His behavior in every other situation, we should do likewise with this special day. Additionally, God wants us to honor our human parents in the same manner that we regard Him, for they are supposed to be an exact earthly reflection of His nature. His Son did so with His Own earthly parents. Furthermore, killing a person is one of the most devastating and unalterable things that you can do to him or her. Whenever people take away the life of another, unless the act was in a reactive self-defense or absolutely necessary for the safety of other individuals, they are regarding the other individual as being somewhat inferior to themselves. This is the most extreme judgment that can be executed and God's Son expressly told us that His Father did not condone this behavior.

In addition, marriage is a covenant, a union of two, and just two, people. In God's eyes that bond and agreement never should be broken. When people commit adultery they not only are cheating on their partner, they are thumbing their nose at God Himself; for, He was the One Who sanctified their commitment to each other. Exactly like all of God's other instructions for mankind, adultery is not something to be taken lightly. And, just like any other rebellion against His desires, it not only will further the gap between the spouses, it will severely affect the adulterer's relationship with God. If the people involved, for any reason, want to draw near to Him and restore their connection, they will have repented of the action and persistently seek to renew their commitment both with Him and their partner.

With regard to stealing, people do it for two reasons: lack or envy. God can take care of our burdens and He does not want us to satisfy any of our selfish lusts. Attempting to do either by ourselves is not to have sufficient faith that He cares about our needs, whether physical or emotional. Trying to attain even the most basic necessities without Him is to sin against His will for our best interests. Craving what we

do not require will lead to apathy towards God.

*"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal. But, lay up for yourselves treasures in Heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For, where your treasure is, there your heart will be also....*

*Therefore, I say to you, do not worry about your life: what you will eat or what you will drink. Nor, about your body: what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air. They neither sow, nor reap, nor gather into barns yet your Heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of much more value than they? Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?*

*So why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow. They neither toil nor spin and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not dressed like one of these. Now, if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?*

*Therefore, do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink? or 'What shall we wear?' For, after all these things the Gentiles seek. For, your Heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But, seek first His Kingdom and His righteousness and all these things will be added to you. Therefore, do not worry about tomorrow for tomorrow will worry about its own. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble." (Matthew 6:19-21, 25-34)*

*"Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses." (Luke 12:15)*

*"An honest heart is life to the body, but envy is rottenness to the bones."* (Proverbs 14:30)

Bearing a false witness against your neighbor means falsifying any testimony about anyone at all, not matter how trivial or insignificant the deception seems to be. This self-centered and judgmental speech is quite destructive for both parties. It will cause pain to the people about whom the lie is told, and it will cause a rift between the speaker and God.

*"These six things the Lord hates... a lying tongue,... a false witness who spreads lies." (Proverbs 6:16a-17b, 19a)*

*"Who is my neighbor?"*

*Then Jesus answered and said, 'A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jerico and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded him, and departed leaving him half dead. Now, by chance a certain priest came down that road. And, when he saw him he passed by on the other side. Likewise, a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and*

*passed by on the other side.*

*'But, a certain Samaritan as he journeyed came where he was. And, when he saw him he had compassion. So, he went to him and bandaged his wounds pouring on oil and wine. And, he set him on his own animal, brought him to inn and took care of him. On the next day when he departed, he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper and said to him, "Take care of him; and, whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you'*

*'So, which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?'*

*And (the lawyer) said, "He who showed mercy on him."*

*Then Jesus said, Go and do likewise." (Luke 10:29b-37)*

Part of God's last commandment is covered under #8, "Do not steal." However, a person does not necessarily have to pilfer an object in order to covet it. We are able to be jealous of what a person possesses without necessarily robbing them of it. All we have to do is let our thoughts be more worldly than Godly and the ideas will foster as a natural consequence. As well, what we are envious of may not be tangible. It could be fame, status, a calling, intelligence, appearance, personality, maturity, or even youth. What matters most to God is our response, not the stimulus. Even the most intimate of God's Son's Own apostles was not immune to wanting to have exactly what someone else did and Jesus told him that he was looking at the wrong model to follow. Peter only should have been considering his own relationship with the Lord in this situation, not another's.

*"(Jesus) aid to Peter, " Follow Me.'*

*Then Peter, turning around saw the disciple (following them) ... said, 'But, Lord, what about this man?'*

*Jesus said to (Peter), 'If I will that he remain till I come (again) what is that to you? You follow Me!" (John 21:19b-22)*

God presented humanity with ten fundamental commandments to keep that would insure people's commitment to Him. As a result of maintaining them they never would violate their covenant with Him, and He would have access to everything that affected their lives. By the way, Jesus never said that the above man following Peter and Him would live a very, very long time. He only said that no matter what He said to or about another individual, Peter should not regard it with envy and be jealous, for he had to follow Jesus, not what another person had or did.

### **God Gave His Commands Written on Stone Tablets**

*"(God) said to Moses, 'Come up to the Lord, you and Aaron, Nahab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, and worship from afar. And, Moses alone shall come near the Lord, but they shall not come near nor shall the people come up with him.'*

*So Moses came and told the people all the words of the Lord and all the judgments and all the people answered with one voice and said, 'All the*

*words which the Lord has said we will do.'*

*And, Moses wrote all the words of the Lord.*

*And, he rose early in the morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and twelve pillars according to the twelve tribes of Israel. Then, he sent young men of the children of Israel who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed peace offerings of oxen to the Lord. And Moses took half the blood and put it in basins and half the blood he sprinkled on the altar. Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read in the hearing of the people.*

*And they said, 'All that the Lord has said we will do, and be obedient.'*

*And Moses took the blood and sprinkled it on the people and said, 'This is the blood of the Covenant which the Lord has made with you, according to all these words.'*

*Then Moses went up, also Aaron, Nahab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, and they saw the God of Israel and there was under His feet as if it were a paved work of sapphire stone, and it was like the very heavens in its clarity. But, on the nobles of the children of Israel He did not lay His hand. So, they saw God and they ate and drank.*

*Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Come up to Me on the mountain and be there; and, I will give you tablets of stone, and the Law and commandments which I have written and you may teach them.'*

*So, Moses arose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up to the mountain of God.*

*And he said to the elders, 'Wait here for us until we come back for you. Indeed, Aaron and Hur are with you. If any man has difficulty, let him go to them.'*

*And Moses went up into the mountain, and a cloud covered the mountain. Now the glory of the Lord rested on Mount Sinai and the cloud covered it six days. And, on the seventh day He called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud.*

*The sight of the glory of the Lord was like a consuming fire on the top of the mountain in the eyes of the children of Israel.*

*So, Moses went into the midst of the cloud and went up into the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.*

*Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 'Speak to the children of Israel that they bring me an offering. From everyone who gives it willingly with his heart you shall take My offering.... And, let them make Me a sanctuary that I may dwell among them.' (Exodus 24:1-18--25:1-2, 8)*

Then the Lord told Moses specifically how to construct everything, including an ark to hold His Testimony--the Law--for the Israelites to read and remember so that they could follow His commandments.

### **Who Lived under the Jurisdiction of God's Law and What Were The Consequences of Breaking It?**

*"Behold, I set before you today a blessing and a curse: the blessing if you*

*obey the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you today and the curse if you do not obey the commandments of the Lord your God, but turn aside from the way which I command you today to go after other gods...." (Deuteronomy 11:26-28)*

*"Assuredly I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot (the smallest letter) or one tittle (the smallest stroke in a Hebrew letter) will by no means pass from the Law till all is fulfilled. Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches men so shall be called least in the Kingdom of Heaven. But, whoever does and teaches them, he shall be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven. For, I say to you that unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the Kingdom of Heaven." (Matthew 5:18-20)*

*"Even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; being filled with all: (1) unrighteousness, (2) sexual immorality, (3) wickedness, (4) greed, (5) malice, (6) full of envy, (7) murder, (8) strife, (9) deceit, (10) evil-mindedness, (11) they are whisperers, (12) backbiters, (13) haters of God, (14) violent, (15) proud, (16) boasters, (17) inventors of evil things, (18) disobedient to parents, (19) undiscerning, (20) untrustworthy, (21) unloving, (22) unforgiving, (23) unmerciful, who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of Death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them." (Romans 1:28-32) (See also II Timothy 3:1-4)*

God's Law will continue forever, even through the covenant with His Son, Jesus of Nazareth. In order to reach God every individual has two options: (a) life a perfect existence without ever rebelling against His will, or (b) accepting that this is impossible for a normal human being and accept His Son's sacrifice of His Own life in order to ransom your soul out from under Satan's control. There are no other options. We have to be perfect in God's judgment, not just think that we are by our own subjective reasoning.

Every person will receive the rewards of the entire behavior that he or she has sown. (*Galatians 6:9*) We live more under God's or His enemy's influence depending on our choices of what we will accept or resist when it comes our way: life or death, truth or deception, health or disease, prosperity or poverty, clarity or confusion, etc. Most of our situations were determined by the decisions of our ancestors so many people are born already sick and/or poor. However, God has given us the freewill either to accept and continue, or reject and break away from the cycles that have developed in our individual families.

We have to persevere in whatever we choose to embrace, however. Severing the bonds of our old habits and ties to the past may take years, maybe even longer than our individual lifetimes. Nevertheless, God is timeless and so are His promises. When we remain faithful to them, one day our faith will yield satisfactory results.

*"All the promises of God in (Jesus) are 'Yes' and in Him 'Amen', to the glory of God through us." (II Corinthians 1:20)*

*"My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways', says the Lord. 'For, as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts. For, as the rain comes down and the snow from heaven and do not return there but water the earth and make it bring forth and bud that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My Word be that goes forth from My mouth. It shall not return to Me void, but, It shall accomplish what I please and It shall prosper in the thing for which I sent It." (Isaiah 55:8-9)*

If people truly do not want to acknowledge and accept God and His ways, He will allow them to follow whichever course they want for their lives, even if that means their ultimate destruction. He gave us the freewill to choose our destinies and will not deviate from or ever break His pledges. However, He constantly reminds people of the fruits of being deceived, whether they ever recognize it or not. He promised.

### **The Blessings of Keeping the Law**

*"It shall come to pass that if you diligently obey the voice of the Lord your God to observe carefully all His commandments (Hebrews 11:6).... That the Lord your God will set you high above the nations of the earth. And, all these blessings shall come upon you, and overtake you, because you obey the voice of the Lord your God.*

*Blessed shall you be in the city and blessed in the country.*

*Blessed shall be the fruit of your body, and the produce of your ground and the increase of your herds and the offspring of your flocks.*

*Blessed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl.*

*Blessed shall you be when you come in and blessed shall you be when you go out.*

*The Lord will cause your enemies who rise against to be defeated before your face; they shall come out against you one way and flee before you seven ways.*

*The Lord will command the blessings on you in your storehouses and in all which you put your hand,....*

*The Lord will establish you as a holy people unto Himself, just as He has sworn to you if you keep the commandments of the Lord your God and walk in His ways....*

*And, the Lord will give you plenty of goods--in the fruit of your body, in the increase of your livestock, and in the produce of your ground in the land which the Lord swore to your fathers to give you.*

*The Lord will open to you His good treasure: the heavens to give the rain to your land in its season and to bless all the work of your hand. You shall lend to many nations but you shall not borrow. And, and the Lord will make you the head and not the tail. You shall be above only and not be beneath if you*

*heed the commandments of the Lord, your God, which I command you today and are careful to observe them. So, you shall not turn aside from any of the words that I command you this day to the right or to the left (Joshua 1:7), to go after any other gods to serve them" (Deuteronomy 28:1-14)*

God promises to provide for everything that we could ever need: food, a home, safety and peace wherever we go, good weather, and freedom, all of which will be combined to ensure our happiness. However, His bounty is even more generous than satisfying only our basic necessities. Not only will we only have whatever we require, God also vows that He will multiply everything so that we have an abundance to share with anyone who is lacking any of these things. In this way, not only will He demonstrate Himself to believers, but they, in turn will witness of Him to others so that they can become a part of His Kingdom, too.

*"You are the salt of the earth. But, if the salt loses its flavor how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and be trampled underfoot by men. You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand and it gives light to the house. Let your light shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in Heaven."* (Matthew 5:13-16) (See also John 12:9)

### **The Inevitable Cursings of Breaking the Law**

*"Cursed is the man who does not obey the words of this Covenant.... Hear the words of this Covenant and do them.... Obey My voice. Yet, they did not obey or incline their ear, but everyone followed the dictates of his (own) evil heart. Therefore, I will bring on them the words of this covenant which I commanded them to do, but which they have not done.... (They) refused to hear My words and they have gone back to other gods to serve them.... Therefore, says the Lord, 'I will surely bring calamity on them which they will not be able to escape and though they cry out to Me I will not listen to them."* (Jeremiah 11:1-11)

*"Cursed is the one who makes a carved or molded image--an abomination to the Lord--the works of the hands of the craftsman and sets it up in secret.*

*And all the people shall answer and say, 'Amen'.*

*Cursed is the one who treats his father or mother with contempt.*

*And all the people shall say, 'Amen'.*

*Cursed is the one who moves his neighbor's landmark.*

*And all the people shall say, 'Amen'.*

*Cursed is the one who makes the blind wander off the road.*

*And all the people shall say, 'Amen'*

*Cursed is the one who perverts the justice due to a stranger, the fatherless, and the widow.*

*And all the people shall say, 'Amen'.*

*Cursed is the one who lays with his father's wife because he has uncovered his father's bed.*

*And all the people shall say, 'Amen'.*

*Cursed is the one who lays with any kind of animal.*

*And all the people shall say, 'Amen'.*

*Cursed is the one who lays with his sister--the daughter of his father or the daughter of his mother.*

*And all the people shall say, 'Amen'.*

*Cursed is the one who lies with his mother-in-law.*

*And all the people shall say, 'Amen'.*

*Cursed is the one who attacks his neighbor secretly.*

*And all the people shall say, 'Amen'.*

*Cursed is the one who takes a bribe to slay an innocent person.*

*And all the people shall say, 'Amen'.*

*Cursed is the one who does not conform to all the words of this Law.*

*And all the people shall say, 'Amen'." (Deuteronomy 27:15-26)*

The Scriptures teach that the reason that any bad things happen to us is because we do what the Adams did--choose to deify a secondary source over God, that is, to honor someone or something more than our Creator. As we can see, the ensuing warnings about the rest of the inevitable sacrileges all involve consequences that include thinking of ourselves before we do the welfare of others. This is something that we also can read was an immediate outgrowth of Adam's mutiny against God when he started to try to rationalize his own behavior by blaming the woman, the serpent, and even God Himself for his own choices and reactions. The Bible instructs that this conduct which is what will keep us influenced by increasing evil not away from it, more disobedience, and eventual decay and death/Death.

We can commit actions that will dishonor or even harm ourselves, members of our own families, or other people--whom Jesus called our "neighbors". Whenever we do will let Satan gain entry into our lives in some way and begin to corrupt it. Additionally, the "blind" may be physical or spiritual. We can be blind literally, meaning that we cannot see with our natural eyes; or, we can be confused figuratively, not understanding certain knowledge.

*"It shall come to pass that if you do not obey the voice of the Lord your God to observe carefully all His commandments,,, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you:*

*Cursed shall you be in the city and cursed shall you be in the country.*

*Cursed shall be your basket and your kneading bowl.*

*Cursed shall be the fruit of your body and the produce of your land, the increase of your cattle, and the offspring of your flocks.*

*Cursed shall you be when you come in and when you go out.*

*The Lord will send on you cursing, confusion, and rebuke in all that you set your hand to do until you are destroyed, and until you perish quickly because of the wickedness of your doings in which you have forsaken Me.*

*The Lord will make the plague cling to you until He has consumed you from*

*the land....*

*The Lord will strike you with consumption, with fever, with inflammation, with severe burning fever, with the sword, with scorching, and with mildew; they shall persue you until you perish....*

*The Lord will change the rain of your land to powder and dust. From Heaven it will come down on you until you are destroyed.*

*The Lord will cause you to be defeated before your enemies, and you shall go out one way against them and flee seven ways before them; and, you shall become troublesome to all the kingdoms of the earth....*

*The Lord will strike you with the boils of Egypt, with tumors, with the scab, and with the itch from which you cannot be healed.*

*The Lord will strike you with madness and blindness and confusion of heart; and you shall grope at noonday as a blind man gropes in darkness.*

*You shall not prosper in your ways, you shall only be oppressed and plundered continually, and no one shall save you.*

*You shall betroth a wife and another man shall lie with her.*

*You shall build a house, but you shall not dwell in it.*

*You shall plant a vineyard but you shall not gather its grapes....*

*A nation whom you have not known will eat the fruit of your land and the produce of your labor, and you shall be oppressed and crushed continually so you shall be driven mad because of the sight that your eyes have met.*

*The Lord will strike you in the knees and in the legs with severe boils which cannot be healed, and from the sole of your feet to the top of your head....*

*The alien who is among you will rise higher and higher above you and you shall come down lower and lower. He shall lend to you, but you shall not lend to him. He shall be the head and you shall be the tail.*

*Moreover, all these curses shall come upon you, and persue you, and overtake you until you are destroyed because you did not obey the voice of the Lord your God, to keep His commandments and His statues which He Himself commanded you. And, they shall be upon you for a sign and a wonder and on your descendants forever because you did not serve the Lord your God with joy and gladness of heart for the abundance of everything.*

*Therefore, you shall serve your enemies whom the Lord will send against you, in hunger, in thirst, in nakedness, and in need of everything; and He will put a yoke of iron on your neck until He has destroyed you. The Lord will bring a nation against you from afar... a nation whose language you will not understand, a nation of fierce countenance which does not respect the elderly, nor show favor to the young....*

*The sensitive and very refined man among you will be hostile toward his brother, toward the wife of his bosom, and toward the rest of his children....*

*If you do not carefully observe all the words of this Law that are written in this Book, that you fear this glorious and awesome Name, THE LORD YOUR GOD, then the Lord will bring on you and your descendants, extraordinary plagues--great and prolonged plagues--and serious and prolonged sicknesses.... And, every sickness and every plague which is not written in this Book of the Law will the Lord bring on you until you are destroyed.*

*You shall be left few in number, whereas you were as the stars of heaven in multitude.... And it shall be that just as the Lord rejoiced over you to do you good and multiply you, so the Lord will rejoice over you to destroy you and bring you to nothing....*

*Then, the Lord will scatter you among all peoples from one end of the earth to the other and there you shall serve other gods.... And among those nations you will find no rest, nor shall the sole of your foot have a resting-place. But, there the Lord will give you a trembling heart, failing eyes, and anguish of soul. Your life shall hang in doubt before you. You shall fear day and night and have no assurance of life." (Deuteronomy 28:15-66)*

This list is not exhaustive but merely highlights those things that most likely are still affecting most of us nowadays. As a result from mankind breaking God's commands continually throughout our history, all over the globe, in every level of existence, both our environment and health have been severely affected. And, even though a person may be innocent of wrongdoing, such as a fetus yet unborn, people cannot escape the consequences of what the rest of humanity, over time, has done either purposefully or naively, to the world. We are seeing the "fruits" of what God warned about centuries ago. Only with His aid have we not yet destroyed everything on this planet entirely.

*"Cursed is the one who does not conform to all the words of this Law."*  
*(Deuteronomy 27:26)*

*Whoever shall keep the whole Law and yet stumble in one point, he is guilty of all." (James 2:10)*

*"A little leaven (eventually) leavens the whole lump." (Galatians 5:9)*

*"The curse of the Lord is on the house of the wicked, but He blesses the home of the just. Surely He scorns the scornful but gives grace to the humble. The wise shall inherit glory but shame shall be the legacy of fools."*  
*(Proverbs 3:33-35)*

*"The wages of sin is death/Death." (Romans 6:23a)*