



**FACE TO FACE WITH THE GOD
OF THE TEN COMMANDMENTS**

EXODUS 20: 1-3

Introduction

- The Old Testament books contain many laws that regulated both the religious and civil life of the Hebrews
- With the New Testament, majority of the civil laws and religious rituals were discarded at the Council in Jerusalem
- But the fundamentals principles of moral life were retained and reinforced

I. The Plan Of The Commandments

A. They start with the most important and obvious and go to the less important and less obvious.

1. The first four commandments defined duties towards God
2. The other five defines man duties towards other people.
3. The last commandment speaks of controlling one's thoughts and desires
 - The Commandments express moral duties
 - They are aimed at setting those boundaries which, when violated, can damage family and community life

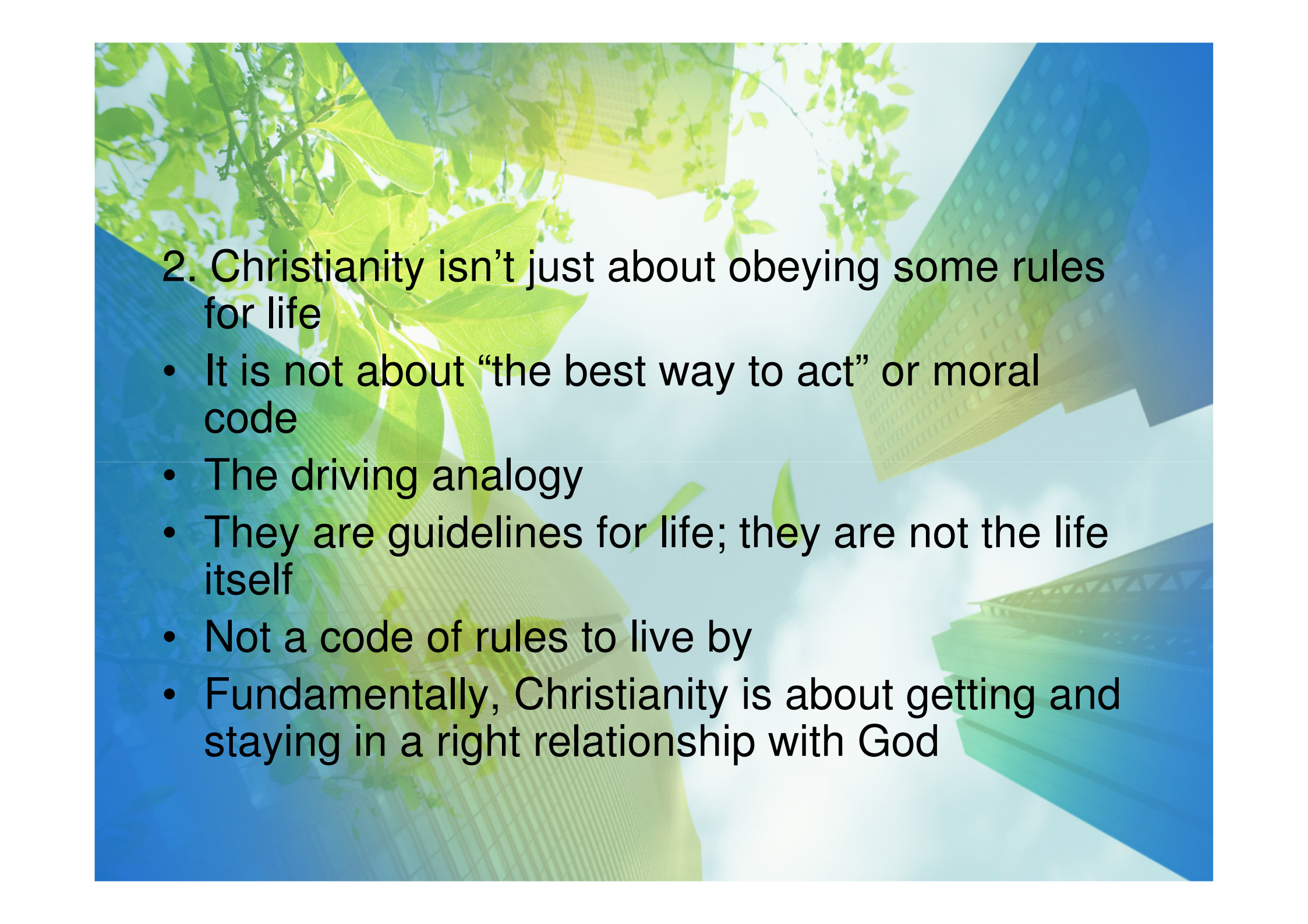
II. The First Commandment

- Exodus 20:1-3 – “I am the Lord your God who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. You shall have no other gods before Me.”
- This commandment, the Lord draws attention towards Himself; he lies at the heart of the commandment and holds them all in place

The background of the slide features a soft-focus image of green leaves and branches on the left side, set against a light blue sky. On the right side, there are several semi-transparent, blue and green geometric shapes, including a large triangle and a square, which appear to be part of a modern architectural design or a digital graphic.

A. Why is God first?

1. It reminds us that we cannot remove God from the commandments
 - These commandments and his name and character are stamped through them
 - As sensible as these commandments might be, they only really make sense when we see God as behind each of them
 - To understand these commandments, we cannot put God out of the picture

The background of the slide features a soft-focus image of green leaves in the upper left and several blue-tinted skyscrapers against a light sky. The text is overlaid on this background.

2. Christianity isn't just about obeying some rules for life

- It is not about “the best way to act” or moral code
- The driving analogy
- They are guidelines for life; they are not the life itself
- Not a code of rules to live by
- Fundamentally, Christianity is about getting and staying in a right relationship with God



B. Who is God?

1. The God they want him to be or the God as He is.
 - a. The God of Pleasure – like a drug, it requires more to get the same effect
 - b. The God of Possessions – the gift of grab dominates many lives. Money and things.
 - c. The God of Personal worth- feels that the world revolves around them and they must always be on top
 - d. The God of Plans and Projects – anything that occupies the mind and life ahead of God is an idol
 - Man can make a god out of anything

The background of the slide features a low-angle shot of several modern skyscrapers reaching towards a bright, clear sky. The image is semi-transparent, allowing a vibrant green color to be seen through it. In the foreground, there are several large, detailed green leaves, some of which are slightly out of focus, creating a sense of depth and a natural, fresh atmosphere. The overall color palette is dominated by blues, greens, and whites.

2. The God As He is.

- a. He is God, the maker of all things
- b. He is the Lord, the one who reveals Himself to humanity
- c. He is the King, the one who is our God
- d. He is the Redeemer, the one who saves his people



**a. He is God, the maker of all things -20:1
“and God spoke all these words.”**

- He is God who created and sustain the universe
- He is the maker of the cosmos, all living things and us
- Creations, nature, surroundings , seasons are His handiwork



b. He is God, who reveals Himself 20:2

“I am the Lord.”

- YHWH (Yahweh) a personal name of God
- Means the one who brings into being all that is.
- If God had not spoken, we couldn't know him
- His name “I AM” – allows Him to be found by us
- In OT, reveal himself through words, visions, actions and mysterious appearances
- In Jesus – a full revelation
- Through the Holy Spirit



c. He is God the King – 20:2 “Your God”

- This is a language of a king and his subjects
- A bond of agreement between Yahweh and the people of Israel. They are his people and he is their God
- He is king over humanity and over nations
- Jesus, the Messiah came as king of Israel
- His kingship is not earthly but eternal – the kingdom of God that will reign forever and ever



d. He is the One who saves his people –our Redeemer – 20:2

“who brought you out of Egypt out of the land of slavery.”

- Reminder that God has acted on their behalf
- Likewise, God is our redeemer, rescuer and deliverer
- God redeem Israel from Egypt
- God redeem us from hell

III. God And The Commandments

- If God is not in the picture, the commandments are only a set of rules
- Without divine authority, all human laws become conditional, unconvincing and subject to change
- With God as the main consideration, it becomes our foundation for our private and social life.
- He will be the main object of all our thoughts and endeavours and will do everything to please Him because we loved Him

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- How do I keep the Ten Commandments?

First Commandment – we need to recognize God

- For who he is and not what we want him to be
- For his concern for us
- Recognise his demands
- Recognise his desire for a full relationship with us




Second Commandment – idols

1. Are there things that have us in their grasp, such as money, sex or power?
2. Do we ever find ourselves controlled by desires we feel powerless to resist?
3. Do we have divided loyalties?
4. Does anything else claim number one spot in our life?

The background of the slide features a low-angle shot of a city skyline with several skyscrapers reaching towards a bright, clear sky. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent layer of vibrant green leaves and branches, creating a sense of nature and growth. The overall color palette is dominated by blues and greens, with a bright, airy feel.


Third Commandment – The Name of God

1. Do we live consistently? Do we swear?
2. Do we ever justify our idea by saying that God is behind them?
3. Do we bring honour to the name of God?

The background of the slide features a low-angle shot of several modern skyscrapers reaching towards a bright, clear sky. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter, and the silhouettes of vibrant green leaves are scattered across the scene, creating a sense of nature and growth amidst an urban environment.

Fourth Commandment – Sabbath – Day of Rest

1. Do we observe the Sabbath that God has instructed us to have?
2. Do we use the time wisely?
3. Is there anything we do with our time that we are ashamed of in front of God?

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Fifth Commandment – Honouring Our Parents

1. Does our family life, whatever shape that is, honour God?
2. Is there respect and gratitude, commitment and care?
3. Is some of the people we work with or mix with could see us in our home environment, would they be surprised by how we treat those closest to us?
4. Is God the head of the family?

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Sixth Commandment – Murder

1. Are there people who we refuse to forgive?
2. Are our relationships at work and at home, healthy and free from malice and resentment?
3. Are we prone to violence or harming another person in any way?



Seventh Commandment – Adultery

1. In our relationship with members of the opposite sex, is there ambiguity secrecy?
2. If we are married, are we faithful to our partner in all our actions? Thoughts and desires?
3. Is our sexuality something we feel God is glorified by?

The background of the slide is a composite image. On the left, there are vibrant green leaves from a tree, partially obscuring a blue sky. On the right, there are blue, semi-transparent architectural structures that resemble modern buildings or skyscrapers, also set against a blue sky. The overall color palette is dominated by greens and blues, creating a clean and professional aesthetic.

Eight Commandment – Stealing

1. Are there things that we have acquired through dishonest means?
2. Are all our dealings in order and above board?
3. Does our life speak of the honesty of God?
4. Do we put God first in our finances?



Ninth Commandment – False Testimony

1. Does that fact that God hears every word we say give us any cause to be ashamed?
2. Are we truth tellers? Could we say that the words that we use are always right?
3. Is there an area of life in which we feel we have God and his standards in the centre?



Tenth Commandment – Coveting

1. What is it that we aspire to?
2. Who sets our desires? Do we desire what God desires or are we getting caught up in chasing after the things of the world?
3. Do we trust him to provide all our need?

Conclusion

- None of us can keep the Ten Commandments
- Only Jesus did.
- His sacrifice paid the price for US
- 2 Corinthians 5:21
- In Jesus, a great exchange took place.
- He gets what we deserved and we get what we don't deserve: forgiveness, a new start, promise of eternal life with God forever!