

Lesson X.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS, I.

September 7, 1913

Exodus 20 : 1-11—Memory Verses, 1-11.

Golden Text—Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind.—Luke 10 : 27.



1 And God spake all these words, saying,
2 I *am* the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of E'gypt, out of the house of bondage.

3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

4 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of *any thing* that *is* in heaven above, or that *is* in the earth beneath, or that *is* in the water under the earth :

5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them : for I the Lord thy God *am* a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth *generation* of them that hate me ;

6 And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

7 Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain ; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

8 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work :

10 But the seventh day *is* the sabbath of the Lord thy God : *in it* thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that *is* within thy gates :

11 For *in* six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them *is*, and rested the seventh day : wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

THE LESSON RETOLD

When Moses had left the people at the foot of the mountain and gone up behind the dark cloud unto God, the Lord spoke to him there the laws which His people were always to keep if they were to be truly His people. These laws were the Ten Commandments. God began by reminding the people, that it was He who had brought them out of the land of Egypt where they had been slaves, and because He had done this, they were to love Him and obey all His laws.

The First Commandment was, "Thou shalt have no other gods before Me." The Israelites were not to worship the gods, such as the heathen worshiped, but were to worship and serve only the Lord God of Israel.

It means this to us in our day too, but it means also that we must love God more than anything else—our pleasures or possessions or friends—for if we love any thing or any one

more than God, then that is the idol that we have set up in His place to serve instead of Him.

The Second Commandment was, "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image." The heathen about Israel carved images out of gold and silver and wood and then fell down and prayed to them as gods. But God's people were not to do this. If they did so, He would punish them and their children after them, but He would show mercy and kindness to all who loved Him and kept His Commandments.

The Third Commandment was, "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain." Every one was to use God's holy name reverently, not carelessly or thoughtlessly, or God would be very angry.

The Fourth Commandment was, "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy." They were not to use the Sabbath day for their own