

**2. Our Duty to Man, v. 12-17.**

To whom is honor due, and why?

What says Paul about this command? (See Eph. 6. 2.)

What is the sixth commandment?

Whom does John declare to be a murderer? (See 1 John 3. 15.)

What is the seventh commandment?

What does the eighth commandment forbid?

What duty to man does the ninth commandment enjoin?

What will help us to keep this law? (See Rom. 13. 10.)

What are we forbidden to covet?

What words sum up the whole law? (GOLDEN TEXT.)

What conduct will show our obedience? (See Micah 6. 8.)

**Teachings of the Lesson.**

Where in this lesson are we taught—

1. Our sole rule of duty?
2. Four duties toward God?
3. The duty of love to man?

**QUESTIONS FOR YOUNGER SCHOLARS.**

Where did the Israelites start to go from Egypt?

Who was their leader? **Moses.**

Where did they encamp three months after crossing the Red Sea?

Who spoke to them there?

Through whom?

What did God say he would do?

What did Moses tell the people to do? [after?]

What rested on Mount Sinai the third morning?

Who was in the cloud?

What did the people see and hear?

Why did the mountain shake?

Where did the people stand?

Who went up into the mount?

What words did God speak?

What do the first four commandments tell us?

What do the others teach?

What do we find in the GOLDEN TEXT?

**Remember—**

Self cannot keep God's law.

The good self—God in us—can keep the law, which is love.

**EXPLANATORY AND PRACTICAL NOTES.**

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**General Statement.**

Nearly three months have passed since the people of God marched from the Land of Oppression over the emptied floor of the Red Sea. They have seen the water flow from the smitten rock in Rephidim (Exod. 17. 1-7). They have repelled the Amalekites and have wondered to see how fast their foes fall while Moses's hands were upraised in prayer (Exod. 17. 8-16). Over sandy stretches, through deep valleys, and under beetling crags they have trod their toilsome way, and now are encamped on a broad plain in front of Mount Sinai. The gray brow of the mountain is crowned with glory; lightnings flash, thunders roll, and the earth throbs and quivers at the approach of Israel's God. While the voice of the trumpet sounds long and loud and the hearts of the people sink with terror, Moses alone walks boldly up the steep sides of the mountain and receives the command that no foot of man or beast may draw near while the voice of the Almighty proclaims his law. The silence is broken by the voice of Jehovah proclaiming himself to be Israel's God, the God who has led them out of bondage, and who now renews the covenant made long ago with the fathers. He adopts them as his people, and proclaims one by one the Ten Commandments as the cardinal principles of law and conduct. These commandments are destined in future centuries to be adopted as the foundation for all human government. The Son of man gave as an authoritative condensation of them the words of the Golden Text.

**Verses 1, 2. God spake.** The Ten Commandments were spoken audibly from the summit of Mount Sinai, which was probably Ras Sufsafah, the Israelites being encamped upon the plain Er Rahah. **All these words.** Some commentators are of opinion that each commandment was originally given in a single short sentence, and that the lengthened forms of the second, third, and others are explanatory additions afterward made by Moses. **The Lord thy God.** "Jehovah thy God." That is, among the multitudes of gods of whom you have heard, I who speak am yours, and your ONLY god, and my name is JEHOVAH, which, unfortunately for the vividness of our English ver-

sion, is always printed LORD. Being under God's peculiar care, these people were under obligation to especial service. (1) *God's mercies toward us personally demand our love in return. Brought thee out.* Not Moses, but God, is proclaimed as their deliverer and as entitled to their gratefulness. **House of bondage.** (2) *God liberates men from the service of sin that they may render him the service of free hearts.*

**3. Thou shalt.** Each individual is addressed. (3) *With every word of God there is a "thou"—a personal address. No other gods.* There is no command to worship, for man needs and must have some God. No people of earth are so debased as