

EXODUS 20-24



Moses was in the assembly in the wilderness, with the angel who spoke to him on Mount Sinai, and with our ancestors; and he received living words to pass on to us.

Acts 7:38

Take it in turns and read all of Exodus 20-21:1 as a group. Before you read, take note of the Exodus Themes - see last page.

CONTEXT

The giving of the law at Mt Sinai is part of **'the Mosaic covenant'** (Exodus 24:7-8). This builds on God's previous promise of blessing to Abraham and his descendants, **'the Abrahamic covenant'** (Genesis 15:17-18, Exodus 2:23-25). It's worth noticing that both times involved sacrifice and blood.

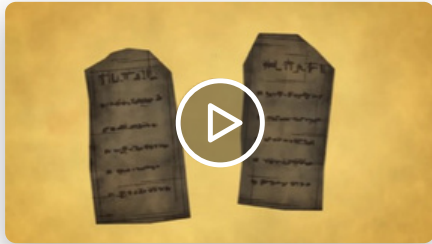
THE STORY

1. Thinking about their previous existence as slaves under their great oppressor of Pharaoh, what makes these laws so right and good for the new nation of Israel?

2. Why do you think 'the 10 commandments' starts with the words of v1-6?

Take it in turns to read Exodus 21:2-22:31.

3. As a group discuss how in various ways you see laws that either don't make sense to you at all, or in fact convey justice and mercy, or represent moral devotion to the holy LORD.



Before Sunday, take some time to Google the Bible Project video – “The Law”.

GOD, JESUS CHRIST & US

4. Let's delve into the weighty and much discussed subject of how relevant (or not) the law of Israel is to God's people today. You might like to check out some of these verses & discuss:

Jeremiah 31:31-34 (the promise of '**a new covenant**')

Matthew 5:17-20

Mark 12:28-31

Romans 3:20-23

Romans 7:6

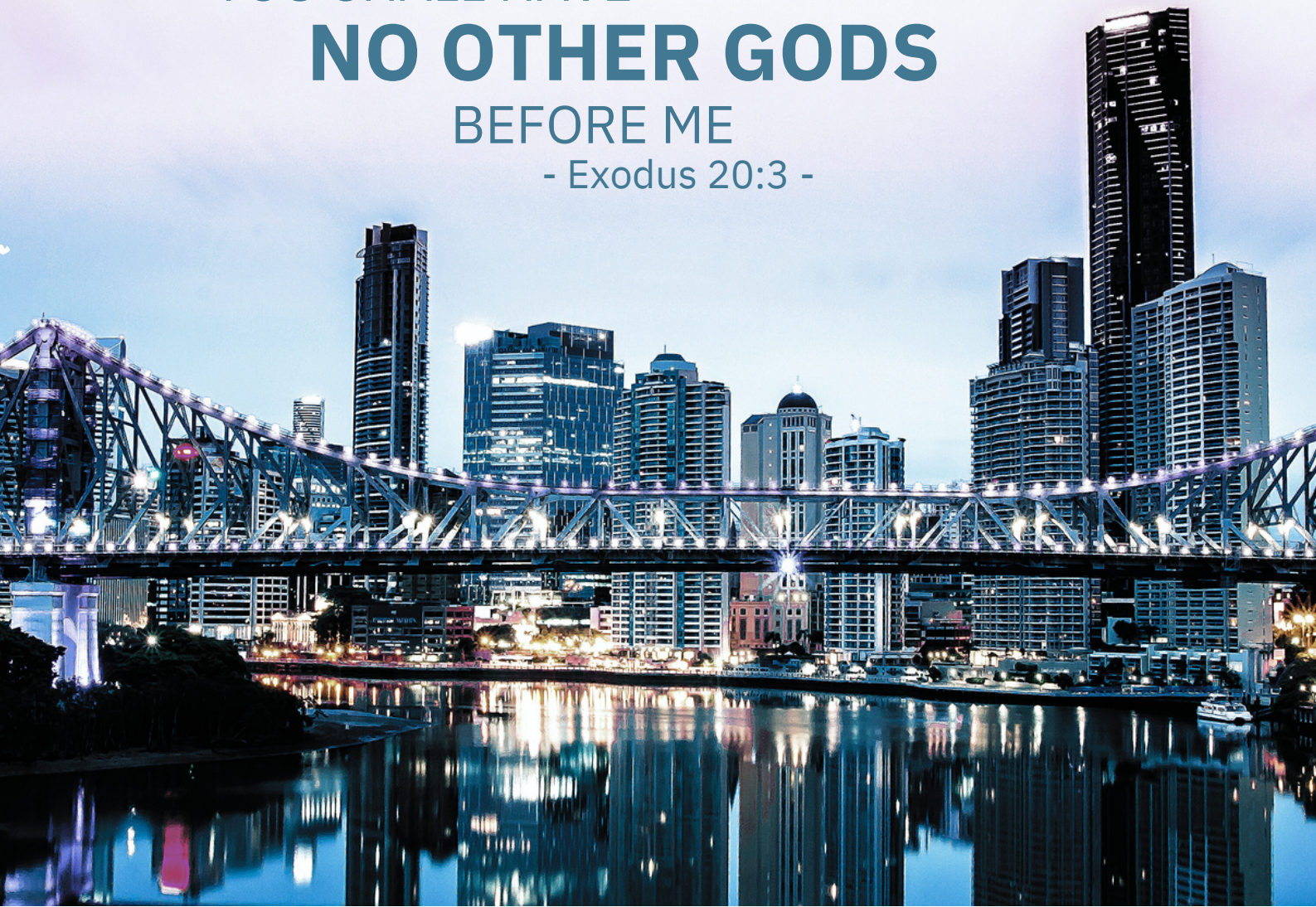
Romans 13:8-10

Galatians 5:22-26

5. When it comes to the law, why can we be so thankful for Jesus?

6. Talk about how each of us should respond to this passage, whether it be worship and praise, repentance, thankfulness, petition, ...

YOU SHALL HAVE
NO OTHER GODS
BEFORE ME
- Exodus 20:3 -



EXODUS THEMES

Glory God is other. He is holy. He is transcendent. He deserves our worship.

Redemption God delivers his people from slavery.

Power Signs & wonders. The contest of who is more powerful.

Covenant Promise & Faithfulness. A binding contract that creates relationship and also means implications for right response.

Big God & the Little People Everyday people display courage & wisdom, along with doubt and a lack of faith too.

Sacrifice The spilling of blood that brings judgement and death, but also rescue and life.

Mission God's blessing not only for Israel, but for the world around.

God's Presence The 'above-ness' of God but also the 'among-ness' of God.

Sin & Grace Doubt, Rebellion, Consequence, and yet God's unrelenting commitment.

Creation Humanity was expelled from the garden at the fall, but God has a New Creation planned for his redeemed people.

