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The 10 Commandments In Exodus 20 In The Leningrad Codex

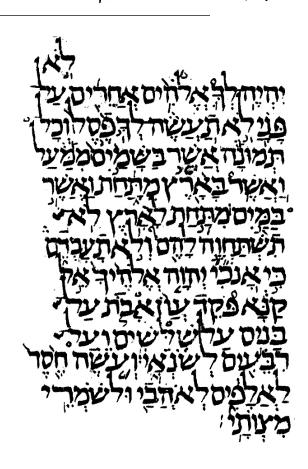
These are the words written by the Finger of Yehovah on both sides of the two tablets of stone, which He commanded Moses to place into the Ark of the Testimony (אָרוֹן הַעָרָוֹן), also known as the Ark of the Covenant (אַרוֹן בִרִית־יִהוֹם)!

אֵלהִים אֵת כַּל־הַרָבַרִים הַאָ אַנַכִּי יְהַוָהַ אֶלַהָּיִד אֲשֶׁר הוֹצַאתֵיד מצרים מבית צב

<u>1</u> And God spoke all these words, saying: <u>2</u> I am Yehovah thy God, who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

ַּגַּ לְשׁ יִהְיֶהְ־לְדָּ אֶלֹהֵים אֲחָרֶים עַל־פָּגְיַ לְשׁ תַעֲשָׁה־לְדָ פָּסֶל ו וְכָל־תְּמוּנְה אֲשֶׁר בַּשְׁמַיִם ו מִמַּעַל וַאֲשֶׁר בָּאֶׁרֶץ מִתְּחֵת וַאֲשֶׁר בַּמַזִים ו מִתַּחַת לָאָׁרֶץ לְאֹ־תִשְׁתַחֶוֶה לְהֶם וְלַשׁ תְעָבְרֵה כַּי אֲנֹכֵי יְהוֶה אֶלהֶיד אֵל קַנָּא פּׁמֵר עַנְן אָבָת עַל־בָּגִים עַל־שָׁלָשִׁים וְעַל־רִבֵּאָים וְלַשׁׁמְרֵי מִצִוֹתֵי:

 $\underline{3}$ Thou shalt have no other gods before Me. Thou shalt not make unto thee a graven image, nor any manner of 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; thou shalt not bow down unto them, nor serve them; for I Yehovah 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; <u>4</u> and showing mercy unto the thousandth generation of them that love Me and keep My commandments.





וַ זָכָוֹר אֶת־יָנִים הַשַּׁבָּת לְקַדְּשָׁוֹ אֵנְשָׁת יְמַים הַעֲבָּר וְעָשֵׁית כָּל־מְלַאכְתָדְ וְיוֹם הַשְׁבִיעִי שַּבָּת ו לַיהוָה אֶלֹגִידְ לֵא־ תַצַשָּׁה כָל־מְלָאכְׁה אַתָּה ו וּבְנְדְ וּבִתָּדְ עַבְדְדָ וְאֵמָתְדֹ וּבְנְדְ וּבִתָּד עַבְדְדָ אָשֶׁר בִּשִׁעָרֶיד אֶת־הַשְׁמַים וְאֶת־הָלָאכָר אַשָּׁר יְהוֹ אֶת־הַיָם וְאֶת־כָּל־אֲשֶׁר יְבָ וּיִבַרְ יְהוֶה אֶת־יִוֹם הַשָּׁבִיעִי עַל־כֵּן וּיִקַדְּשֵׁהוּ:

6 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work; but the seventh day is a sabbath unto Yehovah thy God, in it thou shalt not do any manner of work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, nor thy man-servant, nor thy maid-servant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates; for in six days Yehovah made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested on the seventh day; wherefore Yehovah blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

וְאָת־אָמָּזֶד לְמַעַן יַאָרְכְוּן **N**N הָאָדָטָה אַשֵׁר־יִהנָה אֵלהִידָ נֹתֵן

7 Honour thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the land which Yehovah thy God giveth thee.



<u>ה לָא תִּרְצָח:</u>

8 Thou shalt not murder.

<u>ט לא הּנ</u>אָף:

יַ לָא הַּגִנְּב:

9 Thou shalt commit adultery.

10 Thou shalt not steal.

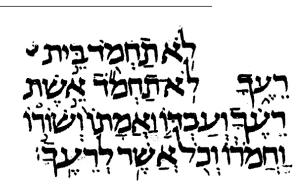
<u>יא</u> לא־תַעֲגָה בְרֵעֲדָ אֵד שֶׁקֶר:

11 Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

Literally: 'Thou shalt not answer a person to whom you are associated with a witness/testimony that is a lie, deceitful, false.'

יַבַּ לְאׁ תַחְמָּד בֵּית רֵעֶדְ לְאֹ־תַחְמָּד אַשָּׁת רֵעָּדְ וְעַבְדָו וַאֲמָתוֹ וְשׁוֹרֵו וַחֲמּרוּ וְכָל אֲשֶׁר לְרֵעֶדְ:

<u>12</u> Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house; thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his man-servant, nor his maid-servant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.





Notes, Leningrad Codex, Exodus, Chapter 20:1–12

In the original *Leningrad Codex, the Masoretes* marked the end of most verses with a *Sof Pasuq,* a Cantillation mark which looks like a colon (:). Another mark, *Silluq*, a small vertical line to the left of the vowel with the word's main accent, <u>is found in the last word of every verse in the Hebrew Scriptures</u>!

In Exodus 20, above, where, to the side of each Hebrew font-based verse I show the image from the corresponding verse in the photo-facsimile* *Leningrad Codex*, I believe that I have correctly captured those verses just as they appear in the actual *Leningrad Codex* itself (* the "pdf" is referred to as a "photo-facsimile" since it is a "photographic copy" of the original Leningrad Codex).

For some images of verses, which actually break over different columns in the three columns of the original, I have placed the image parts next to each other in an effort to make them appear more natural.

דָרָרִים – "The Ten Declarations"

In the Torah, only three verses mention the term for what is commonly known as **The Ten Commandments**. Those verses are Exodus 34:28, Deuteronomy 4:13, 10:4. However, the word most often translated as "Commandments" is **NOT** from the Hebrew root גוה, צוה, צוה, tz'vah = command, order)! Rather, in the phrase הַרְּבָרִים (aseret ha-devarim), אַשֶׁיֶת הַרְּבָרִים (aseret) means the number ten (10), while הַרְבָרִים (devarim) often translated as "words" or "things," is better translated as "statements" or "declarations!" Thus, בָּרָבָרִים (= The Ten Statements/Declarations).

In the Masoretic text, aka *The Leningrad Codex*, there are <u>12 verses</u> for the complete "Ten Commandments!" Verses 1 and 2 go together for the 1st "commandment" and verses 3 and 4 go together for the 2nd "commandment." The rest of the verses are all standalone, to complete the whole, for a total of <u>10 commandments</u> (statements/declarations).

Other Jewish Hebrew-English publications use <u>14 verses</u> for the Ten Commandments. They break up the 2nd and 4th commandments (verses 3 and 6 respectively, herein) into multiple verses and combine the three verses, *'Thou Shalt Not Kill, Commit Adultery and Steal'* into <u>one single verse</u>!

Christian Bibles use <u>17 verses</u> for the Ten Commandments, adding even more breaks to the text! **No other publications, that I am aware of, honor the sublime rendering of The Ten Commandments found in the Leningrad Codex!** Please, be advised that these are the same verses written on stone tablets "by the finger of Yehovah," which He commanded Moses to place into the Ark of the Covenant!

Moreover, in *The-Iconoclast.org online Leningrad Codex Hebrew-English Tanakh*, I have likewise set **the Hebrew and the English texts** to correspond to the **unique Masoretic verse separations** of the Leningrad Codex for Exodus 20.

Since September, 2019, I know of no other published representation of Exodus, Chapter 20, where the verses are set to follow the actual order written in the *Leningrad Codex* (except for mine: *https://www.the-iconoclast.org/resources/tanakh/tanakh.php;* and, in September of 2022, I published my three volume book, *"The Pill Tanakh: Hebrew–English Jewish Scriptures,"* which also honors the Leningrad Codex)!

It is my hope that all who view this presentation of the 10 Commandments of Exodus 20 will be able to discern that the *Masoretes* fully intended each hand-written verse to be separated at the *Silluq/Sof-Pasuq*, while so many *"moderns"* have chosen to represent the Hebrew and English texts incorrectly! This includes Jewish and Christian publications as well as the Westminster Leningrad Codex (WLC - www.tanach.us), which is the electronic source of which I had used my copyrighted C++ Library to write C++ code to convert from a Multi-wide UTF-16 Unicode format (uneditable) to my copyrighted Ascii based UTF-8 web-font format (editable).

Further, it is my sincere desire that יְהוֹה [Yehovah] is honored, glorified and exhalted in this present work, including the whole of *The-Iconoclast's online Westminster Leningrad Codex based Hebrew, JPS 1917 based English Scriptures and my book, The Pill Tanakh: Hebrew–English Jewish Scriptures.* Moreover, I hope that all are blessed who visit *https://www.The-Iconoclast.org!*

* רוֹנָה [Yehovah] is the Name of God in Hebrew.

יְהֹוָה [Yehovah] means: (הְיָה) He who was, (הֹוֶה) He who is, (יִהְיֶה) He who will be.

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