

Washed by the Word

The Ten Words

Ephesians 5:25-27

²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, ²⁶ that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, ²⁷ that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

Although the context is an exhortation for husbands, the example shows how haShem plans to 'wash' us with His 'word.'

To wash us in His word means not only cleanse us from sin, but also to immerse us in His commands to prevent further contamination.

It is important to stay clean once we have been made clean. His desire is to have a *Kehilah* made of individuals that can be described by v.27.

Nu, the question is: "now that I have been made clean by the sacrifice of Yeshua, how do I stay clean?"

Sh'mot (Exodus) 20:1-14 (Jewish numbering system)

- ² "I *am* the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.
- ³ "You shall have no other gods before Me.
- ⁴ "You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness *of anything* that *is* in heaven above, or that *is* in the earth beneath, or that *is* in the water under the earth; ⁵ you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the LORD your God, *am* a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth *generations* of those who hate Me, ⁶ but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.
- ⁷ "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold *him* guiltless who takes His name in vain.
- ⁸ "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day *is* the Sabbath of the LORD your God. *In it* you shall do no work: you, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your male servant, nor your female servant, nor your cattle, nor your stranger who *is* within your gates. ¹¹ For *in* six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that *is* in them, and rested the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.
- ¹² "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you.
- ¹³ "You shall not murder.
- ¹⁴ "You shall not commit adultery.
- ¹⁵ "You shall not steal.
- ¹⁶ "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
- ¹⁷ "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that *is* your neighbor's."

The Believer's Lifestyle Magazine.

First word: v.2 "I am the Lord thy God"

Recognize the sovereignty of God.

Notice the lack of description of who/what is God.

Second word: v.3-6 the unity and spirituality of God

“no other gods” v.3

Nothing should receive the worship or devotion or attention due to haShem.

v.4 “no graven images”

Literally, a hand-made god. This prevents worshipping the Lord in the wrong way. God is Spirit, not an object.

v.5 “a jealous God”

God deserves your love and obedience.

“...even as a mother is jealous of all evil influences that rule her children, He is jealous when, instead of purity and righteousness, it is idolatry and unholiness that command our heart-allegiance.” Dr J H Hertz: Pentateuch & Haftorah pg. 295

Third word: against perjury and profane swearing

v.7 to utter the Lord’s name for vain or false purposes

Forbids false oaths (wood is stone) and frivolous oaths (stone is stone)

Essenes said: “he who cannot be believed without swearing is already condemned”.

Talmud says: “let your yea be yea and your nay be nay”. Sounds kinda like Matityahu (Matthew) 5:37

37 But let your ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes,’ and your ‘No,’ ‘No.’ For whatever is more than these is from the evil one.

Also, to say you belong to God when you really don’t, or do not walk in His ways.

Fourth word: the Shabat

v.8 “remember”

Shabat existed before Torah was given. Genesis 2:3

3 Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.

To observe Shabat is to testify of our belief in God as the creator of the universe.

Secondly, the Shabat points to God’s creation of the Nation of Israel out of a nation of slaves. D’varim (Deuteronomy) 5.15

15 And remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God brought you out from there by a mighty hand and by an outstretched arm; therefore the LORD your God commanded you to keep the Sabbath day.

v.9-11 *lo avodah*--no work

Rabbis state the Shabat laws can be broken when there is the presence of any danger to human life.

Also, a special blessing for Gentiles who honor God by keeping the Shabat. Yesha’yahu (Isaiah) 56.3-7

**3 Do not let the son of the foreigner
Who has joined himself to the LORD
Speak, saying,
“The LORD has utterly separated me from His people”;
Nor let the eunuch say,
“Here I am, a dry tree.”**

**4 For thus says the LORD:
“To the eunuchs who keep My Sabbaths,
And choose what pleases Me,
And hold fast My covenant,**

**5 Even to them I will give in My house
And within My walls a place and a name
Better than that of sons and daughters;
I will give them [fn1] an everlasting name
That shall not be cut off.**

**6 “Also the sons of the foreigner
Who join themselves to the LORD, to serve Him,
And to love the name of the LORD, to be His servants—
Everyone who keeps from defiling the Sabbath,
And holds fast My covenant—
7 Even them I will bring to My holy mountain,**

And make them joyful in My house of prayer.
Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
Will be accepted on My altar;

Fifth word: honour to parents

v.12 it may be difficult, but we are commanded to do so.

In a God-fearing home, a child would learn to love God from his parents' example of actions and words.

Sixth word: sanctity of human life

v.13 no murder. Does not mean 'kill,' as sometimes translated.

Man is made in God's image. God alone gives life. Only God may rightfully take it, or command its taking.

Seventh word: sanctity of marriage

v.13 no adultery

Includes immoral speech, immodest conduct, or association with persons who scoff at the sacredness of purity.

Eighth word: sanctity of property

v.13 no stealing

A just weight (fairness in commerce) is commanded. Lev 19.35-36

35 'You shall do no injustice in judgment, in measurement of length, weight, or volume. **36** You shall have honest scales, honest weights, an honest ephah, and an honest hin: I *am* the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt.

Lying falls into this category as well.

Ninth word: responsibility to your neighbor

v.13 no false testimony against your neighbor

This is another category of stealing - taking away, by your words, that which rightfully belongs to your neighbor.

Lev 19.13-18

13 'You shall not cheat your neighbor, nor rob *him*. The wages of him who is hired shall not remain with you all night until morning. **14** You shall not curse the deaf, nor put a stumbling block before the blind, but shall fear your God: I *am* the LORD.

15 'You shall do no injustice in judgment. You shall not be partial to the poor, nor honor the person of the mighty. In righteousness you shall judge your neighbor. **16** You shall not go about *as* a talebearer among your people; nor shall you take a stand against the life of your neighbor: I *am* the LORD.

17 'You shall not hate your brother in your heart. You shall surely rebuke your neighbor, and not bear sin because of him. **18** You shall not take vengeance, nor bear any grudge against the children of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I *am* the LORD.

Mishle (Proverbs) 24.28-29

28 Do not be a witness against your neighbor without cause,
For would you deceive with your lips?

29 Do not say, "I will do to him just as he has done to me;
I will render to the man according to his work."

Tenth word: Be content with what God has given you.

v.14 do not desire that which is not rightfully yours.

Covetousness is the cause for many murders, adulteries, thefts, and lies.

