

## Short item- **The Ten**

- When we consider our situation in this life in relation to God we must come to some inescapable conclusions.
- (And believe me Men try to escape with all their efforts)
- But the only way to escape it is by closing your eyes to the obvious.
  - And even then all you've done is like Nelson wilfully disobeying a signal to withdraw during a naval engagement.
  - He put the telescope to his blind eye and said "I see no ships"!
  - This is what we do with God, therefore the battle goes on between us and Him.
- What I mean by the inescapable conclusions is that
  - We're created by God
  - And therefore have a responsibility to Him
- Men try to blame God for all the troubles in life
  - But imagine a scenario, you come across two men standing before a dead man with a knife in his back.
  - Both blame each other.
  - One man is a notorious murderer
  - The other is a reputable rescue worker
- Who would you suspect of being the killer?
  - It would be foolish to let the notorious murderer go and blame the rescue worker.
- But just like the Jews crying for the release of the murderer Barabbas, Man convicts God of crimes against humanity!
- What does God require of His creation?
- Lets sum it up in one word- **LOVE**.
  - We should love the lovely, therefore we should love God.
- Let's break this responsibility down in order to understand it.  
First into two things:
  - **WORSHIP**
    - (we love to worship,
    - we're designed to do it.
    - It's right to praise the praiseworthy.
    - The greatest praise should go to the Greatest object of praise- the most worthy - God. But we don't do it)
  - **SERVICE**
    - (we run after many things in this life. Giving our time and energy and talents to them.

It is right to work for that which is worthwhile in life, not on pointless things. What could be more worthwhile, more meaningful and purposeful than serving God. But we don't do it)

- Lets divide the two.

First WORSHIP into four:

The **OBJECT**

The **MANNER**

The **ATTITUDE**

The **TIME**

- The **Object** is God-  
No-one else.  
No other thing.  
No other idea  
is worthy of our worship.
- The **Manner** is in Spirit, not by physical things like idols and art.
- The **Attitude** is reverence, we're careful with our thoughts towards God, never speaking about His Being in vain
- The **Time** always, but especially on His day, set aside especially.  
There is a time for all things Solomon tells us.  
And there is a time to worship.

- Now let's break down **SERVICE** in life into six essential aspects:

**AUTHORITY**

**LIFE**

**LOYALTY**

**OWNERSHIP**

**TRUTH**

**CONTENTMENT**

- There's order and **Authority** in life, otherwise life would become unlivable.
  - From our parents,
  - to the governments,
  - to the police.
  - They may not always act well (because Men and Women are sinful),  
-but we respect the Office if not the person.
  - God has given us order and authorities for our Good,  
-and of course He is the Greatest authority.
- Then there's **Life**.
  - We are to respect life because God Himself is the giver and sustainer of life. -He gives, why do we presume we can take it away?
  - We can even take our own life, literally or spiritually (by not caring about our eternal soul)

- Then **Loyalty**.
  - What is more important than that in relationships?
  - You'll find this out if anyone ever betrays you.
  - But we've all betrayed God by loving the -World instead of Him.
- **Ownership**.
  - Some think that it was when men came up with the idea of ownership and possessions that it all went wrong.
  - But God gave us this fundamental thing so we can live.
  - We learn about ownership, the first time we receive a gift. It's ours.
  - God didn't give this idea for us to exhibit greed in the accumulation of possessions, but so we can have what we need from Him.
  - Therefore if people take what isn't theirs it strikes against something very fundamental.
  - We can, of course, steal from God, our lives, becoming a slave to sin.
  - God must purchase us back by the payment of redemption to His own law, and then give us salvation as a free gift
- **Truth**.
  - Another fundamental thing.
  - We can't live without it.
  - In our age, people are trying, and failing!
  - God is Truth, but we make and believe lies.
  - Living as a non-Christian is an affront to Truth.
- And **Contentment**.
  - This is fundamental in that we need satisfaction in this life.
  - But without God we can never find it.
  - We search and search in vain.
  - We want this and that, more and more to try to be fulfilled, but we can never fill the hole in our soul.
  - Only by finding God and knowing Him can we be content.
  - Then we won't want all those temptations that can never be enough.
- So we have TEN things:
  - 1) The **OBJECT**- Thou shalt have no other gods
  - 2) The **MANNER**- Thou shalt not make a graven image
  - 3) The **ATTITUDE**- Thou shalt not take the Lord's name in vain
  - 4) The **TIME**- Thou shalt remember the Sabbath and keep it holy
  - 5) **AUTHORITY**- Thou shalt honour your father and mother
  - 6) **LIFE**- Thou shalt not murder
  - 7) **LOYALTY**- Thou shalt not commit adultery
  - 8) **OWNERSHIP**- Thou shalt not steal
  - 9) **TRUTH**- Thou shalt not bear false witness
  - 10) **CONTENTMENT**- Thou shall not covet.
- Of course these are the **ten commandments**.

- A perfect summary of our duty to God in worship and service.
- It can be summed up in **LOVE** to God.
  
- But we've **broken** them all.
- But there is **hope** for us in ONE who has kept them all perfectly
- and His record can be given to us
- and our record put upon Him.