

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

I. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

II. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any 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 thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord 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; And showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

III. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

IV. Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: But the seventh day is the sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

V. Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

VI. Thou shalt not kill.

VII. Thou shalt not commit adultery.

VIII. Thou shalt not steal.

IX. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

X. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

THE CHURCH OF GOD

SABBATH SCHOOL

LESSONS

**FIRST QUARTER
2026**



The Church of God Sabbath School Lessons (USPS No. 560-980) is published quarterly, one month before the beginning of each new quarter: March 1, June 1, September 1, and December 1, by the Church of God Publishing House, P O Box 328, Salem, WV 26426-0328. Periodicals postage will be paid at Salem, WV 26426-0328.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Church of God Sabbath School Lessons, PO Box 328, Salem, WV 26426-0328.

Your subscription is free. If you wish to contribute an offering, your contribution will be tax deductible.

IN THIS QUARTERLY

In this quarter we will be studying some of the celebrations of Israel. The Holy Days, or seven Feasts, were given exclusively to Israel to recognize Jesus when He came in the flesh. See our tract on the Feast Days. The Gentiles are not required to keep them because they recognize Jesus much like the early disciples. John 1:35-45.

The calendar that God gave to them has agricultural and spiritual meaning. Let us learn from their mistakes and not duplicate them.

THE SABBATH

Scripture Reading: Genesis 1:26-31; 2:1-3.

Golden Text: Exodus 31:14.

NOTE: While the Lord was well pleased with Creation, the 7th day was the only day that was blessed and sanctified.

1. What miracle is connected with the Sabbath? Exodus 16:2-5.

2. How did the Lord serve the people? Exodus 16:23-26.

NOTE: The 6th Day was the preparation day for the Sabbath.

3. Did all the people believe the Lord? Exodus 16:27-28.

4. Was the sabbath part of the commandments? Exodus 20:8-11.

5. Was there a significant incident in the wilderness? Numbers 15:32-36.

NOTE: The sabbath was blessed, sanctified and given to Israel before Sinai. There at Sinai it was revealed as part of the Ten Commandments.

6. Why was the sabbath made? Mark 2:27.

NOTE: The sabbath is the Lord's way of introducing us to the future kingdom.

7. What do we learn in Hebrews 4? Hebrew 4:1, 4-10.

8. Was Jesus faithful in keeping the Sabbath? Luke 4:14-16.

9. How about the Apostle Paul? Acts 17:1-2.

10. Who is the lord of the sabbath? Matthew 12:8; Mark 2:28; Luke 6:5.

Lesson For Sabbath, January 10, 2026

PURIM

Scripture Reading: Esther 1:1-12.

Golden Text: Proverbs 14:35.

NOTE: Purim is not one of the seven feast days but a memorial that commemorates the saving of the Jewish people from annihilation by Haman.

1. Who replaced Queen Vashti? Esther 2:1-2, 17.
2. What did Mordecai, her relative, do for the King? Esther 2:21-23.
3. How did he offend Haman? Esther 3:1-4.
4. Did Haman want to destroy only Mordecai? Esther 3:5-6.
5. Was it approved by King Ahasuerus? Esther 3:8-10.
6. How did Mordecai react? Esther 4:1, 9, 13.
7. What did Esther propose? Esther 4:15-16.
8. Knowing she could be put to death, what does she do? Esther 4:11; 5:1-2.
9. What is her plan? Esther 5:3-6, 7-8.
10. How did Haman react? Esther 5:9 first part.

Lesson For Sabbath, January 17, 2026

PURIM, PART 2

Scripture Reading: Esther 3:7-15.

Golden Text: Luke 1:37.

1. After the banquet, what did Haman tell his friends? Esther 5:9-14.
2. Because he could not sleep, what did the king command? Esther 6:1-2.
3. When he asks what was done for Mordecai, what does he learn? Esther 6:3.
4. He talks with Haman. Haman, believing it is about himself, really lays on the honors to be bestowed. Esther 6:4-9.
5. Haman suffers his worst nightmare. Esther 6:10-11.
6. What is Esther's request? Esther 7:1-6.
7. How did this affect the king? Esther 7:7-10.
8. While the edict is still to go out against the Jews, once more Esther intervenes. Esther 8:1-11.
9. How was Purim instituted? Esther 9:20-21, 26-28.

-Hanukkah-

Not one of the feast days, but celebrated in the winter. There is no reference in the Bible except in John 10:22 as the feast of dedication. The information comes from 1st and 2nd Maccabees, an historical reference but not biblical.

Lesson For Sabbath, January 24, 2026

WHAT WAS JOHN THE BAPTIST'S MISSION

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:5-17.

Golden Text: Luke 1:16.

1. What did Isaiah prophesy about John? Isaiah 40:3-5.
2. When John started preaching, what was his message? Matthew 3:1-2.
3. How was he preparing the way for the Lord? Matthew 3:4-6.
4. Was his baptism enough for man? Matthew 3:11-12.
5. Discuss Jesus' baptism. Matthew 3:13-17.
6. How does the gospel of Mark present John? Mark 1:1-4.
7. When he could finally speak, what are some of the things Zacharias said of his son? Luke 1:67-68, 76-80.
8. Did John question Jesus? Luke 7:19-23.
9. What does the gospel of John tell about who Jesus is? John 1:15-27.
10. Does John the Baptist become a witness of and for Jesus? John 1:29, 34-36.

Lesson For Sabbath, January 31, 2026

THE IMPORTANCE OF JESUS

Scripture Reading: Matthew 7:13-23.

Golden Text: Matthew 5:17.

NOTE: The Law and prophets refer to the Old Testament. The Old Testament points to Jesus. Jesus came to fulfill or complete everything necessary for our salvation. John 3:17.

1. What did the angel tell Joseph? Matthew 1:18-21.
 2. Who is Jesus's brother, sister and mother? Matthew 12:50.
 3. What was delivered to Jesus? Luke 10:22.
 4. How did Jesus answer the disciples? Matthew 13:10-11.
- NOTE: JESUS IS THE KEY.*
5. What does Peter tell the house of Israel? Acts 2:32-36.
 6. Is there any other name that is as important? Acts 4:8-12.
 7. When He was asked, "Who art thou?", how did He respond? John 8:22-28.
 8. During His prayer of intercession, how does He speak of His disciples? John 17:6-17.
 9. What will we see in the future? Romans 14:11; Philippians 2:9-11.

Lesson For Sabbath, February 7, 2026

TELL NO MAN

Scripture Reading: Matthew 17:1-13.

Golden Text: Mark 9:9.

NOTE: Moses and Elias (Elijah) represent the law and the prophets.

1. What are we told about the law and the prophets? Matthew 11:13.
2. Whom do men say that the Son of man is? Matthew 16:13-16; Mark 9:8-13.
3. What does Jesus say about His Church? Matthew 16:17-18.

NOTE: Jesus was referring to Himself when He used the word rock. Peter is a small stone.

4. Are there additional comments by Jesus? Matthew 16:19-20.

NOTE: The Keys would be like wisdom, discernment and understanding. Luke 10:24.

5. How does this compare to Matthew 13:10-11?
6. What do we learn about Jairus' daughter? Luke 8:49-56.
7. How does He instruct the leper who was healed? Matthew 8:1-4.
8. When asked about attending the feast, what did Jesus say to them? John 7:1-9.
9. Then what did He do? John 7:14-18.
10. What happened on the last great day? John 7:37-38.

NOTE: While He was preaching, teaching and performing miracles it was not the right time. Now, on the last great day of the feast He is preparing for His death, burial and resurrection to complete the purchase of the church.

Lesson For Sabbath, February 14, 2026

WHY WERE THE FEAST DAYS ADDED?

Scripture Reading: Exodus 19:1-11.

Golden Text: Exodus 20:20.

1. Why did God choose Israel? Deuteronomy 7:7-8.

2. Is Israel's God, God? Deuteronomy 7:9.

NOTE: The emphasis is on keeping the commandments.

3. Are they to tell their children? Deuteronomy 6:6-7, 25.

4. Was anything added when the commandments were given at Sinai? Deuteronomy 5:22.

5. Were they commanded to sacrifice or make burnt offerings at that time? Jeremiah 7:22-23.

6. What changed? Exodus 32:1-6.

7. How did the Lord react? Exodus 32:7.

8. Had the people broken the first and second commandments? Exodus 20:3-6, 23.

9. Did Moses explain beforehand that they showed no fear to God? Exodus 20:19-20.

NOTE: Although they were reminded several times, their unbelief and eventual sin brought about change.

10. Why was the Mosaic law added? Galatians 3:19.

NOTE: The law was added "till the seed (Jesus) should come." And the feast days were done away with and never intended for Gentiles.

Lesson For Sabbath, February 21, 2026

THE SEVEN FEASTS OR HOLY DAYS OF ISRAEL

Scripture Reading: Leviticus 23:4-8, 15-16, 21, 23-28, 34-43.

Golden Text: Leviticus 23:44.

NOTE: They were ONLY GIVEN TO ISRAEL and NOT TO THE GENTILES. They are a roadmap to Jesus. SEE OUR TRACT.

1. When was the first day of unleavened bread? Leviticus 23:6-7.
2. Since Jesus was crucified on a Wednesday that makes Thursday of that week the fifteenth or the high holy day. John 19:31.

NOTE: Not preparation for the weekly sabbath but the high sabbath.

3. What happens on the seventh day of this spring feast? Leviticus 23:8.
4. How was Pentecost determined? Leviticus 23:15-16, 21.
5. When was the Feast of Trumpets? Leviticus 23:23-25.
6. What are we told about the day of Atonement? Leviticus 23:26-28.
7. Will Israel atone in the future? Zechariah 12:10; 13:6.
8. When was the Feast of Tabernacles? Leviticus 23:33-36.

NOTE: This feast lasted eight days.

9. How is the eighth-day referred to in John? John 7:37.

NOTE: Last Great Day - The Sabbath was set apart. The Passover was a memorial. However, Purim and Hanukkah are celebrations chosen by the people of Israel.

Lesson For Sabbath, February 28, 2026

THREE TIMES A YEAR

Scripture Reading: Exodus 34:18-23.

Golden Text: Exodus 34:24.

NOTE: Last time we studied the seven feast, or holy days, but they are also referred to as agricultural seasons: Spring, Summer, and Fall.

1. What is part of the seven days of unleavened bread? Leviticus 23:9-11.
2. After determining Pentecost, or Feast of Weeks, what are they told to do? Leviticus 23:15-17, 20.

NOTE: During the earlier feast, the priest waved the sheaf; now he is waving the bread.

3. How is this written about in Exodus 34? Exodus 34:22 (first part up to wheat harvest).
4. The Feast of Tabernacles is called by a different name. Exodus 34:22 (last part).

NOTE: We know Jesus was born in the Fall. It would make sense to have all the people come to be taxed according to Luke 2:1-7.

5. How long is this feast? Leviticus 23:33-39. (8 days).
6. When was Jesus circumcised? Luke 2:21.
7. After telling the disciples that His time had not yet come, what did He do? John 7:2-6, 14, 37-39. (the 8th day).

NOTE: He is about six or seven months from His death.

8. What did He become? I Corinthians 5:7.
9. And after His death? I Corinthians 15:20.
10. What is our part? I Corinthians 11:26.

NOTE: Jesus placed Himself right in the middle of these celebrations. Gentiles knew who He was, but some of the Israelites remained blind.

11. What happened after His ascension? Acts 2:1-4.

Lesson For Sabbath, March 7, 2026

SEEDTIME OR SPRING

Scripture Reading: Genesis 8:13-21.

Golden Text: Genesis 8:22.

1. What do we read about the hail in Egypt? Exodus 9:22-23.
2. Was the flax and barley smitten? Exodus 9:24-25, 31.
3. Did the hail affect the children of Israel? Exodus 9:26.

NOTE: It is important for us to understand that the barley and flax were not destroyed in Goshen so that Israel could wave the sheaf before the Lord a short time later.

4. Had the Lord already separated Goshen from the plague of Egypt? Exodus 8:20-23.
5. What does the early barley represent? Leviticus 23:9-11.
6. What did Jesus become as He rose from the dead? I Corinthians 15:20-23.
7. When did they keep the Passover? Exodus 12:1-2; 13:4.

NOTE: Abib means green ears.

8. What else does the wave sheaf offering help determine? Leviticus 23:15-16.
9. If we are planted properly, what will be the result? Romans 6:1-5.
10. Who gives the increase? I Corinthians 3:6-7.

Lesson for Sabbath, March 14, 2026

WHAT LAZARUS TELLS US

Scripture Reading: John 11:1-14.

Golden Text: Ecclesiastes 9:5.

1. How long was Lazarus dead? John 11:15-17.
2. What does Martha say when Jesus said to take away the stone? John 11:38-39.
3. How long was Jesus in the tomb? Mathew 12:38-40.
4. What do we read in the sixteenth chapter of Psalms? Psalm 16:1, 9-10.
5. Does Martha confront Jesus? John 11:20-21.
6. At the same time, what does she confess? John 11:22.
7. Jesus tells her that her brother will rise again. John 11:23-26.
8. How does she respond? John 11:27.
9. How does Lazarus appear when he is brought forth? John 11:41-44.

NOTE: Based on popular belief and erroneous teachings we would expect him to say something like, "what did you bring me back here for, I was enjoying myself in heaven," etc.

10. He did not know he was dead. Ecclesiastes 9:5-6; Psalm 115:17; 146:4.

Lesson For Sabbath, March 21, 2026

THE WEEK JESUS DIED

Scripture Reading: John 12:1-19.

Golden Text: Zechariah 9:9.

NOTE: This lesson is based on our teachings that Jesus was crucified on a Wednesday and raised at the end of the weekly Sabbath.

1. What do we learn when Jesus is brought to the hall of judgment? John 18:28.

NOTE: Jesus had already celebrated the Passover the night before and instituted the bread and cup.

2. When were the Israelites to select their lamb? Exodus 12:1-3.

3. Jesus presents Himself to the people. Mark 11:1-11.

4. Since the Passover lamb represented Jesus, He was crucified on Wednesday the 14th. Matthew 26:57; 27:1, 35.

5. What accusation was written and set up over His head? Matthew 27:37.

6. What did the Jews ask of Pilate? John 19:31.

NOTE: The high holy day was fast approaching, and it occurred on Thursday the 15th or the first day of unleavened bread.

7. What did the women who came with Him from Galilee learn? Luke 23:55-56. They rested on Thursday the 15th, prepared the spices on Friday the 16th and rested according to the commandment on the 17th.

8. When did they go to the tomb? Luke 24:1-3.

9. Matthew clarifies this miracle. Matthew 28:1-6.

NOTE: Dawn means to draw on toward the first day of the week which occurs at dusk.

Lesson For Sabbath, March 28, 2026

FROM THE PASSOVER TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

Scripture Reading: Exodus 12:1-11.

Golden Text: Exodus 12:13.

1. When was the Passover to be celebrated? Numbers 9:1-5; Deuteronomy 16:5-6.

2. How long was the Passover to be kept? Exodus 12:14.

3. What were the Israelites to tell their children? Exodus 12:25-28.

NOTE: While the Passover was a memorial service, it was not part of the seven annual feast days given to Israel.

4. How often was the Passover to be observed? Exodus 13:8-10.

5. What instructions were given to Peter and John? Luke 22:7-13.

6. How did Jesus think about this particular Passover? Luke 22:14-15.

7. Did Jesus introduce a foot washing into this service? John 13:1, 4-5, 13-15.

8. What else did He add? Matthew 26:26-28.

NOTE: Jesus knew He was fulfilling the Old Testament law. Matthew 5:17. So He introduces the foot washing and the emblems to replace the Passover meal. The Passover Lamb represented Jesus. I Corinthians 5:7; 11:23-26.

9. What do we have to look forward to with the Lord? Matthew 26:29; Luke 22:16-18.