

1.1 Introduction to the Series on the Ten Commandments

General goal of this series

We want to do a little more than the tidbit approach we have been following. Yes, we are aiming at exposure, but we need to look more deeply into the familiar and famous Ten Words. Thus, we will attempt to keep two things always in mind: a) the meaning of the commandments that Christ gives us by interpretation in His teaching, and b) the meaning of the commandments that Christ gives us by fulfillment in His person and work.

Sources

We have two main sources: the book by Ed Clowney, *How Jesus Transforms the Ten Commandments* (P & R Publishing, 2007), and the Westminster Standards (WCF, WSC, and the WLC; cf. some commentaries on the catechisms: Williamson on the WSC and Vos on the WLC).

Suggestion

In the weeks ahead, you might do some memory work on the Ten Commandments in one of the catechisms. Some of you may want to work with the children's catechism on the 10; parents can memorize along with their children. Others may want to work with the WSC. Memory work in this regard will have lasting benefits. This is an example of the rich resources that we have in the Westminster Standards for family learning that aids understanding and listening to preaching that taps into reformed theology in a regular way.

For easy reference, recall that the Standards are thoroughly hyper-linked on our web site.

Weekly Plan

Centrally, we will discuss a chapter of the book by Clowney (10-12 pages). We will begin on **November 25, 1.1 Intro to the Series**.

Discussion is open to whatever strikes your interest about the chapter in general, the questions at the end of the chapter, and some bullet points that I may address.

We may not cover a chapter (or a commandment in a week). We will leave that open so that we can sink our teeth into each commandment for understanding and application. Thus, along with the Clowney book, we will make reference to and discuss relevant matters from the catechisms and other sources.

The plan is not to have a ten week series, but to cover the Ten Words with the help of Clowney, the Westminster Standards, and relevant discussion points such as the antithetic language and other matters of overview.

Rough and ready schedule (*flexible and adjustable as we go*)

November 11, The Book of Revelation

November 18, Communion (no SS)

November 25, 1.1 Introduction to the series on the 10 commandments

December 2, Transforms, pp. 1-10

December 9, WCF, Chapter XIX, Of the Law of God

December 16, WSC, 40-44; WLC, 98-101

December 23, no SS

December 30, no SS

January 6, Antithetic & Continuity Language on the Law in Scripture

January 13, 2008, The Sermon on the Mount and *the Abiding Character* of the 10 Words

January 20, 1st commandment, Transforms, pp. 11-22