

***DWIGHT LYMAN  
MOODY***



***WEIGHED AND  
WANTING:  
ADDRESSES  
ON THE TEN  
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**Dwight Lyman Moody**

# **Weighed and Wanting: Addresses on the Ten Commandments**

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS.

Weighed in the Balances

THE EASTERN FEAST.

GOD'S HANDWRITING.

AN INFIDEL'S TESTIMONY.

BINDING TO-DAY.

First Commandment

FEELING AFTER GOD.

THE ISRAELITES WERE EXPOSED TO DANGER.

NO COMPROMISE.

GOD'S PRUNING-KNIFE.

FALSE GODS IN AMERICA TO-DAY.

MOSES' FAREWELL MESSAGE.

NO CONSOLATION EXCEPT IN GOD.

WHOLE-HEARTED ALLEGIANCE.

Second Commandment

A QUESTION.

THE FOLLY OF IMAGES.

PICTURES AND IMAGES.

THE INDWELLING CHRIST.

Third Commandment

USING GOD'S NAME IRREVERENTLY.

USING GOD'S NAME PROFANELY.

A SENSELESS HABIT.

HOW TO KEEP FROM SWEARING.

Fourth Commandment

HOW TO OBSERVE THE SABBATH.

I.—CESSATION FROM SECULAR WORK.

WORKS OF NECESSITY AND OF EMERGENCY.

SABBATH TRAVELING.

SABBATH TRADING.

NECESSARY AND BENEFICIAL.

II.—RELIGIOUS ACTIVITY.

PUBLIC WORSHIP.

A REMINISCENCE.

HOME OBSERVANCE.

PRIVATE OBSERVANCE.

SABBATH DESECRATION.

THE SUNDAY NEWSPAPER.

PUNISHMENT OR BLESSING?

A FIRM STAND.

Fifth Commandment

BEGIN IN THE HOME.

HONOR THY MOTHER.

TEMPORAL BLESSING OR CURSE.

A MOTHER'S LOVE.

FILIAL INGRATITUDE.

A BRIGHTER PICTURE.

AN EXHORTATION.

Sixth Commandment

THE VALUE OF A MAN.

SUICIDE.

OTHER KINDS OF MURDER.

THE WORDS OF CHRIST.

Seventh Commandment

PLAIN SPEAKING.

MARRIAGE AND THE HOME.

THE DEVIL'S COUNTERFEIT.

THE PRODIGAL DAUGHTER.

GOD'S COMING JUDGMENT.

AN EVIL HARVEST.

ARE YOU GUILTY?

Eighth Commandment

WHERE THE STREAM STARTS.

GOD'S WEIGHTS.

STOLEN GOODS A BURDEN.

RESTITUTION.

Ninth Commandment

TRUTH NECESSARY.

PERJURY.

LYING.

SLANDER.

A TEST OF TRUE RELIGION.

FOR GOOD OR EVIL.

WORDS NEVER CALLED BACK.

THE FATE OF THE LIAR AND SLANDERER.

HOW TO OVERCOME.

Tenth Commandment

A SEARCHING COMMANDMENT.

GODS THOUGHTS ABOUT COVETOUSNESS.

A SORE EVIL.

A TEMPTATION AND A SNARE.

A ROOT EXTRACTOR.

HOW TO OVERCOME.

The Handwriting Blotted Out  
ONE LAW, NOT TEN.  
ALL HAVE COME SHORT.  
FALSE WEIGHTS.  
LOVE THE FULFILLING OF THE LAW.  
ARE YOU READY?

# THE TEN COMMANDMENTS.

## Table of Contents

*EXODUS 20: 3-17.*

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 shewing 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.

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## **WEIGHED IN THE BALANCES**

[Table of Contents](#)

In the fifth chapter of Daniel we read the history of King Belshazzar. One chapter tells us all we know about him. One short sight of his career is all we have. He bursts in upon the scene and then disappears.

## **THE EASTERN FEAST.**

[Table of Contents](#)

We are told that he made a great feast to a thousand of his lords, and drank wine before them. In those days a feast would sometimes last for six months in Eastern countries. How long this feast had been going on we are not told, but in the midst of it, he "commanded to bring the golden and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple which was in Jerusalem; that the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, might drink therein. Then they brought the golden vessels that were taken out of the temple of the house of God which was at

Jerusalem; and the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, drank in them. They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold, and of silver, of brass, of iron, of wood, and of stone.”

While this impious act was being committed, “in the same hour came forth fingers of a man’s hand, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaister of the wall of the king’s palace; and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote.” We are not told at what hour of the day or the night it happened. Perhaps it was midnight. Perhaps nearly all the guests were more or less under the influence of drink; but they were not so drunk but that they suddenly became sober as they saw something that was supernatural—a handwriting on the wall, right over the golden candlestick.

Every face turned deathly pale. “The king’s countenance was changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his loins were loosed, and his knees smote one against another.” In haste he sent for his wisest men to come and read that handwriting on the wall. They came in one after another, and tried to make it out; but they could not interpret it. The king promised that whoever could read it should be made the third ruler in the kingdom; that he should have gifts, and that a gold chain should be put round his neck. But the wise men tried in vain. The king was greatly troubled.

At last, in the midst of the consternation, the queen came in, and she told the monarch, if he would only send for one who used to interpret the dreams of Nebuchadnezzar, he could read the writing and tell him the interpretation

thereof. So Daniel was sent for. He was very familiar with it. He knew his Father's handwriting.

"This is the writing that was written, *Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin*. This is the interpretation of the thing: *Mene*—God hath numbered thy kingdom and finished it. *Tekel*—Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting. *Peres*—Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians."

If some one had told the king an hour before that the time had come when he must step into the balances and be weighed, he would have laughed at the thought. But the vital hour had come.

The weighing was soon over. The verdict was announced, and the sentence carried out. "In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain, and Darius the Median took the kingdom." Darius and his army came marching down those streets. There was a clash of arms. Shouts of war and victory rent the air. That night the king's blood mingled with the wine of the banquet hall. Judgment came upon him unexpectedly, suddenly: and probably ninety-nine out of every hundred judgments come in this way. Death comes upon us unexpectedly; it comes upon us suddenly.

Perhaps you say: "I hope Mr. Moody is not going to compare me with that heathen king."

I tell you that a man who does evil in these Gospel days is far worse than that king. We live in a land of Bibles. You can get the New Testament for a nickel, and if you haven't got a nickel you can get it for nothing. Many societies will be glad to give it to you free. We live in the full blaze of Calvary. We live on this side of the cross, but Belshazzar lived more than five hundred years on the other side. He

never heard of Jesus Christ. He never heard about the Son of God. He never heard about God except, perhaps, in connection with his father's remarkable vision. He probably had no portion of the Bible, and if he had, probably he didn't believe it. He had no godly minister to point him to the Lamb of God.

Don't tell me that you are better than that king. I believe that he will rise in judgment and condemn many of us.

All this happened long centuries ago. Let us get down to this century, to this year, to ourselves. We will come to the present time. Let us imagine that now, while I am preaching, down come some balances from the throne of God. They are fastened to the very throne itself. It is a throne of equity, of justice. You and I must be weighed. I venture to say this would be a very solemn audience. There would be no trifling. There would be no indifference. No one would be thoughtless.

Some people have their own balances. A great many are making balances to be weighed in. But after all we must be weighed in God's balances, the balances of the sanctuary. It is a favorite thing with infidels to set their own standard, to measure themselves by other people. But that will not do in the Day of Judgment. Now we will use God's law as a balance weight. When men find fault with the lives of professing Christians, it is a tribute to the law of God.

"Tekel." It is a very short text. It is so short I am sure you will remember it: and that is my object, just to get people to remember God's own Word.

## **GOD'S HANDWRITING.**