

Sermon Title: “Two Tablets—One Heart”

Scripture Reading:

“And He declared unto you His covenant, which He commanded you to perform, even ten commandments; and He wrote them upon two tables of stone.”

— **Deuteronomy 4:13**

Introduction

When God gave Moses the Ten Commandments, He didn’t just hand down rules—He revealed a relationship. The Ten Commandments are often divided into **two sections**, written on **two tablets**:

- The **first five** teach us how to love **God**.
- The **last five** teach us how to love **people**.

Jesus summed them up perfectly:

“Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind... and thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.”

— **Matthew 22:37–39**

1. The First Five: Our Relationship With God

1. **No other gods before Me** – God wants to be **first** in our lives.
2. **No idols** – He wants **real devotion**, not empty substitutes.
3. **Don’t take His name in vain** – Respect His **holy character**.
4. **Keep the Sabbath holy** – Remember He is our **Creator and Restorer**.
5. **Honor your father and mother** – The first command with promise, showing that **respect for authority** begins with God’s order in the home.

These commandments draw us **upward**, teaching us how to **love and honor God**.

2. The Last Five: Our Relationship With Others

6. **You shall not kill** – Value **life**, because all life comes from God.
7. **You shall not commit adultery** – Value **faithfulness**.
8. **You shall not steal** – Respect **others' property**.
9. **You shall not bear false witness** – Cherish **truth**.
10. **You shall not covet** – Guard your **heart** against greed and envy.

These commandments draw us **outward**, teaching us how to **love our neighbors**.

3. A Bridge Between Heaven and Earth

Notice that the **fifth commandment**—“*Honor your father and mother*”—stands at the **center**.

It connects both sides: our **obedience to God's authority** and our **respect for human authority**.

It's the bridge between **heaven and earth**, between **God and people**.

Story: The Two Sides of the Stone

There's an old story of a sculptor who was carving two stone tablets for a church display.

He spent days perfecting the first tablet—the ones about God.

But he left the second tablet rough and unfinished.

When asked why, he said, “Because I thought loving God was enough.”

The pastor replied, “If you truly love God, you'll love people too.

The second tablet shows the first one is real.”

Conclusion

The Ten Commandments aren't just rules to obey; they're a **mirror** showing us how to love rightly—**God first, others second**.

And when we fail, Christ stands as the **fulfillment** of the Law.

He loved the Father perfectly and laid down His life for others completely.

“Love is the fulfilling of the law.”

— **Romans 13:10**