

We humans have left behind almost every ancient notion. We no longer believe the world is flat, nor that the sun orbits the earth. Cars instead of camels take people through the desert. We prefer email and internet to quill pens, letters, and telegraph. I wrote dozens of papers in college on a typewriter. Now, it's a word processor I use.

When I was a child I was given the opportunity, if I were very careful, to use my late grandfather's slide rule from Germany, for it had to last me a lifetime. Slide rule? . . . slide rules, thanks to calculators, are now consigned to museums (although a National Football League fan will say that the "slide rule" is when a quarterback slides down, he may not be touched . . . but I digress).

In any case, there is one area of ancient human thought that has stood the test of time. And that is morality. Right and wrong are still much the same as they were three thousand years ago. And so it is that the Ten Commandments are still honored and revered. Rightly so.

At the same time, the Ten Commandments do not go far enough. The Ten Commandments are the foundation of our morality, but are not the finished product. After all, we are people who believe in Jesus Christ, and Jesus himself looked at morality in a new way. (For instance look at the Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 5:21, 27, 32). In other words, for the ancient Israelites, the Ten Commandments were the best they could do to respond to God. . . but for the believer in Christ, they are the least we can do.

All this to say that during my Sunday sermons on May 16 and 23 I am going to look at the Ten Commandments, to see how Christian truth must reshape them, modify them, or expand them. . . not because we are wiser than those who lived three thousand years ago, but because we experience truth, reality, and morality through the one we claim as Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

- - - Eric Lindblade