

Deep in the changing sky: Called to deep wisdom

Third Sunday of Lent

Ten Words (not nine)

Exodus 20:1-17; I Corinthians 1:18-25

The Ten Words

v. 1 *Then God spoke all these words:*

The First Word

v. 2 *I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery;*

The First Word is pure grace! It establishes:

AUTHORITY

I am the Lord

The First Word is pure grace! It establishes:

AUTHORITY *I am the Lord*

RELATIONSHIP *I am the Lord **your God***

(your—singular)

The First Word is pure grace! It establishes:

AUTHORITY *I am the Lord*

RELATIONSHIP *I am the Lord your God*

(your—singular)

COMMUNITY IDENTITY *I am the Lord your God,
who brought you (plural)*

The First Word is pure grace! It establishes:

AUTHORITY *I am the Lord*

RELATIONSHIP *I am the Lord your God*

(your—singular)

COMMUNITY IDENTITY *I am the Lord your God,
who brought you (plural)*

SALVATION *I am the Lord your God, who
brought you **out of the land of Egypt,
out of the house of slavery.***

The Ten Words are gracious gifts for God's people

King David, Psalm 19:7-10,
writes about his love for God's laws:
*more to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey,
and drippings of the honeycomb.*

The First Word: God saved Israel from slavery.

The remaining Words:

God saves us from ourselves.

At a basic level, God's Ten Words protect
us, society and creation.

If pursued beyond a checklist...

they lead us to deeper divine wisdom.

*The message that points to Christ on the Cross
seems like sheer silliness to those hellbent on
destruction,
but for those on the way of salvation it makes
perfect sense.*

*This is the way God works, and most powerfully
as it turns out. It's written,
I'll turn conventional wisdom on its head,
I'll expose so-called experts as crackpots.*

So where can you find someone truly wise, truly educated, truly intelligent in this day and age? Hasn't God exposed it all as pretentious nonsense? Since the world in all its fancy wisdom never had a clue when it came to knowing God, God in great wisdom took delight in using what the world considered dumb—preaching, of all things!—to bring those who trust God, into the way of salvation. The Message, 1 Cor. 1:18-25

How is God calling me to deep wisdom?

What area of my life needs God's wisdom?