



1) The two greatest rescues that God performs in Scripture are the Exodus and the life/death of Jesus. Both of these rescues are followed by revelation from God: the Exodus is followed by the 10 Commandments and additional laws; Jesus' crucifixion is followed by the New Testament. Read the following passages and explain why you think God provides instruction following these redemptive events:

- Exodus 8:1
- Exodus 19:1-6
- Titus 2:11-14

2) Jen Wilkin, in her book *Ten Words*, says "Christianity is about relationship with God and others, and because this statement is true, Christianity is also unapologetically about rules, for rules show us how to live in those relationships. Rather than threaten relationship, rules enable it."

Do you agree with the statement that rules are needed for a proper relationship with God and people?

If so, how do we keep from going to the extreme of legalism (attempting to earn favor from God by doing good works) while following the rules God has laid out for us?

3) Read Exodus 20:1-3... All throughout the Old Testament there are references (over 80 times!) to God being the One who brought the Israelites out of slavery in Egypt. Why do you think God wanted to be known as the God who had brought about that event specifically?

4) In this first commandment there is both a positive (DO) and negative (DON'T) command for us to follow: (DO) keep God in His rightful place in your life, which also requires (DON'T) staying away from any other small "g" gods.

How does your life reflect both this positive and negative command?

Is there anything God is calling you to start doing, keep doing, or stop doing in order to best live for Him?