

# EMPOWERED TO LIVE

19/1/14

*Many members of the animal kingdom have embedded behavioural principles that work for the survival and betterment of their group. Each member has an individual role, yet all members work for the common good at the same time. Both the animal kingdom and the human race are genetically driven to live and act according to inbuilt dictates. However, there is a spiritual side to life that offers much more than natural living and increase. This is where the bible and the power of the Holy Spirit (made available by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ), comes into effect. Spiritual principles differ from natural lusts and needs... one determines a lifelong benefit, while the other meets short term and short lived needs. The bible offers a genetic code for living, but it is spiritually and not carnally based; it manages life for eternity, not just for the next passing whim.*

**These basic 10 commandments from Exodus 10 are a Godly code to life, (4 relate to God and 6 to man).**

Commandments relating to serving God	1. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.	2. 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.	3. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain	4. Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.
Commandments relating to serving Men	5. Honour thy father and thy mother:	6. Thou shalt not kill.	7. Thou shalt not commit adultery.	8. Thou shalt not steal.
	9. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.	10. Thou shalt not covet.		

*These laws aren't just a list of what not to do (merely abstaining from sin is not the answer to success). Many think that they are doing well because they have evaded the above failings. Not so! Doing the opposite to the above carnal impulses is the approved action. Even the critics of Jesus were able to summarise this wisdom. **LUK 10:25** And, behold, a certain lawyer stood up, and tempted him, saying, Master, what shall I do to inherit eternal life? **26** He said unto him, What is written in the law? how readest thou? (What do you think the law stands for?) **27** And he answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbour as thyself. This man was able to conclude that avoiding sin was insufficient... loving actions were required for an empowered life from God.*

**God gives us power through the Holy Spirit to live a good and happy life.**

**2PET 1:3** According as his divine **power** hath given unto us **all things that pertain unto life and godliness**, through the **knowledge** of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: *When you truly know God, you know how to serve him.* **ACT 1:8** But ye shall receive **power**, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. *The power given to us is to be used to honour the golden code... giving us real peace and happiness.*

**Once we are secure in our personal lives, we are free to serve God for the additional blessings it provides.**

**EPH 1:18** The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints, **19** And what is the **exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward** who believe, according to the **working of his mighty power**. *The balanced use of this power is our main target and will be the larger part of our focus for this year.*

**Seeking the power of God first... ahead of natural considerations will bring all of us the greatest benefits.**

**1TIM 4:8** For bodily exercise profiteth little: but **godliness is profitable unto all things**, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come. *Seeking God first supplies both natural and spiritual needs.*

**1PET 2:9** But ye *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should **shew forth** the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: *Now you know the difference between avoiding sin and serving God for all our benefits: choose to live a full life now. Seek an empowered life you will be happy with in the future... not one that is pleasing, just for today.*