

The Ten Commandments

Presented to Moses on Mount Sinai by the hand of God on two stone tablets, the Ten Commandments stand today after more than 3500 years as God's law to the human race. The first three are our obligations to God—the last seven our obligations to our fellow men. They are a pattern for our human relations. All the laws of the Country dealing with human relations are based upon the Ten Commandments.

Since the establishment of the Youth Guidance Commission by the Grand Aerie of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, numerous successful projects have been undertaken throughout the country. There has always been the challenge that a single project, designed to be acceptable to all Eagle Aeries in the jurisdiction and one which would promote a practical program of youth Guidance be conceived and sponsored on the national level. After several years of careful study the Minnesota Youth Guidance Committee concluded that there can be no substitute, no more defined, nor better program of youth guidance than the original program presented by God, The Ten Commandments, since echoing down the ages we hear the words: "My son, forget not the law, but let thine heart keep my Commandments, for length of days and long life and peace shall they add to thee."

After consultation over a period of years with the clergy of many denominations, noted artists were employed to produce this illuminated print, incorporating a universally acceptable translation of the Ten Commandments from the Old Testament, ornated in multi-color and including many significant symbols. Included in the art scheme is the American Emblem, the emblem of the Fraternal Order of Eagles; the two tablets of the Ten Commandments; the All Seeing Eye of God, superimposed on the triangle; the Stars of David; the Greek Letters Chi Rho, being the first two letters of Christ. This latter symbol also having the appearance of the intersecting letters PX has been interpreted as an abbreviation of Pax, meaning peace.

This program was first initiated on the state level by the Minnesota State Aerie for the purpose of testing its universal acceptance, and after the presentation of more than 7000 copies, principally by aeries within the state, but also with some active participation by aeries outside of Minnesota, the project was in December 1953 adopted as a national youth guidance project.

Presentations of the Ten Commandments are being made by local aeries or individual members thereof to Juvenile, District, Municipal and other courts, to churches, schools, civil and fraternal organizations and other agencies and individuals serving youth. It is the further aim of this great fraternity that ultimately every Eagle home may be identified by the display therein of the Ten Commandments.

The Constitution of the United States and the Declaration of Independence show concrete evidence that the authors, the founders of this great nation, were inspired by a belief in God and his Commandments.

It is a pleasure therefore to present to you this beautiful illuminated version of the Ten Commandments. May it inspire in all who see it renewed respect for the Law of God, which is our greatest strength against the forces that threaten our way of life. It furnishes a means of reaffirming our faith in the fundamental precepts of democracy and freedom.

*If we work upon marble, it will perish;
If we work upon brass, time will efface it,
If we rear temples they will crumble into dust,
But if we work upon immortal souls,*

*If we imbue them with principles,
With the just fear of the Creator and love of fellow men,
We engrave on those tables something
Which will brighten all eternity.*

YOUTH GUIDANCE COMMISSION FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES

E. J. RUEGEMER,
Chairman, Judge District Court, St. Cloud, Minnesota.

The Ministerial Association of St. Cloud, composed of every Protestant Pastor in this area, has asked me to express our appreciation of the magnificent project of the Fraternal Order of Eagles to distribute, beautifully lithographed, the Law of God—The Ten Commandments. We endorse this project as attesting in no uncertain note that this Fraternal Order recognizes through its Youth Guidance Commission that this Republic was founded on religious faith and the Law of God. The Ministerium commends the benevolent work of this Fraternal Order of Eagles in their solicitude for the welfare of growing youth, in seeking to impress upon this youth as he moves through the schools and churches and the courts of the U.S. that obedience of the Law of God in them moulding and the development of the moral character and the growth of a high citizenship is the first requisite and qualification of our American way of life.

W. F. DICKENS-LEWIS, D. D.
Secy. St. Cloud Ministerial Association

The F.O.E. project of emphasizing the Ten Commandments as central in its youth guidance program is a most commendable one. We are living in a time when we must place first things first—and it is imperative for our youth to understand how fundamental the Ten Commandments are in all phases of our modern life and activity. May your program and project have far and wide influence.

RABBI ALBERT G. MINDA,
Temple Israel, Minneapolis

One can only write words of commendation to the Fraternal Order of Eagles for their worthy project of keeping before the minds of the American people, the Ten Commandments of God. The Divine Law as expressed in the commandments is the basis of all law. Respect and obedience to this Divine Law gives birth to respect for human law, which in turn develops good citizenship in our nation. As a Catholic bishop, I give my blessing to this project and trust that much spiritual and moral good shall come to our people in this nation for this worthy effort.

✠ P. W. BARTHOLOME, D. D.
Bishop of St. Cloud

There is great wisdom in the conclusion of the Minnesota Youth Guidance Commission, i. e., that there can be no substitute and certainly no more defined nor better program of youth guidance than the original program presented by God, the Ten Commandments. In my opinion this is indeed a wonderful project and I shall deem it an honor to add my indorsement. My every good wish is extended to you in this noble undertaking.

FULTON OURSLER,
*Author of the Greatest Story Ever Told,
Author of The Greatest Book Ever Written*

The Fraternal Order of Eagles is rendering a significant service to our country in its project of encouraging obedience to the will and law of God as declared in the Ten Commandments. We adults can place before our youth no finer example than by indicating our belief that our lives should be guided by the Divine Law.

LUTHER W. YOUNGDAHL,
Judge of the United States District Court, Washington, D. C.

I think you could not have had a greater idea for Youth Guidance than to re-state and re-affirm God's ageless pattern for human conduct. Every constitution conceived by man has found the need for amendment, but the Ten Commandments have stood unaltered, not only as a guide for youth, but as a path to be followed by all men of good will—a path which could lead us to Peace on Earth.

CECIL B. De MILLE,
Paramount Pictures Corporation

I would like to see the Ten Commandment scroll posted in every school and library in the country. Its message is sadly needed in the instruction of our children and young people so many of whom have but slight acquaintance, if any, with them, (the commandments). All thoughtful people will thank you and the Order for this contribution to the Youth of America.

ANGELO PATRI,
Educator and Author

The program of the Fraternal Order of Eagles to distribute illuminated prints of the Ten Commandments to our country's youth in order to foster observance of God's Laws is a most worthy one and merits sympathetic and zealous support.

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER,
Director Federal Bureau of Investigation

By placing the Ten Commandments so attractively within the easy reading view of all the children of America, the Fraternal Order of Eagles puts the imperishable first and helps to arm our beloved country against the Godlessness of communism.

GAREY CLEVELAND MYERS,
*Editor of Highlights For Children,
Author of The Modern Parents and numerous other books,
Writer of Daily Syndicated Newspaper column*

Presented to.....

By.....