> And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families of their own.
> — *Exodus 1:21*

Book: Old Testament / Exodus
Topics: awe, blessing

Interpretation:
The Book of Exodus tells a story of courage and the fear of God. The midwives *Shiphrah and Puah* were Egyptians who assisted Jewish women living in Egypt in childbirth. At the time of this story, the Jews were slaves to the Egyptians.

Fear of God

One day, the Pharaoh of Egypt decided to exterminate the descendants of the Jews, considering them a threat to his homeland. From that moment on, he ordered that every male Jewish child born be thrown into the Nile River.

Shifra and Puah found themselves at a moral crossroads: should they obey the Pharaoh's command or disobey the authorities and protect the lives of the newborns in their care? Ultimately, their choice was dictated by the fear of God: they decided not to kill the Jewish babies, but instead communicated that Jewish women were not like Egyptian women; they were healthy and gave birth before the midwife arrived.

The prosperity of midwives

Thanks to their decision, the midwives not only saved lives, but God also rewarded their courage and fear of Him. He granted their families prosperity, despite their disobedience to Pharaoh. This may seem unusual, but we must remember that God always rewards those who do what is right and adhere to their principles and values.

Today, this story teaches us that our fears, desires, and principles should not be sacrificed for the desires of others or for the rewards of this life. We must always make decisions consistent with our convictions and always strive to do good, no matter the difficulties.

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from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.
> — *Exodus 14:14*

Book: Old Testament / Exodus
Topics: dependence, patience, protection

Interpretation:
The Book of Exodus tells the story of the Israelites' liberation from Egyptian slavery. After a series of plagues befell the Egyptians, Pharaoh finally released them. However, when *Moses* led the Israelites to the Promised Land, Pharaoh changed his mind and gave chase with his army.

At this point, the people of Israel found themselves in dire straits, caught between the sea and the Egyptian army. It was at this moment that God intervened and commanded Moses to lift his staff and part the waters so the people could cross the sea on dry land. It was then that God spoke the words of *Exodus 14:14*.

Trust in God in difficult times

This verse is an important reminder that God is on our side and fights for us in difficult times. When we face challenges, it's easy to feel fear and uncertainty. But *Exodus 14:14* reminds us that we can trust God, and that He will help us overcome obstacles.

No matter how hopeless a situation may seem, we can be confident that God is with us and will accompany us every step of the way. We can find peace and tranquility knowing that He is our protector and patron.

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> If you listen carefully to the Lord your God and do what is right in his eyes, if you pay attention to his commands and keep all his decrees, I will not bring on you any of the diseases I brought on the Egyptians, for I am the Lord, who

> heals you.
> — *Exodus 15:26*

Book: Old Testament / Exodus
Topics: healing, law, listening, obedience, righteousness, sickness

Interpretation:
Exodus 15:26 presents a very important promise from the Lord to His people: if they keep His commandments and hold His will above all else, the Lord will protect them from the diseases and disasters that befell the Egyptians. In other words, obedience to God and His will is the key to a healthy life.

But what does it mean to obey God?

The literal translation of the Hebrew word *"obey"* means *"to listen attentively."* This implies not only listening to the Lord's words but also paying attention to His instructions and following His will. The foundation of obedience to God is keeping His law. The Bible reminds us that if we love the Lord and desire to follow Him, we must strive to always keep His commandments.

The importance of obedience for health

This divine promise is especially important today, given the growing concern about health. Many people actively seek ways to stay fit and healthy, and this verse seems to indicate that following God's will is a sure way to secure divine protection from life's obstacles.

However, we must remember that obedience is not a guarantee of eternal health. Each of us is mortal and susceptible to illness. Obedience to God is not a magic cure for illness, but a path to abundant life and spiritual peace.

The role of prayer in health

Another way to apply the Lord's promise to our lives is through prayer. When we face illness or difficulties in life, we can turn to the Lord for strength and patience to overcome these trials. It is important to maintain a close relationship with God and remember that He is always present in our lives.

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> Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine.
> — *Exodus 19:5*

Book: Old Testament / Exodus
Topics: covenant, obedience, valuable, world

Interpretation:
The Book of Exodus tells the story of the Israelites' exodus from Egyptian slavery to the Promised Land. During this time, God gave them special instructions and made a covenant with them. In *Exodus 19:5*, God outlines the terms of this covenant and offers the Israelites His love and protection if they keep His commandments.

Obedience and keeping My covenant

God told the Israelites that if they obey Him and keep His covenant, they would become His special treasure. God has a covenant with His people, and this relationship with Him is fundamental to the life of any believer. Obedience is key to maintaining this relationship and resolving any problems that arise. We must show our obedience with gratitude and worship.

You will be My special treasure

God promises the Israelites that if they obey Him, He will consider them His "special treasure." From those ancient times to the present day, this promise remains true for all who love God. In *Jesus Christ*, we become God's people, and He considers us His special treasure. God always loves us, despite our weaknesses and sins, and He also promises us protection and blessings if we faithfully follow Him.

For the whole earth is Mine

God claims that the earth is His, which means we will never need anything He cannot provide. As followers of God, we must remember this in the face of any adversity we face. God is the Sovereign of the universe, and through our love for Him, we can receive everything we ask for and need.

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> Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.
>
> — *Exodus 20:12*

Book: Old Testament / Exodus
Topics: blessing, family, God

Interpretation:
The Bible verse *Exodus 20:12* teaches us an important commandment: *honor your father and mother*. This commandment calls us to respect and obey our parents, and this is a fundamental rule for a long and God-blessed life on earth.

The meaning of the commandment

In the time the Bible was written and in the culture in which it developed, father and mother figures were considered vital in the family and society. Parents were responsible for the upbringing, protection, and education of their children; this responsibility, while still important today, has been distorted by various factors, such as the influence of technology and out-of-home education.

Honoring parents means recognizing their importance in our lives, respecting and valuing them. It is important to remember that parents are our first teachers and mentors, and it is from them that we learn the fundamental values ??that help us become better people.

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> You shall not covet your neighbor’s house. You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.
>
> — *Exodus 20:17*

Book: Old Testament / Exodus
Topics: greed, law, materialism, neighbor

Interpretation:

The commandment in *Exodus 20:17* is the last of the Ten Commandments given by God to Moses on Mount Sinai. This commandment not only prohibits coveting another's possessions but also teaches us an important lesson about gratitude and life satisfaction.

Envy: what does It mean?

Before delving into the meaning of this commandment, it's important to understand the meaning of the word "envy." The term "envy" denotes a strong desire to possess something belonging to another person. This applies not only to material goods but also to relationships and social status.

The danger of greed

Greed can be dangerous because it can lead us to make reckless decisions and harm others to satisfy our desires. Desire for something else can lead to envy and jealousy, which can lead to malicious behavior and harmful actions. Furthermore, greed never satisfies us. No matter how many things a person has, there will always be something they desire more of. Greed is like an incurable disease, and it can consume our lives and relationships.

Gratitude and contentment

The commandment "thou shalt not covet" teaches us the importance of gratitude and contentment. Instead of focusing on what we don't have, we should focus on what we do have. We must learn to appreciate and be grateful for the blessings God has given us and work to improve our lives, rather than envying others.

Gratitude and contentment also help us maintain proper perspective. Often, when we focus on what we don't have, we lose sight of our advantages and feel dissatisfied and unhappy. But when we are grateful for what we do have, we can clearly see our accomplishments and view the world more positively.

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> Do not make any gods to be alongside me; do not make for yourselves gods of silver or gods of gold.
>
> — *Exodus 20:23*

Book: Old Testament / Exodus

Topics: idols, law, money

Interpretation:
This verse is part of the Ten Commandments that God gave to Moses on Mount Sinai. God forbade the Israelites from making gods out of silver or gold to worship as if they were the true gods. *Instead, God commanded them to worship Him alone*.

The Bible repeatedly warns against idolatry. In the Old Testament, the Israelites often went astray and worshiped false gods instead of the true God. This not only angered God, but also led to the destruction of the nation of Israel at the hands of their enemies.

In the New Testament, the Apostle *Paul* warned Christians against idolatry, emphasizing that Christians should not worship false gods or put anything above God in their worship. As Christians, we are to be faithful to the true God and always trust in Him.

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> Do not take advantage of the widow or the fatherless. If you do and they cry out to me, I will certainly hear their cry. My anger will be aroused, and I will kill you with the sword; your wives will become widows and your children fatherless.
> *— Exodus 22:22-24*

Book: Old Testament / Exodus
Topics: orphans, widows

Interpretation:
The Bible cares for the most vulnerable members of society, especially widows and orphans. *Exodus 22:22-24* tells us not to oppress them, and this concern is repeated throughout the biblical text. In ancient times, these people were especially vulnerable due to the lack of support and resources in patriarchal societies.

What does it mean to grieve widows and orphans?

Harming widows and orphans can have different meanings depending on the situation. Typically, the goal is to avoid causing them suffering or abusing them in any way. This can manifest itself in various

ways, such as breach of trust, deception, misinformation, exploitation, and so on.

God's justice is inseparable from mercy

Reading these verses, we may be alarmed by the harshness of God's words. How can we reconcile this wrathful God with the loving God we also find in the Bible? It's important to remember that throughout the Bible, God reveals Himself in different ways and uses different methods to communicate with His people. However, one of the purposes of each of these methods *is to remind the people of Israel (and us) that He is God, and that we must respect and obey Him*.

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> Worship the Lord your God, and his blessing will be on your food and water. I will take away sickness from among you.
> *— Exodus 23:25*

Book: Old Testament / Exodus
Topics: blessing, health, sickness, worship

Interpretation:
Exodus 23:25 is an example of God's promise to those who choose to serve the Lord their God. This will manifest God's blessing in many areas of our lives. In this particular instance, we are promised a blessing on our food: "His blessing will be on your food and water." Bread and water are essential elements of life, and God will ensure we have everything we need to survive.

Promise of health

Besides the blessing on food, we are also given the assurance that God will "I will take away sickness from among you." This means that those who serve God can look forward to a healthy, disease-free life. However, this promise should not be taken as a guarantee that we will never become sick, but rather as a promise that God will always be with us, even during illness.

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> The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and stay here, and I will give you the tablets of stone with the law and commandments I have written for their instruction.”
>
> — *Exodus 24:12*

Book: Old Testament / Exodus
Topics: law, obedience, receiving

Interpretation:
In *Exodus 24:12*, God commands *Moses* to go up the mountain and fetch the stone tablets containing the commandments and the law. This command is clear and emphasizes the importance of God's laws and commands. These commandments and laws are crucial to Christian faith and life, as they serve as a guide for following God's will in our daily lives.

Why do we need commandments?

God's commandments and law reflect His perfect will and character. They provide us with clear and specific guidance for living a life pleasing to Him and help us avoid sinful acts. Often, our sinful nature prompts us to choose the wrong path, but God's commandments point us to the right path and show us how to live a holy and righteous life.

God's commandments as teaching

In *Exodus 24:12*, God asks Moses to go up the mountain and fetch the stone tablets containing the commandments and the law to teach them to the people of Israel. This shows us that God's commandments are not only for our own observance, but also for sharing with others so they can learn and follow them. Teaching God's commandments is a way to share God's love and truth with others.

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> Moses was there with the Lord forty days and forty nights without eating bread or drinking water. And he wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant—the Ten Commandments.

> — *Exodus 34:28*

Book: Old Testament / Exodus
Topics: bread, covenant, fasting, law, nearness, Word of God

Interpretation:
Exodus is one of the most important books of the Bible. It tells the story of the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt led *by Moses*. This verse describes the time when Moses spent 40 days and 40 nights on Mount Sinai with the Lord. During this time, Moses fasted and received the Ten Commandments from God on stone tablets.

Why did Moses fast for forty days?

Fasting is a spiritual practice. In the biblical context, fasting is associated with an act of sacrifice and devotion to God. Moses chose to fast for forty days to demonstrate his devotion to God. By abstaining from food and drink, Moses sought a deep connection with the divine.

The importance of the Ten Commandments

The Ten Commandments were given to Moses by God Himself and written on stone tablets. They represent a list of universal principles and values ??that have profoundly influenced how people understand and build their relationships with God and each other. The Ten Commandments include such precepts as loving God above all else, honoring parents, and prohibiting murder, stealing, lying, and adultery.

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