

## *Zodiacal Signatures in the Ten Commandments*

**T**HE TWO TABLETS on which the Ten Commandments were inscribed are, in terms of principles, Fire and Water. Those belonging to the Fire table have to do with man's obligation to his fellow man.

### FIRST COMMANDMENT

*Thou shalt have no other gods before me.*

The first Commandment is attuned to the first sign, Aries. This is the zodiacal power under which the Fire principle of the Elohim made its initial manifestation. Primal substance was then in an undifferentiated state. Divine life was equally present in all spirit-matter throughout universal space. The purpose of evolution is to bring individual self-consciousness, and from that state, universal self-consciousness.

### SECOND COMMANDMENT

*Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth;*

*Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them; for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;*

*And showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments*

In moving toward the goal of realizing God as the one and only ensouling life in all the universe, the second commandment requires that no part be worshiped as the whole. No graven image, no



Engraving, Luther Bible, published in Regensburg, 1756

*Since incarnate Love (Grace and Truth) came as the fulfillment of the Mosaic Law, Christ is prefigured in the Old Testament and its commandments. Therefore He says, "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me."—John 5:39*

humanly conceived object, can circumscribe Deity.

God is Light; He is Fire—an all-consuming Fire. He is a "jealous God," and forbids setting up any images in other elements. It must not be done in heaven (Air; mind), or on Earth (physical possessions, personalities, material things), or in Water (excessive emotional adorations or idealisms).

In its highest spiritual significance, the second Commandment has to do with the original primal

pattern in the likeness of which all things are created. Taurus, the second sign, is feminine. It is the home of the image-building faculty in man.

It was this faculty, linked to the heart or love principle, that fell in man. Consequently, the ability to image forth a perfect pattern has been lost. Meanwhile, awaiting the time when the lost power shall be regained, the command goes forth to make no “graven images,” since all such are imperfect representations of the Perfect One.

To bow down before imperfect images conceived by man brings discord and inharmony; to live in accord with the perfect pattern is to receive His mercy and dwell in harmony with cosmic Law.

### THIRD COMMANDMENT

*Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.*

This Commandment applies to the power of speech, for speech is creative and sacred. But it covers much more. Speech is one expression of the creative force in man; physical generation is another. To use that force for any idle or illegitimate purpose is to take the name of the Lord God in vain.

That name is I AM. It is the creating and building God-power within. To misuse that force is to break this Commandment, and for that wrong God does not hold man guiltless. This is the unforgivable sin that must be expiated by a weakened mind and body until the law of life is scrupulously respected.

The name I AM bore the same significance for an Initiate of the Old Dispensation that the name *Christ Jesus* does for an Initiate of the New. Whatsoever we ask in that name shall come to pass, according to the Master’s promise. “In His name” the initiated followers of the Christ healed the sick and brought new life to the dead—those dead to the realization of their true spiritual nature.

Gemini, the third sign, correlates to this Commandment. It governs speech. It is dual. On its higher side it recognizes the sanctity of the I AM; on its lower side it takes that sacred name (force) in vain (misuse).

### FOURTH COMMANDMENT

*Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.*

The Sabbath is the seventh day, the number representing the completion of a cycle. It is, therefore, the day on which God “rested.” Creative activity was stilled in its outer manifestations. The purpose of evolution is to enable man, a god-in-the-making, to express progressively his latent divine powers in the production of the “new heaven and new earth,” a spiritualized mind and a regenerate body. That this sublime work may be consummated, it is necessary for humanity to so live that every moment in this vast sevenfold cycle of time is devoted to high and holy purpose.

The word *sabbath* is composed of the Hebrew letters *Shin* (Sun), *Beth* ( house ) and *Tau* ( Ego or spirit). With the dawning of the Sabbath Day, the end of the present cycle, the light of spirit will illumine the body (house) of man with the radiance of the Sun. The god within shall then have come into complete manifestation and “the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.”

Cancer is the sign of the home (body) in which dwells the Ego. This is the sign of the Cherubim, wardens of the sacred life force. The way of holiness, as outlined in the fourth of the cosmic Words, is to be found through the conservation of that creative fire. “Ye shall keep the Sabbath therefore; for it is holy unto you: every one that defileth it shall surely be put to death.”

### FIFTH COMMANDMENT

*Honor thy father and thy mother; that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.*

This Commandment is keyed to the love sign, Leo. Honor to parents, the earthly reflectors of our Father-Mother God, is based on love. Ancestor worship among earlier races—and its survival among their lineal descendants, the Mongolians—is based on a realization of this correspondence and the sacredness of the relationship between Creator and the thing created.

Cosmically, father refers to the masculine Fire principle; mother the feminine Water principle. The one is spirit projected by will; the other is

matter receptive in love. The first is Leo, the second Cancer. The fifth Word unites the two tables of the law by the unifying, cohesive power of love.

When the Sun passes through Cancer and Leo it reaches its northernmost declination. The exact time is midsummer, season of the Summer Solstice. Fire and Water meet at that point, alchemically speaking. The powers operating on Earth and its life waves are most potent at that time. Cosmically, to honor father and mother is to establish equilibrium in nature between these two forces; mystically, it is the blending of the principles within the body of man. Its perfect accomplishment means Initiation. Such a one will be “long upon the land which the Law” establishes for him.

#### SIXTH COMMANDMENT

*Thou shalt not kill.*

Virgo, the Virgin, is the sign of chaste and harmless life. She brings the death-dealing beast under control. Ancient Wise Men declared that those who had come into possession of the inner powers of Virgo could handle venomous serpents without injury. This was the significance of the pictorial symbol for the sign used in early Mystery Schools, representing the Virgin as closing the mouth of a lion.

Scorpio was once counted as the sixth sign. It governs generation, from which humanity either falls into degeneration or arises through regeneration. Before the Fall, Scorpio embraced all that is now governed by Virgo. The two signs were one. After the Fall came separation—Scorpio governing what henceforth became known as the carnal nature; Virgo, the spiritual. About 600 B.C. the Greeks placed a sign between the two. This was Libra, the scales, wherein man is weighed in the balance to determine whether he goes the way of the flesh (Scorpio) or the way of spirit (Virgo). Libra was called the Trial Gate by the ancients for the same reason.

A realization of Virgo’s ideal brings a compassion that forbids needless injury to the least of God’s creatures. All forms of life are recognized as various manifestations of the One Life and, therefore, sacred. Through many forms in all the kingdoms of nature life in manifestation is struggling

ever upward to develop its potential powers and consciously reunite itself with its source. When man awakens to this truth, there will be no more homicides, no capital punishment, no war, no wanton destruction of life in any form. The voice of Virgo commands, “Thou shalt not kill.”

#### SEVENTH COMMANDMENT

*Thou shalt not commit adultery.*

As the sixth Commandment relates, astrologically, to the forces of the three signs, Virgo, Libra, and Scorpio, the seventh relates to the ninth sign in the zodiacal circle of twelve.

Sagittarius is not associated with adultery in the sense that the term is ordinarily used. Its significance in this commandment is more extensive, embracing not only adultery of the carnal nature but also of the mind. Mind is the Path. If mind leads in forbidden directions, the purposes of spirit working through it are frustrated.

Sagittarius rules the higher mind. To misuse its forces—which are of the same nature as those used for physical generation—is to commit adultery on mental levels with consequences similar to those resulting from its commission on the physical level, only raised to a higher power. “Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time,” declared Christ Jesus in the sermon on the Mount, “‘Thou shalt not commit adultery’: But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.” The seventh Commandment will be obeyed in all its implications when we have fulfilled Paul’s Sagittarian injunction: “Be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind.”

#### EIGHTH COMMANDMENT

*Thou shalt not steal.*

When consciousness transcends separative, personal functioning and enters into the universal and impersonal, there can be no more commission of theft. The higher knowing which forbids this comes under the rays of Capricorn. Under that sign the Master Jesus incarnated; in that sign the Christ within awakens. When this higher consciousness is developed, all things are viewed as existing for the benefit of the whole. Seeking nothing for himself

alone, a person shares in the universal wealth. He holds nothing as his only and, therefore, possesses all. Having all, there is nothing to steal.

In the Christ concept, thought is centered on giving, not getting. There is a realization that all men stand or fall together; that the gain of one is the gain of all, and the loss of one is the loss of all. The soul that functions on this level of spiritual realization shares in the strength and the weakness, the victories and the defeats of all. Knowing himself to be a part of the whole, he labors for the redemption of all. Together with the Christ, in whose spirit he works, he takes upon himself the burden of the world and is committed to the cause of humanity's liberation therefrom.

#### NINTH COMMANDMENT

*Thou shall not bear false witness against thy neighbor.*

Aquarius is the sign of brotherhood and friendship. There can be no false witness borne by those living true to its ideals. The spirit of fellowship, the sign of the Son of Man in manifestation, forbids it. Moreover, this highly keyed sign, of which Uranus is the ruler, governs the finer forces in nature and the psychic faculties in man. Thus, it reveals truth and exposes error, rendering false witness of no avail. As Aquarius gains in strength in the consciousness of man, thoughts will be seen as words are now heard, and a thing will be recognized for what it really is.

#### TENTH COMMANDMENT

*Thou shalt not covet.*

Disobedience of the tenth Word results in breaking of every Commandment that is written on the second Table of the Law. There is a sense in which it includes the preceding six laws.

Covetousness is often the reason for dishonoring parents. Indulgence in this sin many times results in the taking of life and is often the reason for committing adultery. The subtle and insidious sin of covetousness frequently motivates theft and the bearing of false witness. Every phase of human relationship is thrown into inharmonious reaction by the breaking of this Commandment, the most far-reaching in effect of the Ten Words.

### Rosicrucian Song of the Light

O threefold radiance of the sun,  
O robe of life divine,  
Through whom, o'er all the universe,  
Our triune God doth shine;

O stars and planets and soft moon,  
Who traverse heavenly ways,  
And with a wide diversity  
Reflect the solar rays;

From all the kingdoms of the earth,  
From man and beast and bird,  
From tree and plant, from soil and stone  
Acclaiming praise be heard.

Jehovah's rays of red create  
All forms that serve and die;  
The whirling atoms take new shape,  
Drawn by His energy.

Christ's golden rays in matter forge  
New vistas for the light;  
Evolving roses come to birth,  
Unfolded through His might.

The Father's rays of blue, in form  
The seed of life bestow,  
That, through in-dwelling, spirit may  
In conscious wisdom grow.

Accept our worship, God of light,  
From spirit, body, soul;  
May all Thy children rise and be  
One praising, shining whole.

—Margaret Grant

The last Commandment comes under the last sign, Pisces. So too, does the human race. Jupiter, ruler of Pisces, inspires generosity; Neptune, exalted in Pisces, impresses the race consciousness with the spiritual unity of all Egos in the body of God. Jupiter's influence touches the masses; Neptune's, the sensitive few. Together they create the type of consciousness wherein covetousness cannot dwell. □

—Corinne Heline