

Committing to Memory the Ten Commandments as Illuminated by St. Thomas Aquinas *Summa Theologiae* Ia-IIa, q. 100, a. 5

The first three Commandments concern the love of God. The seven final Commandments concern the love of neighbor. Within each grouping, there is an interiorizing movement from DEEDS through WORDS to the HEART.

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| First: I am the Lord your God. You shall not worship false gods. | DEEDS toward God |
| Second: You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain. | WORDS concerning God |
| Third: Keep holy the Lord's Day. | HEART's repose in God |
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| Fourth: Honor your father and mother | DEEDS toward those who are our origin |
| Fifth: You shall not kill. | DEEDS affecting the life of our neighbor |
| Sixth: You shall not commit adultery. | DEEDS affecting the life vowed to our neighbor |
| Seventh: You shall not steal. | DEEDS affecting our neighbor's goods |
| Eighth: You shall not bear false witness. | WORDS affecting our neighbor |
| Ninth: You shall not covet your neighbor's spouse | HEART: conversion of desire for people |
| Tenth: You shall not covet your neighbor's goods | HEART: conversion of desire for things |

Jesus Christ is in His own Person the perfect union and fulfilment of the two-fold command of love of God and love of neighbor, precisely because He is fully God and fully man, the Lord Himself in our flesh.