

The Ten Commandments

The commandments passage in Exodus contains more than ten imperative statements, totaling 14 or more, however, the Bible itself does refer to them as "10" elsewhere (Ex 34:28; Deut. 4:13 & 10:4) using the Hebrew phrase *aseret had'varim* (*the 10 words, statements or things*). This phrase does not appear in the passages usually presented as being "the Ten Commandments" (Exodus 20:1-17 and Deut. 5:6-21). The commandments are not numbered in the Bible leading to different ways how they are counted. The table below highlights those differences.

Division of the Ten Commandments by Religion/Denomination

Commandment	Jewish	Anglican/Methodist, Reformed, and other Christian	Orthodox	Roman Catholic, Lutheran**
I am the Lord your God	1	preface	1	1
You shall have no other gods before me	2	1		
You shall not make for yourself an idol		2	2	
You shall not make wrongful use of the name of your God	3	3	3	2
Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy	4	4	4	3
Honor your father and mother	5	5	5	4
You shall not murder*	6	6	6	5
You shall not commit adultery	7	7	7	6
You shall not steal	8	8	8	7
You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor	9	9	9	8
You shall not covet your neighbor's house	10	10	10	9
You shall not covet your neighbor's wife				10

Notes:

* Sometimes the translation 'kill' (less specific) instead of '[murder](#)' can be found, though 'murder' is the more accurate translation.

** Some [Lutheran](#) churches use a slightly different division of the Ninth and Tenth Commandments (9. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house; 10. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his workers, or his cattle, or anything that is your neighbor's). [\[5\]](#)