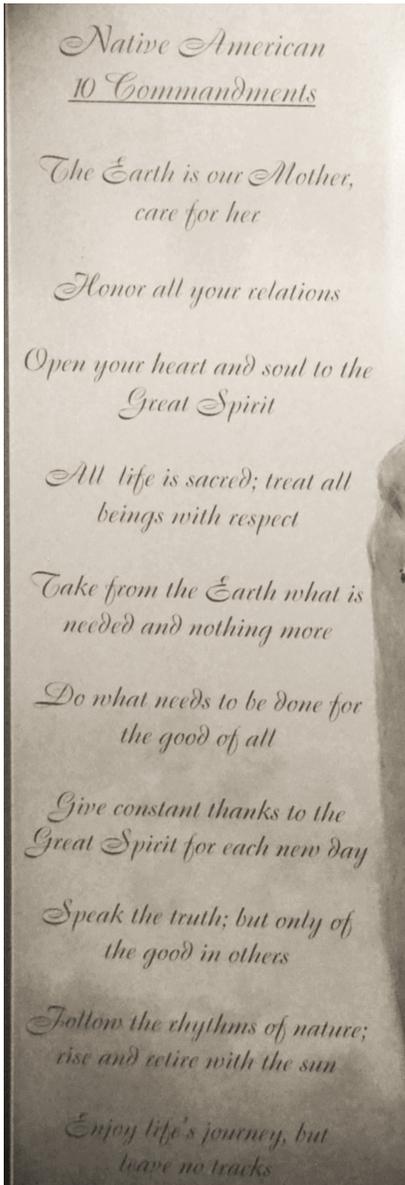


Bite Size Bible Study

Other Cultures #99

By Pastor Lee

It is interesting to find that other cultures often see their creator in similar ways that we do. When we were in Canada I ran across a mural of the 10 commandments from the indigenous peoples there. They call themselves “The People” and many follow the customs of their ancestors.



Native American 10 Commandments

*The Earth is our Mother,
care for her*

Honor all of your relations

*Open your heart and soul
to the Great Spirit*

*All life is sacred;
treat all beings with respect*

*Take from the Earth what is needed
and nothing more*

*Do what needs to be done
for the good of all*

*Give constant thanks
to the Great Spirit for each new day*

*Speak the truth
but only of the good in others*

*Follow the rhythms of nature;
rise and retire with the sun*

*Enjoy life's journey,
but leave no tracks*

I don't know when this was composed or if it was influenced by another culture but it does represent some valuable lessons for living.

I invite you to compare our 10 commandments to this set and see where each has its value. Sometimes they speak the same sentiment and other times they are silent on a point of the other.

I am Adonai your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the abode of slavery.

You are to have no other gods before me. You are not to make for yourselves a carved image or any kind of representation of anything in heaven above, on the earth beneath or in the water below the shoreline. You are not to bow down to them or serve them;

Remember the day, Shabbat, to set it apart for God. You have six days to labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Shabbat for Adonai your God. On it, you are not to do any kind of work — not you, your son or your daughter, not your male or female slave, not your livestock, and not the foreigner staying with you inside the gates to your property

“Honor your father and mother, so that you may live long in the land which Adonai your God is giving you.

Do not murder.

Do not commit adultery.

Do not steal.

Do not give false evidence against your neighbor.

Do not covet your neighbor's house; do not covet your neighbor's wife, his male or female slave, his ox, his donkey or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

As long as we remain attached to the Creator and the teachings He has given us, we need not prevent ourselves from seeing the good in other peoples. After all we all were created in God's image and whether one recognizes Him or not there is still some evidence within each person that they are His children. Seeing that evidence is not always easy but it is a characteristic of a mature child of God.

May we see a child of God in everyone

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