

# Pastoral Prayer on Loving God through Obedience

Scriptures from Isaiah 43; Deuteronomy 5; Matthew 5-6



I am God, your God,  
I've redeemed you.  
I've called your name. You're mine.  
When you're in over your head, I'll be there with you.  
When you're in rough waters, you will not go down.  
When you're between a rock and a hard place,

it won't be a dead end—



Because I am God, your personal God,  
The Holy of Israel, your Saviour.  
I paid a huge price for you:  
all of Egypt,  
That's how much you mean to me!  
That's how much I love you!  
I'd sell off the whole world to get you back,

trade the creation just for you.



These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts--Get them inside of you

<sup>7</sup> Adore God only rather than having two gods in your life you will love one and hate the other

<sup>11</sup> stop using the name of GOD in curses or silly banter—it doesn't represent God honestly nor do you any good

<sup>12-15</sup> Work six days, doing everything you have to do, but the seventh day is a Rest Day—no work: not you, your son, your daughter, or any of your animals or even guests visiting you. That way all get to rest. Don't ever forget that you were work slaves in Egypt and GOD got you out of that slavery. That's why He commands you to observe the day of Sabbath rest.

<sup>16</sup> Respect your father and mother.

<sup>17</sup> stop carelessly calling someone an idiot, an ass or worse. The simple moral fact is that words kill. Don't murder with words; don't take life—give life in all that you do. If a friend has a grudge—take the first step; make things right.

<sup>18</sup> you know the commandment which I give you for the good of all, "Don't go to bed with another's spouse." Don't think you're holy simply by staying out of bed. Your heart can be corrupted by lust even quicker than your body. Train your mind and eyes to look upon people with respect. You men-- giving dignity and honour to every girl and woman you encounter. That's what it means to give life.

<sup>19</sup> Stockpile treasure in heaven, where it's safe rather than take what is not yours

<sup>20</sup> Rather than lie about yourself or your neighbour speak the truth in love and let your tongue give life.

<sup>21</sup> Rather than covet your neighbour's spouse or lust for your neighbour's house or anything that belongs to your neighbour—be generous with what you have.

Grow up. You're kingdom subjects. Now live like it. Live out your God-created identity. Live generously and graciously toward others, the way God lives toward you."

## Contemplative prayer

- Quiet; eyes closed; breath
- Image of you taking life giving words and writing them on your heart
  - What is it like to receive them?
  - What is it like to open heart?
  - What is it like to write them there?
  - What is it like for them to become part of you?
- Who do you see among our children catching these life-giving attitudes and actions by being around you?
- With whom in your world tomorrow do you need the grace to live out your God-created identity generously and graciously?
- Receive the grace and the word of God.