

# FOLLOWERS OF THE WAY

**John 14:6** Jesus saith unto him, I am **the way** (ἡ ὁδός), the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

**Acts 9:2** And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any **of this way** (τῆς ὁδοῦ), whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.

**Acts 19:9** But when divers were hardened, and believed not, but spake evil of **that way** (τὴν ὁδόν) before the multitude, he departed from them, and separated the disciples, disputing daily in the school of one Tyrannus. **Acts 19:10** And this continued by the space of two years; so that all they which dwelt in Asia heard the word of the Lord Jesus, both Jews and Greeks. **Acts 19:11** And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul:

**Acts 19:23** And the same time there arose no small stir **about that way** (περὶ τῆς ὁδοῦ).

**Acts 22:4** And I persecuted **this way** (τὴν ὁδόν) unto the death, binding and delivering into prisons both men and women.

**Acts 24:14** But this I confess unto thee, that **after the way** (κατὰ τὴν ὁδόν) which they call heresy, so worship I the God of my fathers, believing all things which are written in the law and in the prophets:

**Acts 24:22** And when Felix heard these things, having more perfect knowledge **of that way** (περὶ τῆς ὁδοῦ), he deferred them, and said, When Lysias the chief captain shall come down, I will know the uttermost of your matter.

## I. Presented **visually**

This seems simple but background, personality, friends, ideas...tend to skew this!

This is not a line / tightrope:

- Narrow
- Fear
- Fear of falling off
- No allowance for anything different

This is not “whatever”

- No boundaries
- Deep fear of right and wrong
- Boundaries are in flux

Not just against the wrong way

Nor is it just **my** way!

It is **the** way – the **Biblical** way – the **Christian** way!

This gives us:

- **Boundaries / parameters**
- **Direction**
- **Freedom - within the boundaries**
- **This can be called form & freedom**
- **Since this is a path / road / way – there are dangers to **both left & right****

**Deuteronomy 4:1** Now therefore hearken, O Israel, unto the statutes and unto the judgments, which I teach you, for to do them, that ye may live, and go in and possess the land which the LORD God of your fathers giveth you. **Deuteronomy 4:2** Ye shall **not** add unto the word which I command you, **neither** shall ye **diminish** ought from it, **that** ye may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.

**Deuteronomy 12:32** What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: **thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it.**

**Joshua 1:7** Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: **turn not from it to the right hand or to the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.**

**Proverbs 4:27** Turn **not** to the **right hand nor to the left**: remove thy foot from evil.

**2 Corinthians 6:7** By the word of truth, by the power of God, **by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,**

**Revelation 22:18** For I testify unto every man that heareth the words of the prophecy of this book, **If any man shall add unto these things**, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book: **Revelation 22:19** And if any man shall **take away** from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.

- **Avoiding both legalism & libertinism / liberalism**

## II. Presented verbally

- **God matters most!**
- **Other people matter!**
- **Other people's stuff matters **also**!**

## III. Presented textually

**Exodus 24:12** And the LORD said unto Moses, Come up to me into the mount, and be there: and I will give thee **tables of stone**, and a law, and commandments which I have written; that thou mayest teach them.

**Exodus 31:18** And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, **two tables of testimony**, tables of stone, written with the finger of God.

**Exodus 32:15** And Moses turned, and went down from the mount, and **the two tables of the testimony were in his hand: the tables were written on both their sides; on the one side and on the other were they written.**

**Exodus 32:16** And **the tables were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, graven upon the tables.**

**Exodus 32:19** And it came to pass, as soon as he came nigh unto the camp, that he saw the calf, and the dancing: and Moses' anger waxed hot, and he cast the tables out of his hands, and brake them beneath the mount.

**Exodus 34:1** And the LORD said unto Moses, Hew thee **two tables of stone** like unto the first: and I will write upon these tables the words that were in the first tables, which thou brakest.

**Exodus 34:4** And he hewed **two tables of stone** like unto the first; and Moses rose up early in the morning, and went up unto mount Sinai, as the LORD had commanded him, and took in his hand the two tables of stone.

**Exodus 34:28** And he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he did neither eat bread, nor drink water. And he wrote upon **the tables the words of the covenant, the ten commandments.** **Exodus 34:29** And it came to pass, when Moses came down from mount Sinai with **the two tables of testimony in Moses' hand**, when he came down from the mount, that Moses wist not that the skin of his face shone while he talked with him.

**Deuteronomy 4:13** And he declared unto you his covenant, which he commanded you to perform, **even ten commandments; and he wrote them upon two tables of stone.**

**Deuteronomy 5:22** These words the LORD spake unto all your assembly in the mount out of the midst of the fire, of the cloud, and of the thick darkness, with a great voice: **and he added no more. And he wrote them in two tables of stone, and delivered them unto me.**

**Deuteronomy 9:9** When I was gone up into the mount **to receive the tables of stone, even the tables of the covenant which the LORD made with you,** then I abode in the mount forty days and forty nights, I neither did eat bread nor drink water: **Deuteronomy 9:10** And the LORD delivered unto me **two tables of stone written with the finger of God; and on them was written according to all the words, which the LORD spake with you** in the mount out of the midst of the fire in the day of the assembly. **Deuteronomy 9:11** And it came to pass at the end of forty days and forty nights, that the LORD gave me **the two tables of stone, even the tables of the covenant.**

**Deuteronomy 9:15** So I turned and came down from the mount, and the mount burned with fire: and **the two tables of the covenant were in my two hands.**

**Deuteronomy 9:17** And I took **the two tables**, and cast them out of my two hands, and brake them before your eyes.

**Deuteronomy 10:1** At that time the LORD said unto me, Hew thee **two tables of stone** like unto the first, and come up unto me into the mount, and make thee an ark of wood. **Deuteronomy 10:2** And I will write on the tables the words that were in the first tables which thou brakest, and thou shalt put them in the ark. **Deuteronomy 10:3** And I made an ark of shittim wood, and hewed two tables of stone like unto the first, and went up into the mount, **having the two tables in mine hand.** **Deuteronomy 10:4** **And he wrote on the tables, according to the first writing, the ten commandments,** which the LORD spake unto you in the mount out of the midst of the fire in the day of the assembly: and the LORD gave them unto me. **Deuteronomy 10:5** And I turned myself and came down from the mount, **and put the tables in the ark** which I had made; and there they be, as the LORD commanded me.

**1 Kings 8:9** There was nothing in the ark save **the two tables of stone**, which Moses put there at Horeb, when the LORD made a covenant with the children of Israel, when they came out of the land of Egypt.

### **It seems to me that it is best to keep things simple:**

**Mark 12:28** And one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, and perceiving that he had answered them well, asked him, Which is the first commandment of all?

**Mark 12:29** And Jesus answered him, The **first** of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: **Mark 12:30** And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. **Mark 12:31** And the **second** is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these.

**Deuteronomy 6:4** Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: **Deuteronomy 6:5** And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

**Leviticus 19:18** Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, **but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am the LORD.**

<b>Table #1:</b>	<b>Table #2:</b>
<b>Love God!</b>	<b>Love your neighbor!</b>
<b>God matters most!</b>	<b>Other people matter</b> + <b>Other people's stuff matters also!</b>
<b><u>Exodus 20:1</u></b> And God spake all these words, saying, <b><u>Exodus 20:2</u></b> I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.  <b><u>Exodus 20:3</u></b> Thou shalt have <b><u>no</u></b> other gods before me.	<b><u>Exodus 20:12</u></b> Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

<p><b><u>Exodus 20:4</u></b> Thou shalt <b><u>not</u></b> make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: <b><u>Exodus 20:5</u></b> Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve 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; <b><u>Exodus 20:6</u></b> And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.</p> <p><b><u>Exodus 20:7</u></b> Thou shalt <b><u>not</u></b> take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.</p> <p><b><u>Exodus 20:8</u></b> Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. <b><u>Exodus 20:9</u></b> Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: <b><u>Exodus 20:10</u></b> But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: <b><u>Exodus 20:11</u></b> For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.</p>	<p><b><u>Exodus 20:13</u></b> Thou shalt <b><u>not</u></b> kill.</p> <p><b><u>Exodus 20:14</u></b> Thou shalt <b><u>not</u></b> commit adultery.</p> <p><b><u>Exodus 20:15</u></b> Thou shalt <b><u>not</u></b> steal.</p> <p><b><u>Exodus 20:16</u></b> Thou shalt <b><u>not</u></b> bear false witness against thy neighbour.</p> <p><b><u>Exodus 20:17</u></b> Thou shalt <b><u>not</u></b> covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.</p> <p><b><u>Matthew 7:12</u></b> Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye <b><u>even so</u></b> to them: <b><u>for</u></b> this is the law and the prophets.</p> <p><b><u>Luke 6:31</u></b> And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye <b><u>also</u></b> to them likewise.</p> <p><b><u>Romans 13:9</u></b> For this, Thou shalt not commit adultery, Thou shalt not kill, Thou shalt not steal, Thou shalt not bear false witness, Thou shalt not covet; and <b><u>if there be any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Romans 13:10</u></b> Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: <b><u>therefore</u></b> love is the fulfilling of the law.</p> <p><b><u>Galatians 5:13</u></b> For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, <b><u>but by love serve one another.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Galatians 5:14</u></b> <b><u>For all the law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.</u></b></p> <p><b><u>James 2:8</u></b> If ye fulfil <b><u>the royal law</u></b> according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well:</p>
<p><b><u>Matthew 6:9-13</u></b> After this manner therefore pray ye:</p> <p><b>Our</b> Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be <b>thy</b> name. <b>Thy</b> kingdom come. <b>Thy</b> will be done in earth, as it is in heaven.</p> <p><b><u>For thine</u></b> is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.</p>	<p>Give <b>us</b> this day <b>our</b> daily bread. And forgive <b>us our</b> debts, <b>as we</b> forgive <b>our</b> debtors. And lead <b>us</b> not into temptation, but deliver <b>us</b> from evil:</p>