

Receiving the Commandments

The Ten Commandments are called “the tables of the covenant” because they are the means for joining together the Lord and His people (see *Arcana Coelestia* 1038.5).

“Covenant” means conjunction with the Lord and when Divine truth is received by a person, conjunction with the Lord takes place (see *Apocalypse Explained* 701).

In any covenant or contract, there are at least two people involved, and each person has a part to play. In our covenant with the Lord, His part is to give us His life—His good and truth. Our part is to receive that good and truth.

This statement might sound as if we are pretty passive, but actually, receiving the Lord’s good and truth is an active choice. Think about any ball game. You have to work at being a good receiver—watching the passer carefully, learning timing, figuring out how to grip the ball, etc.

We choose to take part in a covenant with the Lord when we put His truths—particularly His commandments—into use in our life. Pick one of the commandments (listed clockwise on the right). What is one thing you can do to *actively receive* that commandment into your life?

