

Ten Words That Will Transform a Nation

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LEE'S SUMMIT, Mo.—We speak of them as the Ten Commandments, but the Hebrew word translated "commandments" in this context can just as easily be translated "words." (Compare Exodus 20:1 and Exodus 34:28).

In an interesting lesson this morning in a men's Bible study here in town, I was intrigued at a comment Rod Handley made about "the 10 divine rules for human conduct," as he put it. He was quoting another source that I have been unable to find, but the lesson is a good one.

His source reduced each of the Ten Commandments to one word and pointed out that any society would prosper if they were to respect and live by these 10 words.

By the same token, any society that ignores these 10 words would find itself in decline.

The 10-word summary of the Ten Commandments is:

1. Religion
2. Worship
3. Reverence
4. Time
5. Authority
6. Life
7. Purity
8. Property
9. Tongue
10. Contentment

Kind of sums it all up, don't you think?