

The All-Natural Ten Commandments What??

or

How do you want your Ten Commandments—All natural or with artificial ingredients, colors, flavorings, and preservatives?

by A.E. Tracy Potts

The question isn't meant to be sacrilegious, impertinent, or in poor taste.

To present the twin concepts of the importance of the use of the original biblical language (ancient paleo-Hebrew) and its alphabet (which became the basis, or template, of all western alphabets) to the Natural Awakenings community, it's appropriate to re-frame something so seemingly familiar to us as the Ten Commandments in the terminology of natural versus added ingredients, flavorings, and preservatives.

Anyone can appreciate the difference between a home-made-from-scratch brownie and one of those part of a batch put on a rectangular styrofoam plate covered with shrink-wrap sporting a self-adhesive "nutrition facts" label on its underneath side. The analogy holds with the difference between the "all natural" Ten Commandment stone tablets brought off Sinai (3500 years ago) and deposited in the Ark and what we have today wherever the Ten Commandments are read.

You see, what has been "artificially" added to their plain text (which, BTW, is still readable today), the way they have been "colored", "flavored", and "preserved", has changed them from what what they originally said (and still say) into something that isn't what they said (and still say). My role here is to facilitate an understanding and appreciation of them in their "all natural" state so that you, too, might come to see them in a new, different, and more complete light.

There are main two aspects to be focused on in the course of this comparison of the Ten Commandments in their "all natural" state versus in their "post-modern" "artificially preserved" state. The first is the plain text of the Ten Commandments themselves (in the original biblical language); the second is the alphabet of the original biblical language—ancient Hebrew. What I want to share with you is their timeless nature (they really never needed to be "artificially preserved"), and the timeless, yet modern, "ancient" alphabet of the all-natural Ten Commandments. When you see what's there—what's been there all along—hidden underneath its artificially preserved form, you'll never be able to see them (or experience them) in the same way.

If you're wondering what the "all natural", "preservative free", and "no artificial ingredient" Ten Commandments look like, here's exactly how they appear if you, yourself, used all the "ingredients", or "specifications" as given (or hidden) in the plain text of your preferred Bible. They'd be rough hewn; they'd be about two inches thick; they'd be the same color as the granite of Mt. Sinai; they'd be about a cubit and a half high and about a cubit wide; they'd have all the text as given in Chapter 20 of the Book

of Exodus (Sh'Mot in Hebrew); and they'd be written in "ancient" Hebrew. Basically, what they'd look like is pictured here:



Notice the "ancient" letters of the alphabet as engraved on the tablet. I'm going to try to show you exactly how it is that the letters are timeless, require nothing artificial to preserve them, and how they are "all natural"—and here, no pun is intended.

Let's focus on just three letters which appear throughout the Ten Commandments: the letter "ALEF", the letter "AYIN", and the letter, "KAF". As it happens, each of those letters is the exact basis of our corresponding letter—as I'll show you.

First, let's look at the "ancient" letter, "ALEF". On the photo of the Tablet [see inset] you'll be able to see several "ALEF's". Look at the upper right-hand corner and you'll see two—one underneath the other—they look like our capital "A" turned on its side and rotated to the right.

When you look closely you'll also be able to pick out several more. They're as common in the text as our letter "A" would be in any given text.

That "ALEF", is, in fact, our "A"; and the phoneme (or sound) associated with that letter is the sound of a "short" "a", as in "apple". But here's the part that makes this "ancient" alphabet "all natural". That side-ways "A" is actually a stylized depiction of an open mouth—an open mouth saying the short "a" sound—which is the initial phoneme (sound) of the first word of the Ten Commandments (in their "all natural" state). The vertical line (downstroke) through the center of the "open mouth" is a stylized tongue, which depicts the tongue going to the top (roof) of the mouth to effect the pronunciation of the second sound in the name of the letter "ALEF", which is the "I" sound. Get it? AH-LEF.

The "all natural" letter "AYIN" is the engraved letter on the photo that looks an "O". In fact, it is our "O", and it's pronounced "ah-yeen". Its primary sound is "ah". From that ancient, all-natural AYIN the ancient Greeks got their "O", or "omicron"—pronounced "ah-me-cron". (The Greek "long-O" sound is the last letter of their alphabet, the OMEGA.) You can easily find any one of the four "O's" on the tablet photo. To see how the "AYIN" is a stylized depiction of the way it is pronounced, simply look in the mirror at your open mouth: and there's the stylized "O". The shape of the "AYIN" [ O ] is an "all natural" way of depicting an open mouth looking at it from the front (as opposed to a side-ways view in the case of the open-mouth "ALEF").

The "ancient" letter "KAF", which needs no preservative, since it's preserved pretty much in its own form from then until now, makes the same phoneme (sound) as our letter "K", and is, in fact, our "k", only backwards. More to the point, our "k" is a

backwards "KAF". (You'll find two backward "K's" on the top line of text, one on the second line—the fifth letter from the left, as well as several others throughout the tablet text.)

Now, think about how you produce the sound of "K". Your tongue moves toward the back of your throat to close it off, and then positive air support from your lungs comes up your trachea and "pops" open the closed off back-of-the-throat— and voila: a "ka" sound. Again, the backward "K" is "merely" a stylized depiction. Here's how: the " < " part of the "K" is a stylized depiction of the "balled up" tongue muscle; and as you can see, it is adjacent to the " | " part of the "K", which is a depiction of a throat. So, in those two figures you have the anatomic depiction of the mouth and throat where the primary sound of the letter "K", the "ka", is produced (or pronounced).

So, the "all natural" aspect of this "ancient" alphabet (which need no "artificial" preservatives) is that it's based on the all-natural way in which the human organs of speech produce the sounds of human language. The Scriptural basis of this "all natural" way is from Genesis (Beresh't in Hebrew) 1:26, "Let us make man in Our Image according to Our Likeness."

The "all natural" way of letter formation is that the letter is actually a two-dimensional stylized depiction of the part of the human organ of speech where the sound depicted by the letter itself is produced, or pronounced. With this explanation, you can easily see how this alphabet, and thus, language, is a purely phonetic alphabet—and a purely phonetic language. It is virtually self-pronouncing—once you learn the anatomic depictions represented by the letters themselves.

That having been shown, you can more easily see how I can tell you that I can teach you the entire twenty-two letter "ancient" Hebrew alphabet (which is OUR alphabet) in about an hour. And you can see how I would then be able to teach you how to read the Ten Commandments in their original language in about an hour; and you can see how I would be able to show you how to write out the "all natural" Ten Commandments in its original biblical language in about an hour. What would be the value of that?

Well, when you learn how, in about an hour, to read aloud the "all natural" Ten Commandments, your voice is saying the very same words spoken by the Deity of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob/Israel, and Moses. The Scriptural reference for that is from Exodus 20:22, "You have seen that I have spoken with you from the heavens." The value you will get from writing out the "preservative free" Ten Commandments in their original form comes from what Moses reports that "Yahweh" said to him [at Exodus 20:24], "In every place in which I cause My Name to be remembered, I will come to you and will bless you."

And because this "ancient" language, free of artificial linguistic colorings and flavorings, is purely phonetic—that is, there is a one-to-one relationship between the letter's shape, or formation, and the sound that it makes—the actual, scriptural Name of the Deity of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Moses (spelled out in English as Y-H-W-H) is made fully

pronounceable and fully accessible. Because of that one-to-one relationship between the letter shape and the sound that it makes, the Name "Y-H-W-H" can be learned by way of the "all natural" phonetics of this "ancient" language.

Learning His Name—His "Actual" Name—and it's "actual" pronunciation is a benefit that you will get when you allow me to teach you all the underlying principles of His Self-Pronouncing Language.

Hopefully, you can readily appreciate value and spiritual benefit that comes from the consideration of the Ten Commandments on their own terms and on their own "turf", or, as "all natural". We would not be able to learn what I have shared with you here from reading out of our favorite Bible. The Ten Commandments in our favorite Bibles have been "preserved" for us to read in our own language; and of necessity, have been "colored" (the translated words and Names are different than as given by the plain text in an "all natural" reading of them). They have been "flavored" (the intent and import of the "all natural" reading of them has been changed—or, "flavored"—over the course of the three-and-a-half millennia). If you'll allow me to, I'll "show" you the "all natural" Ten Commandments; and show you the difference between them and what's come down to us, having been affected over the course of some thirty-five centuries by the ingredients, colors, flavorings, and preservatives when translated from language to language and by and differing (and even competing) theological orientations.

To learn more, the seminar that I offer is scheduled once every month. The seminars are limited to the first fifteen people who register to attend. The seminar is all day long (9 - 5); the cost is \$75. Lunch is on one's own. The November and December seminar will be at The Center for Life, 12915 Jones Maltsberger (north of Bitters). The dates are Saturday, November 20 and Sunday, December 12. For more information, call me, Tracy Potts. I am the Stone Tablets artist, at (210) 867-1869; or e-mail [info@hashemartworks.net](mailto:info@hashemartworks.net).



A.E. Tracy Potts is the Stone Tablets Artist behind the Two Stone Tablets, the world's first authentic recreation of the Two Stone Tablets of the Testimony carried off Mt. Sinai by Moses some 3,500 years ago. The "all natural" Ten Commandments can be seen at [hashemartworks.net](http://hashemartworks.net).