

## The 15 commandments

"Traditionally, the code of the Mosaic law that is the basis of the usual moral teaching includes the so-called two tables (Ex 20:17): the first table defines our relationship to God and the transcendent: exclusive adoration, worship and oaths; the second table specifies the relationship to others: prohibition of homicide, adultery and lying, respect for the rights and property of others. It is significant that the relationship to the ecological environment does not emerge formally in the Decalogue. **Where is the third table?**"



Translated from :

Beauchamp, André. (1993). *Éthique de l'environnement*. Montréal: Éditions Paulines, 224 pages.

To André Beauchamp's question "Where is the third table?" I would offer this third table, which takes into account the relationship with other creatures. The Bible speaks of right relationships with Creation, which is why it makes perfect sense to imagine it.

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| DIVINE    | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt.</li> <li>2. You shall have no other God but me.</li> <li>3. You shall not take the name of God in vain.</li> <li>4. Remember the Sabbath day.</li> <li>5. Honour your father and mother.</li> </ol>   |
| HUMANS    | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. You shall not kill.</li> <li>7. You shall not commit adultery.</li> <li>8. You shall not steal.</li> <li>9. You shall not bear false witness.</li> <li>10. You shall not envy... anything that belongs to your neighbour.</li> </ol>   |
| CREATURES | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11. You shall protect the natural environment, for I have made you in my image.</li> <li>12. You shall not be cruel to animals, for you too are a creature.</li> <li>13. You shall not abuse the earth, so that it will remain fertile.</li> <li>14. You shall not waste the earth's resources.</li> <li>15. You shall not pollute. The air you breathe, the water you drink and the earth that sustains you shall remain clean.</li> </ol> |

Notes :

11. ref. : Gn 9:1-16 ; Dt 22:6-7

12. ref. : Ex 23:1-12; Lv 24:18-21; Hos 6:6; Pr 12:10

13. ref. : Gn 2:15; Dt 26:1-12; Lv 25:1-7

14. ref. : Ex 16:13-31; Jr 4:22-26

15. ref. : Is 24:4-20; Nb 35:34