

The Sixth Commandment

Thou shalt not kill

Exodus 20:13 / Matthew 5:21-23

Intro

- Basics: God's moral law written on the hearts of every man.
- Posted: In your house, and in your heart.
- N.T. - Not to destroy the law but to fulfill it.
- Schoolmaster (bus driver) to bring (drive) us to Christ.

Review

Convict & Correct, Protect

Impossible to Keep! So why try?

Can you obey one at a time? Then you can obey all of them.

"Be holy for I am holy."

"Without me you can do nothing."

This morning we look at the 6th of the Ten Commandments.

Remember the first four are about honoring God, the **last 6 are about honoring men.**

The Ten Commandments

(The List)

1. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.
2. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image.
3. Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain.
4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

5. Honor thy father and thy mother.
6. Thou shalt not kill.
7. Thou shalt not commit adultery.
8. Thou shalt not steal.
9. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.
10. Thou shalt not covet.

Thou shalt not kill

Exodus 20:13 / Matthew 5:21-23

Preface:

We are going to skip the 5th Commandment, “Honor your father and mother” so that we might deal with that one in a few weeks on Mother’s Day.

Introduction:

Of all the sins addressed in the ten commandments “thou shalt not kill” is the least problematic, least convicting, least preoccupying of all. I don’t usually kill anyone, and I can safely say I have never broken the 6th commandment. It appears to be one of those commands that is for the other guy. I am no Jeffrey Dahmer, or Hannibal Lecter. I am not a homicidal maniac and I don’t carry a gun.

Why the Commandment?

I think most of us are in the same boat. You probably didn’t wake up this morning thinking about murder. (Let’s hope not!)

What if God did not give us this commandment? What would life be like?

What is the Commandment?

The word - 07523 xur ratsach *raw-tsakh'* - "kill" = murder

Not About ...

- Animals? Insects? - Christian Vegetarianism
- Capital Punishment?
- War? Conscientious Objector
- Self Defense?
- Tumors, germs, bacteria

Is About ...

- Murder
- Abortion - infanticide "*Thou shalt not kill*" applies to persons not a fetus.
- Euthanasia
- Suicide
(ie) Cain killed Able

Murder - premeditated, or hostile intent, deliberate snuffing out of another's life. The destruction of someone else's life.

What is the "core" of the Commandment?

That is, what did Jesus teach and interpret regarding this command.

Matthew 5:21 - Jesus addresses the root cause of "Murder"

21 Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: 22 But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire. 23 Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; 24 Leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift. 25 Agree with thine adversary quickly, whiles thou art in the way with him; lest at any time the adversary deliver thee to the judge, and the judge deliver thee to the officer, and thou be cast into prison. 26 Verily I say unto thee, Thou shalt by no means come out thence, till thou hast paid the uttermost farthing.

1. Murder in your heart = hatred. Having enemies and hating them. Having a list of people you don't want to deal with. Prolonged anger is sin. It is a root.
2. An Unsettled Grudge. Cain killed Able after an argument. After a disagreement. After a grudge. After anger. An unsettled argument, grudge, anger, or bitterness makes you a prisoner. "*An ax to grind*." Deal with your adversary! Settle the issue. Take the wrongs.
3. Unforgiveness is murder in your heart. Holding someone hostage to your will. All bitterness is sin. All grudges are sin. All prolonged anger is sin. If murder results from disputes, then kill the dispute not the neighbor.

Conclusion:

- Are you a murderer?
- Do you have enemies?
- Are you holding a grudge?
- Are you holding anyone hostage?

Make a list of everyone you are ...

... angry at, ... avoiding, ... arguing with, ... bitter against... who offended you

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Forgive them the trespass. Let them go. Let the sin be covered. Even as Christ covers your sin.

Agree to disagree. You don't have to be right all the time. You don't have to agree. Pity them, but don't hate them. Don't assassinate them with words, dirty looks, hostile feelings, or daggers of bitterness.

You MUST live without holding hostages!

Remember the purpose of the commandment?

1. Convict: Conviction of Sin

Paul says, the law is to bring about conviction of sin, and to drive us to Christ. It is our schoolmaster, that is, our babysitter. It teaches us the basics of moral law.

Romans 7:

7 What shall we say then? *Is* the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law:
for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.

8 But sin, taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence.
For without the law sin *was* dead.

9 For I was alive without the law once: but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died.

10 And the commandment, which *was ordained* to life, I found *to be* unto death.

11 For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it slew *me*.

12 Wherefore the law *is* holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good.

13 Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful.

2. Correct: All the world guilty before God. (judged)

The wages of sin (payment) is death. All have sinned and come short of the glory of God. James 2:11

8 If ye fulfil the **royal law** according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well:

9 But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors.

10 For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one *point*, he is guilty of all.

11 For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law.

12 So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be **judged by the law of liberty.**

13 For he shall have judgment without mercy, that hath shewed no mercy; and mercy rejoiceth against judgment.

3. Protect: Love is the opposite of these commands.

Breaking any of the six man-oriented commands is to be unloving toward your neighbor, or friend.

Romans 13:9

9 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 if *there be* any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

10 Love worketh no ill to his neighbour: therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Matthew 5:21 Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment:

Mark 10:19 Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Defraud not, Honour thy father and mother.

Luke 18:20 Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honour thy father and thy mother.

Romans 13:9 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 if *there be* any other commandment, it is briefly comprehended in this saying, namely, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

James 2:11 For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law.

Genesis 37:21 And Reuben heard *it*, and he delivered him out of their hands; and said, Let us not kill him.

Exodus 20:13 Thou shalt not kill.

Leviticus 22:28 And *whether it be* cow or ewe, ye shall not kill it and her young both in one day.

Numbers 35:30 Whoso killesh any person, the murderer shall be put to death by the mouth of witnesses: but one witness shall not testify against any person *to cause him* to die.

Deuteronomy 5:17 Thou shalt not kill.

Judges 15:13 And they spake unto him, saying, No; but we will bind thee fast, and deliver thee into their hand: but surely we will not kill thee. And they bound him with two new cords, and brought him up from the rock.

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Revelation 9:5 And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months: and their torment *was* as the torment of a scorpion, when he striketh a man.