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The Ten Commandments, The Laws Governing Man's Duty To Others (Part 6):

Commandment Six Concerns Man's Life—Never Murder, **Exodus 20:13**

The Sixth Commandment Sanctity of Human Life

"Lo Tirtzah" (Exodus 20:13) "Thou shalt not murder"

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Exodus 20:13 (BHS)
¹³ לא הֿרצח: ס

ינא תִּרְצָּחֵי: ס "Lo Tirtzah"

Exodus 20:13 (KJV)

13 "Thou shalt not kill."

Exodus 20:13 (NASB)

13 "You shall not murder."

(Exodus 20:13) Jesus Christ and His Teaching Concerning Murder:

JESUS CHRIST AND HIS TEACHING CONCERNING <u>MURDER</u> "You shall not <u>murder</u>." (Exodus 20:13).

1) THE TEACHING OF CHRIST

Jesus Christ declared that murder is not only an outward act but also an attitude. Murder occurs within the hearts of men.

Matthew 5:21-22 (NASB)

²¹ "You have heard that the ancients were told, "YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT MURDER" and "Whoever commits murder shall be liable to the court."

²² But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever says to his brother, 'You goodfor-nothing,' shall be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever says, 'You fool,' shall be guilty *enough to go* into the fiery hell."

THE BELIEVER'S RESPONSE

- 1) Murder is not only an outward act; it is also inward. It is born within a person's heart and mind. It is...........
 - a. anger
 - **b.** bitterness
 - c. enmity

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We must never allow anger to take hold of us without just cause. Reconciliation is urgent while there is still time. We must not allow our relationships to sour beyond repair. Life is far too short to allow our anger to make us bitter and unforgiving. We must forgive others.

2) Anger that goes unresolved will allow a spirit of murder to enter the human heart.

Ephesians 4:26 (NASB)

²⁶ "BE ANGRY, AND yet DO NOT SIN; do not let the sun go down on your anger."

1 John 4:20-21 (NASB)

²⁰ "If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen.

²¹ And this commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also."

Matthew 15:19 (NASB)

¹⁹ "For out of the heart come evil thoughts, <u>murders</u>, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders."

Mark 7:21 (NASB)

²¹ "For <u>from within</u>, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries."

2) THE TEACHING OF CHRIST

Jesus Christ declared that Satan is the source of murder, that he is the arch-enemy of God and man, that he was a murderer from the beginning.

John 8:44 (NASB)

⁴⁴ "You are of *your* father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *nature*, for he is a liar and the father of lies."

THE BELIEVER'S RESPONSE

We must not reject the truth and follow in the murderous steps of Satan. Satan is a murderer in three senses:

1) He was behind the first murder: the man Cain killing his brother (Genesis 4:8).

Genesis 4:8 (NASB)

- ⁸ "Cain told Abel his brother. And it came about when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him."
- 2) He was behind the sin of Adam, which brought death to the whole human race. He is the murderer, the one who caused the death of men (Romans 5:12).

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Romans 5:12 (NASB)

¹² "Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned."

3) He is behind the murder of human life and behind the loss of man experiencing real life here on earth. The devil destroys life and all abundant living when he can: all love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and discipline.

John 10:10 (NASB)

¹⁰ "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have *it* abundantly."

1 Peter 4:15 (NASB)

¹⁵ "Make <u>sure that none of you suffers as a murderer</u>, or thief, or evildoer, or a troublesome meddler."

1 John 3:15 (NASB)

¹⁵ "Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer; and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him."

1 Peter 5:8 (NASB)

⁸ "Be of sober *spirit*, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour."

Job 1:9-11 (NASB)

⁹ "Then Satan answered the LORD, "Does Job fear God for nothing? ¹⁰ Have You not made a hedge about him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land.

¹¹ But put forth Your hand now and touch all that he has; he will surely curse You to Your face."

3) THE TEACHING OF CHRIST

Jesus Christ declared that some of His disciples would be murdered by family members because of their allegiance to Him.

Matthew 10:21-22 (NASB)

²¹ "Brother will betray brother to death, and a father *his* child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death.

²² You will be hated by all because of My name, but it is the one who has endured to the end who will be saved."

THE BELIEVER'S RESPONSE

1) A believer's own family can become his greatest persecutor, even his murderer. Why?

There are three reasons:

- a) Because of the believer's commitment to Christ and His righteousness.
- **b)** Because of the family's orthodox religion or church.
- c) Because of the believer's commitment to live for Christ. Such an active witness is sometimes an embarrassment to a family.

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2) Nothing hurts more than having our own family oppose us when we make a decision to follow Christ. When our families oppose and persecute us, it hurts deeply.

John 15:18-20 (NASB)

¹⁸ "If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before *it hated* you.

¹⁹ If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates you.

²⁰ Remember the word that I said to you, 'A slave is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they kept My word, they will keep yours also."

Luke 18:29-30 (NASB)

²⁹ "And He said to them, "Truly I say to you, there is no one who has left house or wife or brothers or parents or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God,

³⁰ who will not receive many times as much at this time and in the age to come, eternal life."

4) THE TEACHING OF CHRIST

Jesus Christ declared that evil men will kill believers, *thinking* that they are doing God a service.

John 16:2 (NASB)

² "They will make you outcasts from the synagogue, but an hour is coming for everyone who kills you to think that he is offering service to God."

THE BELIEVER'S RESPONSE

- 1) The believer is warned that religious extremists will persecute and murder the followers of Christ.
- 2) The believer can stumble and fall over persecution. Persecution can...
 - **a.** cause a believer to question his beliefs
 - **b.** cause a believer to weaken and return to the way of false religion
 - **c.** silence a believer and his witness
 - **d.** cause a believer to deny Jesus
- 3) The believer must take comfort in God's great promises to His persecuted people.

Matthew 5:11-12 (NASB)

¹¹ "Blessed are you when *people* insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me.

¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

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Acts 5:41 (NASB)

⁴¹ "So they went on their way from the presence of the Council, rejoicing that they had been considered worthy to suffer shame for *His* name."

Romans 8:17 (NASB)

¹⁷ "And if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him* so that we may also be glorified with *Him*."

Hebrews 11:25 (NASB)

²⁵ "Choosing rather to endure ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin."

1 Peter 5:10 (NASB)

¹⁰ "After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen *and* establish you."

2 Timothy 3:12-13 (NASB)

12 "Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted.

¹³ But evil men and impostors will proceed *from bad* to worse, deceiving and being deceived."

5) THE TEACHING OF CHRIST

Jesus Christ declared that His people would be the victims of great violence and murder in the last days.

Matthew 24:7-14 (NASB)

⁷ "For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and in various places there will be famines and earthquakes.

⁸ But all these things are *merely* the beginning of birth pangs.

⁹ Then they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you, and you will be hated by all nations because of My name.

¹⁰ At that time many will fall away and will betray one another and hate one another.

¹¹ Many false prophets will arise and will mislead many.

¹² Because lawlessness is increased, most people's love will grow cold.

¹³ But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved.

¹⁴ This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come."

THE BELIEVER'S RESPONSE

The believer must expect persecution. He must remember that Christ foretold that he would be persecuted. Remembering keeps the believer from being caught off guard and stumbling.

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The believer is to *prepare* for persecution by *thinking through* what he will do when he is......

- **a.** ridiculed
- **b.** criticized
- c. opposed
- d. questioned
- e. abused
- f. attacked
- **g.** slandered
- h. tortured
- i. imprisoned
- j. martyred

John 15:20 (NASB)

²⁰ "Remember the word that I said to you, 'A slave is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they kept My word, they will keep yours also."

John 16:4 (NASB)

⁴ "But these things I have spoken to you, so that when their hour comes, you may remember that I told you of them. These things I did not say to you at the beginning, because I was with you."

1 Peter 5:10-11 (NASB)

¹⁰ After you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself perfect, confirm, strengthen *and* establish you.

11 To Him be dominion forever and ever. Amen."

6) THE TEACHING OF CHRIST

Jesus Christ declared that religious hypocrites are related to the sons of those who murdered God's prophets.

Matthew 23:29-36 (NASB)

²⁹ "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you build the tombs of the prophets and adorn the monuments of the righteous, ³⁰ and say, 'If we had been *living* in the days of our fathers, we would not have been partners with them in *shedding* the blood of the prophets.'

³¹ So you testify against yourselves, that you are sons of those who murdered the prophets.

³² Fill up, then, the measure of the guilt of your fathers.

³³ You serpents, you brood of vipers, how will you escape the sentence of hell?

³⁴ Therefore, behold, I am sending you prophets and wise men and scribes; some of them you will kill and crucify, and some of them you will scourge in your synagogues, and persecute from city to city,

³⁵ so that upon you may fall *the guilt of* all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, the

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son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar.

³⁶ Truly I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation."

THE BELIEVER'S RESPONSE

- a. slander
- b. gossip
- **c.** smearing
- d. scolding
- e. insults

Psalm 105:15 (NASB)

¹⁵ "Do not touch My anointed ones, And do My prophets no harm." Psalm 101:5 (NASB)

⁵ "Whoever secretly slanders his neighbor, him I will destroy; No one who has a haughty look and an arrogant heart will I endure."

Proverbs 11:9 (NASB)

⁹ "With *his* mouth the godless man destroys his neighbor, But through knowledge the righteous will be delivered."

Leviticus 19:16 (NASB)

¹⁶ "You shall not go about as a slanderer among your people, and you are not to act against the life of your neighbor; I am the LORD."

Proverbs 11:13 (NASB)

¹³ "He who goes about as a talebearer reveals secrets, But he who is trustworthy conceals a matter."

Proverbs 17:9 (NASB)

⁹ "He who conceals a transgression seeks love, But he who repeats a matter separates intimate friends."

Proverbs 18:8 (NASB)

⁸ "The words of a whisperer are like dainty morsels, And they go down into the innermost parts of the body."

Proverbs 20:19 (NASB)

¹⁹ "He who goes about as a slanderer reveals secrets, Therefore do not associate with a gossip."

Proverbs 26:20 (NASB)

²⁰ "For lack of wood the fire goes out, And where there is no whisperer, contention quiets down."