



The 10 Commandments

March 9

CONTEXT: Last week we toured through the first four commandments (us & God) of the 10 Commandments, a bedrock of Christian morality. Today we'll begin considering those latter commandments that address the horizontal (us & others).

Challenge: Can anyone recite the essence of the 10 Commandments?

FIRST, A.M. SERMON RECAP (Col 2:6–15)

- How is knowing about the believer's new life in Christ so important for living it?
- What has God done to make us alive in Christ?
- How can we hamper our new life by not walking in Him?
- What is the key to living our new life in Christ?

READ: Ex 20:1–21 (c.f. Dt 5:7–21)

QUESTIONS:

1. **What evidence from within the 10 Commandments supports the fact that these commands do not only deal with externals?**

Fifth Commandment

2. **Why should we honour our parents?**
3. **What does it mean to honour our parents?**
4. **How can we honour our parents, as children and as adults?** (c.f. Prov 3:9; 1 Ti 5:4; Mk 7:1–13).
5. *Citing this Paul says the command is the "first with a promise" (Eph 6:1–3). What would this promise look like then and now?*
6. While it is right for children to honour their parents how must fathers (and mothers) not provoke their children?

Sixth Commandment

7. *The remainder of the 10 Commandments are prohibitions.*
8. *Note it says murder and not kill. Obviously God called Israel to kill at times, e.g. the Battle against the Amalekites (Ex 17:8–16); the invasion of Canaan (Dt 7:2), capital punishment (Gen 9:6; Ex*

19:12). There is a general distinction between these two words murder (ratzah and harag) though sometimes they are interchangeable and context is key. Cain murdered Abel (Gen 4:8) and Moses murdered the Egyptian (Ex 2:11–15).

9. **Why do people murder in the first place? (Ja 4:1–2) Why is it wrong?**
10. **What is the difference between murder and killing? Is killing ever morally justified?**
11. **Why did God desire Israel to model a just society where you couldn't just murder someone?**
12. *In the Sermon on the Mount, which we'll look at this fall, Jesus said, "but I say to you." (Mt 5:21–26) Jesus did not correct this commandment but returned His hearers to its original intent. Simply not murdering does not mean we have kept the law because murder and anger come from the heart (Mt 5:27–30; Mk 7:21).*
13. **In light of the above, even if we have not murdered why do we all need God's saving and sanctifying grace?**

Seventh Commandment

14. *Take your mind back to Genesis 1:27, 2:24–25. What was God's good design for marriage and sexuality?*
15. **Narrowly defined, what is adultery?**
16. *The 10 Commandments can be seen as a table of contents for the whole Law. Adultery is a catch phrase for all unlawful sex outside of marriage (e.g. Lev 18).*
17. *Unlawful sexual sin and desire is a deviation for God's good design for sexuality in the Covenant of marriage. It even relates to spiritual adultery (Ja 4:4). Sadly, because of the Fall, sexual sin affects us all in different ways.*
18. **How are we harmed, body and soul, when we don't follow God's good designs for sexuality?**
19. **Why do you think sexual sin, uniquely, is so shameful? (c.f. Gen 3:8–10).**
20. *Truth be told, dishonouring, hating, murdering, lust and adultery are all shameful. How is Ro 8:1 good news for us and others?*
21. **How should honour, respect, faithfulness and purity define the life of one whom Christ has redeemed?**

NEXT TIME: March 16th- The Ten Commandments, pt. III