

10: Murder and Adultery

These are the 2 commands Jesus expounded upon, showing where the weakness of the law is and where the strength of the Spirit is.

- We will get there, but both of these Jesus says You have heard it said... But I say...
- The weakness of the law is that it can only judge outcomes. Or actions. If you murder, you broke the law, you are punished.
- The Spirit in us deals with the heart. Our motivation to act. That's why Jesus says don't hate. But it's not just moving the measuring line...
- **Ezekiel 36:26-27** I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do *them*.
 - We are not only commanded to have pure motives, but then God Himself removes our nature to sin, gives us a new heart and places His Spirit in us – which causes us to walk in obedience.
 - This is the strength of the New Covenant.

#6 - Exodus 20:13 "You shall not murder."

What is the command?

No murdering.

What does this reveal about God?

That He is the author of life.

- **1 Corinthians 8:6** yet for us *there is* one God, the Father, of whom *are* all things, and we for Him; and one Lord Jesus Christ, through whom *are* all things, and through whom we *live*.
- **Colossians 1:16** For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or

dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.

Since God breathes His breath into us – all life is sacred.

- **Genesis 2:7** And the LORD God formed man *of* the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.
- **Acts 17:25** Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things.
- **Job 33:4** The Spirit of God has made me, And the breath of the Almighty gives me life.

If all life (human life) is sacred then to take another life is to rebel against God himself.

Abortion is murder

- **Psalm 139:13-16** For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. ¹⁴ I will praise You, for I am fearfully *and* wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And *that* my soul knows very well. ¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, *And* skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. ¹⁶ Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me, When *as yet there were* none of them.
- Abortion is murder simply because it is purposefully killing a life.
- Christians must be against murdering anyone not just because of a command, but because all life is created by God, belongs to God, and is an image of God.
- What about rape, incest, birth defects?
 - Is that the baby's fault? Why carry out a punishment on an innocent party?
 - Even rape babies are made by God in the image of God.
- We simply cannot compromise here. Life is of God. Period.

Euthanasia is murder

- **1 Timothy 5:8** But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.
- If a person is difficult to care for that does not make them less valuable.
- Even ending suffering is not an excuse to take a life. It may seem to be kind. But it is not.

Life is not ours to take

- This is why euthanasia and abortion are wrong. Well, one reason.
- **Deuteronomy 32:39** "Now see that I, *even I, am He*, And *there is no God besides Me*; I kill and I make alive; I wound and I heal; Nor *is there any* who can deliver from My hand.
- **1 Samuel 2:6** "The LORD kills and makes alive; He brings down to the grave and brings up.

What does this reveal about us?

That we are made in the image of God.

- Genesis 1 tells us we are made in His likeness.
- Genesis 3 the enemy tells us if we sin, we will be like Him.
- The enemy wants to devalue human life.
 - The DNC had mobile vendors outside offering free abortions, free vasectomies. And other such things. Women dressed up in inflatable costumes as the morning after pill. They chanted "No Christians welcome here" outside.
 - Possible side rant

The unregenerate man is hostile toward God.

- **Romans 8:6-8** For to be carnally minded *is* death, but to be spiritually minded *is* life and peace.⁷ Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against

God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. ⁸ So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

- We want to be in control. Not God. Murder is the ultimate expression of the flesh being controlling.

Jesus' take on this command

Matthew 5:21-24 "You have heard that it was said to those of old, '*You shall not murder*, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.'²² But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, "Raca!" shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire. ²³ Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, ²⁴ leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

- Whoever is angry... be reconciled
- Forgiveness is the key to avoiding murder.
 - Even the thoughts that lead to murder
- How can we love if we are mulling over the hatred in our hearts?
- Forgiveness sets us free. Unjust anger towards others is bondage. Even where we have the right to be angry, Jesus said to turn the other cheek.
- It is ok if people disagree with you.
- You will be ok if someone offends you. It's Ok.
- This country is at an emotional 9.875 out of 10. There is so much anger.

Your value and your worth do not come from other people.

You are valuable because God declares that you are. You have worth because you are made in the image of God.

- And other people, also made in God's image, are worth forgiving.

What are God's promises?

First, that we are forgiven

- **Colossians 2:13-14** And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, ¹⁴ having wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.
- **We deserved death, but God forgave us instead.**

Second, because we are forgiven, we are able to forgive others.

- **Ephesians 4:32** And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

Third, God is not angry with us

- **Without God:**
 - **Romans 1:18** For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness,
 - **Romans 1:28-32** And even as they did not like to retain God in *their* knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; ²⁹ being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; *they are* whisperers, ³⁰ backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, ³¹ undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; ³² who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.
- **With God:**
 - **1 Thessalonians 5:9** For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

- **Romans 5:1** Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.
- **Romans 8:31-39** What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *can be* against us? ³² He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? ³³ Who shall bring a charge against God's elect? *It is* God who justifies. ³⁴ Who *is* he who condemns? *It is* Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *Shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written: "*For Your sake we are killed all day long; We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.*" ³⁷ Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

#7 - Exodus 20:14 "You shall not commit adultery."

What is the command?

Do not commit adultery. Do not have an affair if you are married. Do not sleep with a married person if you are single. Either is considered adultery.

- Our country has a very casual attitude towards sex.
- Or perhaps a growing aggression that everyone must be ok with all forms of sexual expression.
- But even now, in movies, tv, music, while all other forms seem to be celebrated, adultery is still seen in a negative light.
- Full acceptance of adultery is the highest and worst form of turning against God outside of worshiping another God. We'll get to that.

Genesis 39:10-12 So it was, as she spoke to Joseph day by day, that he did not heed her, to lie with her *or* to be with her. ¹¹ But it happened about this time, when Joseph went into the house to do his work, and none of the men of the house *was* inside, ¹² that she caught him by his garment, saying, "Lie with me." But he left his garment in her hand, and fled and ran outside.

- Correct way to deal with temptation – flee.

Listen to Joseph

Genesis 39:9 *There is* no one greater in this house than I, nor has he kept back anything from me but you, because you *are* his wife. How then can I do this great wickedness, and sin against God?"

- Not "What if we get caught?"
- Not, "What if there are consequences, like a baby?"
- Not, "I don't want to hurt Potiphar."
- Simply – "How can I sin against God?"

Adultery is not just hurting others – it is a direct sin against God.

What does this reveal about God?

First, it shows that God is for the sanctity of marriage.

- **Matthew 19:6** So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."
- Created by God. Blessed by God.

Second, since marriage is a picture of Christ and the church, it shows His faithfulness to us as His church.

- **Ephesians 5:31-32** *For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.* ³² This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

Adultery = na'aph = adultery; apostatize

- God calls leaving Him spiritual adultery.
- **Ezekiel 23:37** For they have committed adultery, and blood *is* on their hands. They have committed adultery with their idols, and even sacrificed their sons whom they bore to Me, passing them through *the fire*, to devour *them*.
- **Matthew 16:4** A wicked and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign shall be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah." And He left them and departed.

The bond between God and the church is so strong that He compares it to marriage, and when the church strays away, it is the same as adultery.

This is actually revealing of God's level of love for us. It is like a bridegroom on His wedding day. We should be like a bride on her wedding day.

What does this reveal about us?

Marriage is a picture of our relationship with God.

Sanctity of marriage – it is not to be entered into lightly.

Marriage is sacred and binding.

Without God we are prone to wander

We are opening ourselves up to severe emotional damage when we break this commandment.

What are God's promises?

He is always faithful. He will never leave us.

He has great love for us

This brings freedom from fear of marriage destruction

This brings freedom to share intimate secrets

This command is a foundation to a happy, healthy marriage.

Jesus' take on this command:

Matthew 5:27-30 "You have heard that it was said to those of old, '*You shall not commit adultery.*'²⁸ But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹ If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast *it* from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell. ³⁰ And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast *it* from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell.

- Lust leads to adultery, or sexual immorality
- Get rid of the thing that causes you to sin.
 - It is better to be maimed than bound by sin
- It is better to not have a phone, computer, that questionable but nice-feeling relationship, watch those shows, movies - than to engage in sin.
- Cut it off.

Job 31:1 "I have made a covenant with my eyes; Why then should I look upon a young woman?"

- Be careful little eyes what you see.