

“God is Great, Beer is Good, &  
People Are Crazy”:  
The Ten Commandments

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Grad & Career Spring '11

## The Ten Commandments in the Context of the Redemptive Story

No.	Commandment (Exodus 20)	Pre-Fall Desire (that God seeks to redeem in us)	End times Fulfillment (Heb. 1:1-2)
1.	“You shall have no other gods before Me”	Desire for Worship	Jesus is Lord (Acts 10:36)
2.	“You shall not make for yourself an image...[and] bow down to them or worship them”	Desire for Relationship with a Personal God	Jesus is Immanuel (Matt. 1:23, Col. 1:15)
3.	“You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain”	Desire for Integrity	Jesus is God’s Name & our Name (Phil.2:9-11; Rev. 13:6)
4.	“Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy...”	Desire for Rest & Purpose	Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath (Matt. 12:8)

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5.	“Honor your father and your mother...”	Desire for Hierarchy & Equality	Jesus is Suffering Servant, King of Kings, Brother & Friend.
6.	“You shall not murder.”	Desire for Life	Jesus is the Bread of Life (John 6:35,48-51)

# Jesus: the Fulfillment of the Law

<sup>17</sup> “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but *to fulfill them*. <sup>18</sup> For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. <sup>19</sup> Therefore anyone who sets aside one of the least of these commands and teaches others accordingly will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practices and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup> *For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.*  
- Matthew 5:17-20

# Jesus' Take on "Murder"

<sup>21</sup> "You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.' <sup>22</sup> But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to a brother or sister, 'Raca,' is answerable to the court. And anyone who says, 'You fool!' will be in danger of the fire of hell.

# Jesus' Take on "Murder"

<sup>23</sup> "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you, <sup>24</sup> leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

<sup>25</sup> "Settle matters quickly with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still together on the way, or your adversary may hand you over to the judge, and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be thrown into prison. <sup>26</sup> Truly I tell you, you will not get out until you have paid the last penny.

- Matthew 5:21-27

# “You shall not murder.”

- According to Jesus, “murder” is ....
  - Killing someone
  - Being angry at someone
  - Expressing contempt at someone
  - Unwilling to reconcile with a fellow Christian YOU have hurt or angered.
  - Not settling *quickly* with those who we may have offended.

*What do you make of Jesus' teaching on what murder is?*

# Westminster Larger Catechism

- Question 136: What are the sins forbidden in the sixth commandment?
- Answer: The sins forbidden in the sixth commandment are, all taking away the life of ourselves, or of others, except in case of public justice, lawful war, or necessary defense; the neglecting or withdrawing the lawful and necessary means of preservation of life; sinful anger, hatred, envy, desire of revenge; all excessive passions, distracting cares; immoderate use of meat, drink, labor, and recreations; provoking words, oppression, quarreling, striking, wounding, and: Whatsoever else tends to the destruction of the life of any.

# Reflection Question

- What does your utopian society look like?

