



The 10 Commandments
The Power of Life
The Sixth Commandment

The Lord of Life

“You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. Thank You for making me so

wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it. You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in Your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed. How precious are Your thoughts about me, O God. They cannot be numbered!” Psalm 139:13-17 (NLT)

A. The Commandment NOT to Murder

The Old Testament is full of examples:

1. **Premeditated murder:** *Ex 21:14*
2. **Murder with a deadly weapon:** *Num 35:16-18* This would apply to a boxer's deadly hands.
3. **Murder through bribery:** *Deut 27:25*
4. **Criminal neglect:** *Ex 21:29* Your dog killing someone.
5. **Property liability:** *Deut 22:8* A building you build falls and kills someone.
6. **Accidental** *Deut 19:6* Special circumstances apply.

B. Murder in our Culture

1. **Violence and murder:** Work-place shootings, school shootings, street crimes and family violence dominate the news.
2. **Euthanasia:** Regarding the Nazi practice of euthanasia, Malcolm Muggeridge noted, “It only took one generation to transform a war crime into a an act of compassion.”
3. **Abortion:** “Something in the process of becoming a [viable] human being is already a human being.” (Tertullian 220 A.D) To destroy the fetus is to destroy the image of God.
Is there any hope: Only through the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ is there hope from these national and personal acts of killing and murder.

C. A Matter of the Heart *Matthew 5:21-26*

Jesus transformed this commandment to include a wide range of inner motives.

1. **Heidelberg Catechism:** “I am not to dishonor, hate, injure, or kill my neighbor by thoughts, words, or gestures, and much less by deeds.”
2. **If looks could kill...:** The Bible teaches that ‘looks’ do kill when they are motivated by hatred, scorn, or malice. John equates hatred with murder...hatred kills relationships. 1 John 3:15-16
3. **The remedy:** Jesus makes it clear in *Matt 5:23-26* that ‘restoration’ is needed when we are breaking the 6th Commandment in our heart. The restoration is two fold:
 - 1) Be restored to your brother and
 - 2) Seek forgiveness with the Lord

Forgiving others starts with a forgiving heart which will lead to a desire for restoration.

Exodus 20:13 (NKJV)
Exo 20:13 "You shall not murder.

Matthew 5:21-26 (NLT)
:21 "You have heard that our ancestors were told, 'You must not murder. If you commit murder, you are subject to judgment.'

:22 But I say, if you are even angry with someone [without cause], you are subject to judgment! If you call someone an idiot, you are in danger of being brought before the court. And if you curse someone, you are in danger of the fires of hell.

:23 "So if you are presenting a sacrifice at the altar in the Temple and you suddenly remember that someone has something against you,

:24 leave your sacrifice there at the altar. Go and be reconciled to that person. Then come and offer your sacrifice to God.

:25 "When you are on the way to court with your adversary, settle your differences quickly. Otherwise, your accuser may hand you over to the judge, who will hand you over to an officer, and you will be thrown into prison.

:26 And if that happens, you surely won't be free again until you have paid the last penny.

1 John 3:15-16 (NKJV)

:15 Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.

:16 By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.