

The truth about God: 'God's commandments'

What's the Law all about? Are the Ten Commandments still valid for today? The giving of the Law is central to the theme of the Bible and for understanding God's intended order for our lives. In general, Ten Commandments provide a framework for understanding the law of God. In the Scriptures, we see that the law of God is an expression of the love of God. In loving and rescuing His people, He gave them guidelines to get the best out of their freedom and joy. The law also revealed the people's sin and need for a Savior – the One who would fulfill the law and empower His people to trust and obey Him. Obeying God's laws is a key principle in how we will inherit the heavenly kingdom. *For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not burdensome.*(1JO5:3)

Ten Commandments are rightly referred to as 'God's commandments' are for man and to man. These were given to Israel nation through Moses written by the finger of God on stone tablets, when they free from slavery in Egypt and was camped around Mount Sinai at God's presence. The Ten Commandments are still relevant 3,500 years after they were first given at Mount Sinai. The major function of the Commandments is to reveal who God is, and who we are.

Jesus is the righteous one; the complete fulfillment of the laws, who keeps fulfilling the laws in us. Jesus declared God's law to be authoritative and necessary for us. So, the law is like a teacher who shows us God's holiness, our sinfulness and our need for salvation. And that salvation is offered freely in Jesus Christ. Jesus came to fulfill all that was written in the Law and the Prophets. He accomplishes what the Law required, by fulfilling the law through His life, death and resurrection.(Mat.5:17–18) All the promises of God in the Old Testament are fulfilled in Jesus Christ. The law was kept perfectly by Christ. And all its penalties against God's sinful people were poured out on Christ. The blood sacrifices ceased because Christ fulfilled all that they were pointing toward. He was the final sacrifice for sins. Jesus deals with our sin enable us to attain righteousness before God. The ultimate goal of the law is that we would look to Christ, for our righteousness. When you have Christ, you have everything God promised through Him.

The Ten Commandments are in Exodus 20:2-17 The first four deals with the relationship between man and God, while the rest commands deal with the relationship between man and man. The commandments prove that God wants mankind to be free: "I am the Lord your God who took you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage." And the commandment actually frees us from the terrible consequences of sin, making our lives better. These laws of "You shall not" are meant for our protection and guidance. God, our loving Father, wants to give us wisdom and keep us from choices that He knows will harm us. And He calls us to holiness. *If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you today, by loving the Lord your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his judgments, then you shall live and multiply, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land which you go to possess.*(Deut.30:16) Short Summary of the Ten Commandments as follows:

- [1] *I am the LORD your God, you shall have no other gods before me.*- God should be our priority. Do we receive meaning and value from a Creator who bestows our identity? Establishing the correct priorities in our lives is vital for our success. God must come first in our lives. Develop godly, righteous character. Seek first the Kingdom of God.
- [2] *You shall not make for yourself an idol* - God is alone to be glorified. God not only cannot be made into physical likeness, but He cannot be manipulated and bargained with false gods. It does not simply refer to stone idols, "other gods" are anything that we worship more than God—money, power, love, education, a nation, art or denomination.
- [3] *You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain;*- God is never to be taken lightly. Do not commit evil in God's name. If we ignore or reject much of what He says to us through the Scriptures, we are not taking Him seriously.
- [4] *Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.*- God can be trusted and enjoyed. We don't always have to work in fear to make ends meet our needs. Enjoyment in life is found through God. You need each day to truly walk with God.
- [5] *Honor your father and your mother:* - God cares about your parents. They want to be loved, honored, by their children. Listen to what they have to say, obeying them. Show respect. Have patience. Express your gratitude to them.
- [6] *You shall not murder.*- God places great value on human beings. Life is a gift from God. Adam became a living being by the breath of God. Jesus tells us that murder begins in our hearts and that we shouldn't feed our anger.
- [7] *You shall not commit adultery.*- Marriage is sacred to God. The symbol of marriage represents everlasting love. Anything which is more damaging than your spouse being unfaithful, but also in thought. Adulterers God will judge.
- [8] *You shall not steal.*- Everything belongs to God. Stealing is a form of greed, and greed is counting on money—instead of God—to make us secure. It all involves lying and deceit, which are often associated with stealing.
- [9] *You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.* - Our relationships with others should be based on truth, honesty, trustworthiness. Goodness is the important in personal realm, but societal realm, truth is more important.
- [10] *You shall not covet* - God alone is our satisfaction. We truly need most is always Him, and that nothing else can truly satisfy us, no matter how good someone else's things or life looks to us. Father God, We Praise you! You alone are worthy of our worship. In you alone we are satisfied. And every good gift comes from above. And you have graciously poured out more than we could imagine. Your law is perfect, Guard us from idols, Strengthen us that we may lift your name high and at all times. In Jesus' name. Amen. *Therefore you shall love the Lord your God, and keep His laws, His statutes, His judgments, and His commandments always.*(Deu11:1)

You shall have no other gods before me

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God began the Ten Commandments this way: *"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You shall have no other gods before Me"*(Exodus 20:2-3) It was the Lord God who had the power to bring His people out of bondage in Egypt. He alone cared for them to choose them to be His own, and He alone delivered and protected them. He declares that He alone deserves to be worshipped and revered. The First Commandment is a reminder to focus on the awesome power and majesty of our Creator God. The Creator, the God of the Holy Bible, made all that exists in the universe, including men. Only the Creator has the power to be God; that the "out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage" refers how God's people are delivered today from slavery to sin, from bondage to Satan. God calls us to live free from sin and to deliver us from Satan's schemes.

Jesus expanded definition of 'other gods'. You cannot serve both God and mammon. Mammon is the god of material things ie. Any object that promises wealth, associated with covetousness pursuit to be rich. No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other;(Mat6:24) Story of the rich young ruler deals with eternal life. He loved money more than God. That his love of money fell short of God's holy standard to serve God.(Mat.9:16)

God is good and takes care of us, just as Moses was the deliverer of Israelites, so Jesus Christ is Deliverer of spiritual Israelites: *they will repent and come to know the Truth, and they may escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.*(2Tim 2:25) Our God is never busy, asleep, traveling, or distracted. "The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by hands. And he is not served by human hands as if He needed anything, because He Himself gives all men life and breath and everything else. Therefore, since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the Divine Being is like gold or silver or stone – an image made by man's design and skill"(Acts 17:24-25, 29) *Blessed is the man who makes the Lord his trust, who does not look to the proud, to those who turn aside to false gods"* (Psa.40:4) To trust in the Lord means to have confidence in Him. His plans are perfect, holy, righteous. And He works all things together for good.

God's power was on display when He thundered commandments from Mount Sinai. *Now all the people witnessed the thunderings, the lightning flashes, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking; and when the people saw it, they trembled and stood afar off"*(Exodus 20:18,20) Moses told the people the result that our loving Creator wanted: *'Do not fear; for God has come to test you, and that His fear may be before you, so that you may not sin'* The right type of fear of God is reverence and deep respect that recognizes God's almighty power and puts God first. Our awesome God's purpose and love for us. This hale and hearty respect should grow into a deep appreciation of God's love and His laws and way of life. We must grow from obeying God out of fear to obeying God out of love.

What things are you worshiping before you worship God? There are many pitfalls and temptations that can lead us to disobey First Commandment. It is really easy to get caught up in the daily things going on in our lives. We have homework, parties, friends, Internet, Mobile, TV and all kinds of distractions in our lives. It's so easy to put everything else in your life in front of God because there are so many pressures on each of us to get things done by a deadline. God stands beside us when we don't even feel Him, so it becomes easy to put Him last. Yet He is the most important of all and we should put God first. He guides our steps and gives us our path. He protects us and comforts us. Consider what things you do every day before you focus your time and attention on God. What would we be without God?

There are several ways you can begin living by this commandment: 1. Wake up and pray. A Morning Prayer of Praise to start your day with the blessings of God. Put God in your morning routine before school, work. Starting off your day with God gives us a Godly perspective throughout the day. 2. Join a Bible study. When we inquire deeper in the Bible, we allow ourselves to understand God better. 3. Learn to fast. Spend time you would have given to a distraction and give it to God. 4. Wait or tarry. We are to wait until we are empowered by the Holy Spirit. Waiting is the expression of need, of emptiness 5. Learn to prioritize. The Word of God tells us that it is vital to put our priorities in the right order and then carefully cultivate each one with zeal, interest. Mary and Martha wanted to attend Jesus in the way each considered was most important. Mary has chosen that good part, sit at Jesus feet, find delight in Him. Praise and Worship is more important than serving. We need to seek God's help to see things from God's perspective. Both good times and bad times in our thoughts and desires put God first. Attend, Get involved with the church, reminds us of our love of God. Jesus said our priority must be to *seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness.*(MAT6:33)

The Bible says that the one true God is the sovereign, self-existent Creator of the universe.(Isaiah 42:5) He is spirit, He is eternal. The one true God possesses all knowledge (Isa46:10) and all power (Mat19:26), is present in all places (Psa139:7), and is unchanging.(Jam1:17) Our duty is to put God first, strive to live a life that is pleasing to God, then leave everything else up to Him, knowing that whatever happens in our life is for our good. *But the Lord is the true God, the living God, and the everlasting King. The whole earth shall tremble at his wrath; the nations can-not endure his anger. Thus shall you say to them: The gods, who did not make the heavens and the earth, shall perish from the earth and from under the heavens.*(JER10:10) The LORD is one. May we choose to worship the one true and living God!

You shall not make for yourself an idol

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The second Commandments which are recorded in Exodus 20:4-5 *“You shall not make for yourself a graven image [or idol] or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, This commandment contains a warning for future generations also. God is saying, if we don’t deal with idolatry in our generation, we will pass it down to our children and to their children. However, God promises blessing for those who love Him and keep His commandments. Therefore know that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God (Deu7:9*

The Hebrew word translated “graven image” means literally “an idol.” This command is closely linked with the first. Having other gods is idolatry. Idol worship was wide-spread among the nations, graven images to which they bowed, sacrificed and performed various acts of worship. The Israelites were strictly warned to keep themselves separate from the pagan nations around them and to avoid any activities that resembled their abominable worship rites.(Lev20:23) God hates in any form of idolatry.(Deu.6:5,14) It steals the attention and honor that belong only to true God, that is something He will not tolerate.(Isa.42:8) *“They stirred him to jealousy with strange gods; with abominations they provoked him to anger. They sacrificed to demons that were no gods,(Deu32:17) This passage associates pagan gods with demons and warns God’s people not to be involved with idolatry.(Lev.17:7) It clearly connects pagan worship with evil spirits. The Satan desires to be worshiped and demons teach false doctrine in order to deceive.(Mat.4:9) Those who worship false gods are, pledging their allegiance to evil spirits who desire to take God’s rightful place in our hearts. The false gods are in contrast with true God. In reality, Idols are deaf, dumb, blind, and powerless are impotent blocks of stone or wood. The idol of the god Dagon was twice knocked to floor by God to show Philistines people.(1Sam5:1-5) The contest between God and His prophet Elijah and 450 prophets of Baal on Mount Carmel is an affected example of the one true God demonstrated His power, and the incapability of false gods.(1Kin18:19-40)*

The definition of idolatry is “the worship of idols or excessive devotion to, or reverence for some person or thing.” An idol is any person, object or activity you give a higher priority in your life than a relationship with God. An idol is anything that replaces the one, true God. God’s covenant with Israel was based on exclusive worship of Him alone. The Israelites were not even to mention the names of false gods.(Exo.23:13) The prophets’ prophesied consequences if they continued in their idolatry. History of Israel is of idol worship, punishment, restoration and forgiveness, tailed by a return to idolatry. But merciful God forgive and restore them when they repented and sought His forgiveness.

Idolatry extends beyond worship of idols and images of false gods. The sin of idolatry is ultimately a sin of the heart. An idol is anything we depend upon to meet the needs of the heart—love, security, worth, or significance. When we seek to find identity and security in something besides God, we have made it an idol. We often search for peace thru relationships, substances, money, or entertainment. Addictions are forms of idolatry. When we give ourselves to the pursuit of man-made gods or emotionally rely on anything other than our relationship with God, we are breaking the second commandment of God. Our modern idols are many and varied. We worship at the altar of the god of self. His own selfishness can be an idol, as self is more important than God. Even for those who do not bow physically before a statue—pride, self-centeredness, greed, gluttony, a love for possessions and ultimately rebellion against God. We worship at the altar of materialism which feeds our need to build through the acquisition of more stuff. Our homes are filled with all manner of possessions. We worship at the altar of our own pride and ego. This often takes form of obsession with career and jobs. Millions spend long working hours with thoughts of how to make our businesses more successful, how to get that promotion, how to get the next raise.(see Ecc.2:21-23) We idolize mankind through naturalism and the power of science. We cling to the illusion that we are lords of our world and build our self-esteem to god-like proportions. We reject God and His word of how He created the heavens and the earth, and we accept the nonsense of atheistic evolution. We fool ourselves into thinking we can preserve the earth indefinitely.(see 2Pet3:10) Finally, we worship at the altar of the fulfillment of the self to the exclusion of all others and their needs and desires. This manifests itself in self-indulgence through alcohol, drugs and food. We are determined to make ourselves the god of our lives. This has its origin in the Garden of Eden where Satan tempted Eve to eat of the tree could gain knowledge becoming like God. This has been man’s desire ever since to be god and self-worship is the basis of all modern idolatry

All idolatry of self has at its core the three lusts.(1Jo2:16) It is the sin nature of man that causes us make self an idol. Today, many have replaced the “golden calf” with a greedy drive for money or prestige or success in the eyes of the world. Sadly, our societies often admire those serving such idols. We might justify our actions through reason or logic, if we are violating God’s commands, we are sinning against Him and He will hold us accountable for those sins. All of our idolatrous pursuits will leave us empty, unsatisfied, ultimately that leads to destruction. The relationship with Jesus Christ is the only way to fulfill longing for eternal life. In Ecclesiastes1:14 *“I have seen all the works which have been done under the sun, and behold, all is vanity and striving after wind.”* Vanity as works done here on earth, it’s like trying to grab hold of the wind. The good things are gifts from Father above, to be enjoyed with a thankful heart in submission to Him and for His glory. He alone is worthy of praise and worship and we are to serve God only.

You shall not take the Lord's name in vain

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The third commandment reads like this: *You shall not take the Lord's name in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that takes his name in vain*"(Exodus 20:7) The God of Israel was known by many names and titles, but concept embodied in God's name plays an important and unique role. God's nature and attributes, the totality of His being, and especially His glory are reflected in His name. Psalm 111:9 tells us His name is "holy and awesome," and the Lord's prayer begins by addressing God with the phrase "hallowed be your name"(Mat. 6:9), an indication that a reverence for God and His name should be foremost in our prayers. Too often we barge into God's presence with presumptuous "to-do lists" for Him, without being mindful of His holiness and His awesomeness. Remember, we are even allowed to come before His throne is due only to His gracious, merciful love for His own people.(Heb4:16)

The Bible tells us that Jesus came in the Father's name.(John 5:43) Jesus Christ came to this earth and gave His life so that all who believe in His name would once again be able to look like God, to love like God and to live with God forever. Because of the greatness of the name of God, any use of God's name that brings dishonor Him or on His character is taking His name in vain. A person who misuses God's name will not be held "guiltless" by the Lord. In Old Testament, bringing dishonor on God's name was done by failing to perform an oath or vow taken in His name, broken vow would indicate lack of reverence for God.(Lev.19:12) God, does treat our oaths and vows with utmost seriousness, for they are made in His name, and His name is to be hallowed. The name of the Lord is holy, as He is holy. The name of the Lord is a representation of His glory, His majesty, and His supreme deity. We are to esteem and honor His name as we revere and glorify God Himself. We should maintain a humble Godly attitude before Him.

There is a larger sense in which people today take the Lord's name in vain. Those who name the name of Christ, who pray in His name, and who take His name as part of their identity, but who deliberately and continually disobey His commands,(Luk 6:46), are taking His name in vain. Jesus Christ has been given the name above all names, at which every knee shall bow. When we take the name "Christian", we must do so with an understanding of all that signifies.(Phi.2:9-10) If we profess to be Christians, but act, think, and speak in a worldly or profane manner, misrepresent Christ, we take His name in vain. So reject Jesus Christ is to be eternal punishment. They arrive at a spiritual state where they can no longer repent "since they again crucify to themselves the Son of God and put Him to open shame." those whom Jesus will say, I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness! in the day of judgment.

Truly I tell you, all sins and blasphemes will be forgiven for the sons of men. But whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never be forgiven, but is guilty of an eternal sin.(Mark3:28) Jesus said this because they [Pharisees] were saying, 'He has an evil spirit'. Blasphemers are simply allying themselves at base of the cross alongside all who screamed at Him and humiliated Him. It aligns blasphemers with Satan himself. The devil is the one who opposes God in every way and demands to spread the ultimate lie. He's leading the rebellion against God. If our words are true in the heart, who knows and loves our Savior cannot utter His name deceitfully and cause fellow believer to stumble.

The fourth of the ten commandments is "*Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy*"(Exo.20:8-11) Following the command defining the Sabbath as the seventh day, dedicating it to "the Lord your God" forbidding all work in it, applying it to everyone, and citing the basis for it: "*For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy*"

Remember means keep this command in mind. For the Israelites the Sabbath was a day of worship and services to the Lord their God and it testified to His sovereignty over creation and their dependence upon Him. The word Sabbath comes from a Hebrew word meaning "day of rest." Keep it holy means set it aside as special attention is to be directed to God in a way that is more concentrated and steady than on ordinary days, by keeping the focus on the holy God. It was to be dedicated to the Lord. The priests were to double the daily sacrifices on the Sabbath (Num28:9) marking the day with increased sacred activity. The rest of the Israelites were to mark the day with decreased activity, no work at all, in honor of the Lord. The penalty for desecrating the Sabbath with work was death.(Exodus.31:14)

Keeping of the Sabbath is a sign of the covenant: "*You must observe my Sabbaths. for this is a sign between me and you throughout your generations, that you may know that I, the Lord, sanctify you*"(Exo.31:13) Sabbath signifies our utter reliance on God's grace. The Sabbath is a way of remembering and expressing the truth that God is our creator, deliverer and sanctifier. We are dependent on him for all we have in the world, for our deliverance from enemies and for our holiness. We hallow him and honor him and keep the day holy. God Blessed and Hallowed the Seventh Day.

Acts 20:7 which says, "On the first day of the week" Christians have set aside the first day of the week as their usual day of rest and worship. We cannot afford to neglect meeting together [fellowship] as we see the 'Day' approaching.(HEB10:25) Since, God's goal for all His children is for us to be like Jesus.(ROM8:29) The Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath.(MAR2:28) Set the Day aside focus on God and his holy works. Devote yourself that deepen your love for God. Be witness for Christ who is the Lord of your life. *Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.*(1TH 5:23;HEB10:22)

Honor your mother and father

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The fifth commandment reads like this: *“Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the Lord your God is giving you.”*(Exodus 20:12) It should be noted that this commandment comes with a promise. The promise is that when you honor your parents, that it may be well with you, and that you may live long on the earth. God must place great importance on honoring parents to have given a promise with it. Honoring your father and mother is being respectful in word and action and having an inward attitude of esteem for their position. The word for honor means “to revere, prize, and value.” Honor is giving respect not only for merit but also for rank.

God exhorts us to honor father and mother. He values honoring parents enough to include it in the Commandments. And again in the New Testament: *“Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.”*(Eph.6:1-3) Honoring parents is the command in Scripture that promises long life as a reward. Those who honor their parents are blessed. (Jer.35:18-19) In contrast, those with a “depraved mind” and those who exhibit ungodliness in the last days are characterized by disobedience to parents.(Rom1:30;2Tim.3:2) Solomon, the wisest man, urged children to respect their parents.(Pro.1:8;13:1;30:17) Even Jesus, submitted Himself to both His earthly parents (Luke 2:51) and His heavenly Father.(Mat.26:39) Following Christ’s example, we should treat our parents the way we would reverentially approach our heavenly Father. *“A son honors his father, And a servant his master. If then I am the Father, Where is My honor? And if I am a Master, Where is My reverence? Says the Lord of hosts.”*(Hebrews 12:9;Malachi 1:6)

Honor parents with both actions and attitudes.(Mark 7:6) Honor their unspoken as well as spoken wishes. *“A wise son heeds his father’s instruction, but a mocker does not listen to rebuke”*(Proverbs 13:1) In Matthew 15:3-9, Jesus reminded the Pharisees of the command of God to honor their father and mother. They were obeying the letter of the law, but they had added their own traditions that essentially over-ruled it. While they honored their parents in word, their actions proved their real motive. We should seek to honor our parents in much the same way that we strive to bring glory to God—in our thoughts, words, and actions. For a young child, obeying parents goes hand in hand with honoring them. That includes listening, heeding, and submitting to their authority. After children mature, obedience that they learned as children will serve them well in honoring other authorities such as government, and employers.

While we are required to honor parents, that doesn’t include imitating ungodly ones.(Eze.20:18-19) If a parent ever instructs a child to do that contradicts God’s commands, that child must obey God rather than parents.(Acts 5:29)

God wants children to honor their parents because He wants children to see a living example to obey His command. If we desire to please God and be blessed, we should honor our parents. Honoring is a certain path to our purpose in life—glorifying God. *“Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord”* (Colossians 3:20)

The sixth Commandments forbid the unjustified taking of a human life. *“You shall not murder.”*(Exodus 20:13) Bible begins with the living God creating living things. All things are from Him and through Him and to Him.(Rom11:36) All of life owes its existence to Him. He is the God of life, a God who is alive, who begets living things.(2Co5:17) Satan is a murderer and liar—one who takes away life.(Joh8:43) Satan is destroying-trying to murder God’s people. Satan is called the god of this age and unclean spirits are doing deceptive, murderous things, domain over unsaved. (2Cor4:4) Christ was manifested that He might destroy works of the devil.(1Jo3:8) God has all authority over them and has ultimate control over His creation.(Mar1:27) Believers in Christ are no longer under the rule of Satan.(Col.1:13)

We know that we were created in God’s image and we were made to live in harmony with God and with our fellow man. This harmony became impossible once sin entered into the world, Satan tempted humanity to sin, Since Adam’s sin; men inherited corruption and have been born with a sin nature. With sin came the tendency for acting violently against one another. Anger, jealousy, pride and hatred can fuel man’s evil bent towards life-ending aggression. The first recorded act of murder was when Cain killed his brother Abel.(Gen.4:8) From that moment on, taking the life of another has been common place, in some circles of society, acceptable. However, to God every life is important, and since God knew that man was sinful and evil and had become lawless, He enacted guidelines that would seek to modify man’s behavior. *Pride Promotes Strife. Do everything without complaining, arguing or disputing,*(PHI2:14) There are cases such as self-defense, war, others when taking a life is not just permitted but required. God does make exceptions as long as it lines up with His will. However, pre-meditated murder of an individual is never God’s will.

Murder is the physical act of taking another’s life. What is murder in God’s eyes? God defines murder as any thought or feeling of deep-seated hatred or malice against another person. *everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.*(1Joh3:15) Murder begins in the heart and anger "without a cause" is sin. When we hatred in our hearts for another, we have committed the sin of murder in God’s eyes. Hatred towards another person never has to be validated outwardly because God looks upon the heart for the truth. *If you are angry, do not sin by having your grudge. Don’t let the sun go down on your angry, do not give the devil a foothold.* Remember, *“vengeance is mine,”* says the Lord.(Rom12:17-19) Pursue humility and meekness as a way of life, live peaceably with all men. And what God says we must obey, or we face the consequences on judgment day.(Mat5:21)

You shall not commit adultery

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Seventh Commandment: "*You shall not commit adultery*"(Exo20:14) Adultery is sexual relations between a married person and a person who is not his or her spouse. God established the institution of marriage as a union between one man and one woman.(Gen.2:24) Within marriage, sexual relations are designed to unify husband and wife, and to result in godly children. In Lev.18:20, "*Do not have sexual relations with your neighbor's wife and defile yourself with her,*" and in Deuteronomy 22:22, "*If a man is found sleeping with another man's wife, both the man who slept with her and the woman must die.*" The commands prohibit a man from taking another man's wife, whether that person is married or not, both people are guilty of committing adultery. We should fulfill our marriage vows in regards to sexual relations and promise to love one another. A covenant is made in the presence of God. *Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.*(HEB13:4)

In Leviticus 18:1-5, as God's chosen people, the Israelites were to reflect God's character in the Promised Land. God commanded His people to be holy for He is holy and part of holy living is sexual purity. There is more to this command than the simple avoidance of extramarital relationships, prohibition are all sorts of sexual sin (e.g., incest, fornication, homosexuality, premarital sex) Jesus made further clarification of this command, *But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart.*(Matthew 5:27-30) Adultery begins in the heart including all kinds of lustful thoughts before it becomes physical.(Mat15:19) Fantasizing about having sexual relations with someone is the same in God's eyes as actually committing adultery. Therefore, we must avoid all things that would create within us lustful thoughts (e.g., suggestive songs, sensuous movies, pornography, etc.) This command prohibits: chastity in body, mind, words and action. We should avoid immodest clothing or anything that might cause a brother or sister in the Lord to stumble in this area.(1Timothy2:9;1Peter 3:3)

What warning for committing adultery? "*Can one walk on hot coals, and his feet not be seared? So is he who goes in to his neighbor's wife; whoever touches her shall not be innocent*"(Pro. 6:28-29) Wounds and dishonor he will get.(Pro.6:32:33) Regarding sexual sin, Apostle Paul said, "*Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body*" (1Cor. 6:18;9-10) God who created our bodies and who wants to live in us, wants us to be pure. When it comes to sexual sin, the best course of action is to remove ourselves from temptation and avoid such situations altogether. We must not give in to sexual lust and temptation, following the example of Joseph who fled from the advances of his master's wife.(Gen.39:6-20)

In the gospel of John is an account of a woman caught in adultery. Leaders were responsible for executing justice brought her to Jesus and asked for his judgment. Jesus' statement "*Let he who is without sin cast the first stone,*" is often quoted to preclude judgment of any kind. However, the law clearly stated that both parties were to receive the death penalty. But not bringing guilty man to justice, these leaders shared in the guilt and were not fit to carry out the punishment. Not pardoning her adultery, Jesus warns woman in parting, "Go now and sin no more."(John 8:11)

God prohibits adultery which is the violation of the sacred marriage union. Through the sin of adultery, Satan tempts you to seek sexual fulfillment because of your lack of self-control. Adultery splits at the fabric of society because it tears apart marriages, families. This reason maintain harmony in marital relation is to reduce temptation to adultery. David tried clean up his sinful behavior, but have confessed when prophet Nathan condemns David - *But the thing that David had done displeased the LORD.*(2SA11:6-13) Do not try to cover up sin; repent and seek God's forgiveness.

"You shall not steal"(Exodus 20:15) is the eighth Commandment is part of the moral law of God. Stealing is defined as taking another person's property without his or her permission. We cannot take anything that belongs to another person. However, there are many other forms of theft, e.g., fail to work diligently during the hours we have agreed to serve, fail to reach scheduled time at church worship. Stealing a person's trust is what we know as deceit. Stealing a life, person, material, intellectual property, a reputation, dignity, whether through slander, or gossip is a particularly destructive form of theft. There is reason stealing be the ultimate root of most evil. It is corruption, bribe that makes it impossible for society to progress. Theft disturbs societal stability and the results are feelings of fear and insecurity.

John 10:10 Jesus said "*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.*" "thieves" is the Devil. In fact, it is the one who falsely claims to be Christ, trying to steal Christ's glory. Jeremiah in 7:11 rebuking the temple leaders for their abuses, they were oppressing the needy and violently taking what was not theirs. Jesus spoke, God's temple is called a house of prayer, but you have made it a den of thieves.

Christians have received tremendous physical and spiritual gifts from God and we should desire to give back to Him all that we have. When we withhold the things that are rightly His, our time and talents, our possessions and finances, indeed our very lives—we are in effect stealing from Him. "Will a man rob God?" asked Malachi the prophet. And, speaking in the name of the Lord, he continued: "Yet you have robbed me...in tithes and offerings."(Malachi 3:8-10) Everything we have is a gift from God for the purpose of serving Him. One day we will be judged by God, expected to give an account of what we did with our gifts, talents God has so generously bestowed on us.(Rom14:12; 2Co5:10)

You shall not give false witness against your neighbor - 7 -

The ninth commandment says, "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor"(Exodus 20:16). To bear false witness against others is to lie about them, especially for personal gain. The Hebrew word translated "neighbor" in this commandment can mean an associate, a brother, companion, fellow, friend, husband, lover, or neighbor. In other words, the Israelites were commanded to be truthful in all things but especially when speaking about another person. There were witnesses needed laws to establish a claim justice. A false witness could lie under oath during judicial proceedings in order to establish guilt or fault in a case. Since judgment based on false testimony could destroy the life or property of innocent human beings and discredit system of justice. The people were not to lie publicly, as in a court of law any false charge that could injure him, nor were they to lie privately by whispering, mocking, back-biting, slandering, or destroying his character by inferences, crafty indications, and evil suggestions.

It is possible to bear false witness or slander by spreading rumors. Those who spread them were guilty of bearing false witness. Frequently people say untrue things about others. Marriages are broken up because of false rumors that someone has spread. Reputations of honest and honorable people are damaged. Opening lies about someone or spreading them is bearing false witness, a terrible offense in the sight of God. Bearing false testimony also carries with it the basic idea of fabrication, manipulation which, simply put, means to make something up to exaggerations!

The reasons for God's prohibiting lying and testifying falsely against one's neighbor are three-fold. First, God's people are to reflect God's character. The Lord is a truthful God who does not and cannot lie. "*God is not a man, that he should lie, nor a son of man, that he should change his mind. Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?*"(Numbers 23:19) The people who were called by God's name and who represented Him in the world were expected to accurately reflect His character. Lying to or about one another brought reproach upon His holy name, and this He would not tolerate. Second, bearing false witness against another was destructive to the individual who was the victim of the lie, and he suffered by it in his credibility and reputation, as well as in his trade and business. Loving our neighbors prevents lying about them. Third, false witness was seen as so destructive to society that courts of law could function only if the witnesses who were called to testify could be trusted to tell the truth. Without a trustworthy judicial system, based on eyewitness testimony from reliable, truthful witnesses, societies are at risk of the breakdown of law and order. When this happens, chaos succeeds and the innocent suffer.

Colossians 3:9-10 explains the reason for the continued prohibition against lying. *Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds, and have put on the new man who is renewed in knowledge according to the image of Him who created him.* Christians are new creations in Christ (2Cor.5:17), and, as such, we reflect His nature. We have been released from our "old self" with its evil practices such as lying and bearing false witness.

God recorded 10th Commandment in Exodus 20:17:*You shall not covet your neighbor's house, You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or anything that is your neighbor's.* In modern terms, coveting often includes neighbor's cars, electronic gadgets, money, prestige, etc. Covetous means "to lust after or to long for with great desire." to covet means to desire (someone or something) obsessively, wrongfully, without due regard for the rights/feelings of others. This indicates strong desire to have that which belongs to another's possessions. It is considered to be very grievous offense. It is a strong emotion, to be avoided. The Israelites were not to desire, long for, or set their hearts on anything that belonged to anyone else. Covetousness is equated with immorality and impurity, so that these must be put away.

In James 1:15 tells us, the inner person is where sin originates, covetousness is the forerunner of all manner of sin. At its root, coveting is the result of envy, a sin which, once it takes root in the heart, leads to worse sins. Envy goes beyond casting a longing glance at neighbor's new car. Once dwelled upon, envy of the neighbor's possessions can turn to feelings of bitterness and hatred for the neighbor himself. A covetous or greedy person is an idolator.(Col5:5) Bible gives many bad examples of coveting, such as when David coveted Bathsheba, Uriah's wife (2Sa11:1-4) and Ahab coveted Naboth's vineyard.(1Ki21:1-6) In both cases, this emotional sin led to other sins, including murder.

Envious, selfish are unhappy and discontented. Covetousness identifies as a form of idolatry. In the end, envy and covetousness are Satan's tools to distract us from pursuing godliness. Thus covetousness is root of all kinds of sins, fountain of all iniquity, from which flow all the most unlawful actions. Jesus gave the warning, "*Be on your guard against all kinds of greed*"(Luk12:15) Obedience to this commandment requires that envy be banished from heart. We should banish our desires for whatever does not belong to us. God's Word tells us that *godliness with contentment is great gain* and that we should be content with the basic necessities of life. Paul "*learned how to be content with whatever I have*" (Phi.4:11) He has faith in his Creator, that He will provide for him and do what is good in His eyes. We can trust in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy.(1Tim6:17) We can know that God has a glorious inheritance for those who have faith in Him. His divine power has given us everything that pertain to life and godliness.(2Pe1:3) True happiness is not attained by abundance of possessions, but by personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ. By this alone do we gain that which is satisfying—the unsearchable riches of God's grace.

Do Church worship idols / practice idolatry?

- 8 -

Sadly, our Christian friends and family members have been brainwashed to believe that the use of statues, relics, and other articles is acceptable and even necessary for worship. They have been taught that the images and icons used in the church are not actually “worshiped” but are simply “visual aids” to worship. They began making allowances for the idolatrous use of images by the way 1st and 2nd are combined and divided the 10th into two. The omission of 2nd commandment seems doubtful in light of the fact that has been accused of the idolatrous use of graven images.

There are good reasons for not using images in worship. First, the use of physical images to “aid” worship violates the command to worship God “in spirit and in truth”.(John 4:23-24) In John 1:18 is clear no one knows what God looks like: “*No one has seen God at any time. The only begotten Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has declared Him.* And, because *God is Spirit* (John 4:24a), it is irreverent to explain Him as an iconic representation. And, in Isaiah 53:2-3, which says that He had “no stately form or majesty.” But we can see there are paintings of God the Father, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, Mary, Joseph, and a myriad of canonized saints. There are statues; there are relics, such as bone fragments, said to have belonged to certain saints. Some shrines even contain pieces of wood claimed to be part of Jesus’ cross. They do not believe they are committing idolatry. They have been taught to believe that they do not worship these idols; they simply “venerate” them. The problem is that “idolization” still gives honor and reverence to something and/or someone other than God; therefore, veneration is idolatry.(Col.2:18)

When God first gave His Law to mankind, He began with a statement of who He is: “*I am the LORD your God,* with warning that Israel was to have no other God but Him, followed by forbidding the making of any image of anything “in heaven above or on earth beneath or in the waters below” for the purpose of worshiping or bowing down to it. The history of the Jewish people is that they disobeyed this commandment. They made idols to represent gods and worshiped them; beginning with the golden calf during the very time God was writing out the Commandments for Moses! Idol worship not only drew the Israelites away from the true and living God, it led to all manner of other sins.

God does not want us to make idols of any kind. No idol can begin to represent the eternal and invisible God or help us worship God in the way he wants us to worship him. Idols always lead people away from God and never draw them closer to him. *Therefore, since we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man.* (Act17:29) Even most beautiful representation of Jesus Christ is nothing more than one artist’s conception of what the Lord looked like. We certainly don’t need a picture to display nature of our Lord and Savior, since idols are the work of men’s hands. There is no way in which any image or idol can even begin to meaningfully represent the eternal, almighty, Creator God. Every image or idol would misrepresent God, “*God is spirit*”(John 4:24) Throughout history people have been led astray by their idols and images. God has never been glorified or honored by any human effort to represent him with a physical image. And the picture will never be a complete image of God or accurately display His glory, and never be a substitute for how we view God or deepen our knowledge of Him. We have only to look at His creation, as we are reminded in Psalm 19:1,2: *The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge.*” Our existence as the redeemed of the Lord, sanctified, made righteous by His blood shed on the cross, should have Him always before us. Bible is filled with non-physical descriptions of Christ that capture our imaginations. He is the light of the world (John 1:5), We Beheld His Glory, Full of Grace and Truth.(John 1:14-18) Such a Savior is more beautiful to us than any piece of picture on the wall.

And what agreement has the temple of God with idols?(2 Cor.6:16) Guard yourselves from idols.(1John 5:21) God rejects worship given to him through images and statues. Christians should be walking by faith, not by sight,(2Cor5:7) A devotion to Mary is a form of idol worship.(Luk1:38) Idols are an abomination to the Lord. God is a jealous God. The Lord alone is to be glorified. When John having heard the amazing revelations,(Rev22:8) *I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed me these things. Then he said to me, “See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book. Worship God.* He is our Provider, Protector, Sustainer, Refuge, Strong Tower, Healer, Comforter, Redeemer, Savior, All in all.(Rev4:8,11) The Lord is the object of all our worship, thanksgiving. The Lord, the triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, He alone is to be worshiped, adored, supplicated, petitioned. There is no need for any other person to intercede. As a child of God, you can go directly to God. “*There is one God, and one Mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.*”(1Tim2:5; Heb4:16) All our burdens, prayer requests go directly to God through our relationship with Christ.

Their eyes and hearts are blinded by false teaching they are continually hearing by tradition.(MAT15:3-6) We must leave it in God’s hands until they begin to seek the truth, the Holy Spirit does miracles every day. Pray that the Holy Spirit will draw them and that they will respond to the Spirit’s leading. As we pray, we must keep loving them and trust that God will give wisdom and discernment spirit. Lord, bless these people and encourage them, because they’ve been given the knowledge of the truth by Your grace. And help us, Lord, to lead many out of this horrible darkness

What is spiritual adultery?

- 9 -

Spiritual adultery is unfaithfulness to God. It is having an undue fondness for the things of the world, worshipping other gods, idols and in ways God hasn't called for. The Lord compares the nation of Israel to a young bride raised up for the purpose of honoring God, who is Israel's Husband by covenant. Rather than remaining faithful to the Lord, the nation of Israel played the "harlot" by worshipping other gods, "*But like a woman unfaithful to her husband, so you, Israel, have been unfaithful to me,*" says the LORD. (Jer 3:20; Ezek. 16:8-22) In a sense, the Lord called Israel an adulteress who cheated on Her Husband by worshipping strange gods. The Lord uses adultery as image for spiritual unfaithfulness. Spiritually adultery is analogous to the unfaithfulness of one's spouse. God accuses Israel, of spiritual adultery because of their unfaithfulness to His covenant love, they did not keep the covenant of God, (Ezekiel 23:37)

The Bible tells us that people who choose to be friends with the world are an "adulterous people" having "enmity against God" (Jam 4:4-5) The "world" here is the system of evil under Satan's control (Joh 12:31; Eph 2:2; 1 John 5:19) The world system, with its contrived and deceitful scheme of worthless pursuits, unnatural affections, is designed to lure us away from a pure relationship with God. Spiritual adultery, is the forsaking of God's love and the embracing of the present world's values and desires. (Rom 8:7-8; 2 Tim 4:10) Spiritual adultery includes any form of idolatry.

In the Old Testament, the children of Israel tried to mix the worship of other gods such as Baal with that of God. (Judges 3:7; 1 Kings 16:31-33; Jeremiah 19:5) In doing so, Israel became like an adulterous wife who wanted both a husband and another lover. (Jeremiah 9:2; Ezekiel 6:9) In the New Testament, James defines spiritual adultery as claiming to love God while cultivating friendship with the world. The person who commits spiritual adultery is one who professes to be a Christian yet finds his real love and pleasure in the things that Satan offers. For believers, the love of the world and the love of God are direct opposites. Believers committing spiritual adultery may claim to love the Lord, but, in reality, they are captivated by the pleasures of this world, its influence, comforts, financial security.

The concept of spiritual adultery against God is illustrated in the book of Hosea. Prophet's wife, Gomer, symbolizes the adultery of the children of Israel. (1:2; 2:2-5; 3:1-5; 9:1) Gomer leaves Hosea for another lover and enters into an adulterous relationship. God instructs Hosea to *Go, take a harlot wife and harlot's children, for the land gives itself to harlotry, turning away from the LORD. So he went and took Gomer, his errant wife out of slavery and restore her as his wife!* This is a picture of God's love for His wayward people! Hosea's commitment to Gomer symbolizes God's faithful, patient love with His erring people. The Bible exhorts us, *Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life comes not from the Father but from the world*" (1 Jo 2:15) If we are to escape adultery, we have to admit that it is lush and reject it in all its forms. As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as God who called you, Be holy. We're just strangers, pilgrims on the earth, looking forward to the time when we're in the glory and at rest with the Lord. Let us have grace, by which we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. (Heb 12:28; 13:14) Be not conformed to this world, (ROM 12:2) "*set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth*" (Col 3:1)

Don't Be Deceived! *But I am afraid, lest as the serpent deceived Eve by his craftiness, so your minds may be corrupted from the simplicity and purity of devotion to Christ.* (2 Cor. 11:2-4) Apostle Paul had just compared the church to a virgin, "*For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ*" The first woman was deceived and led corrupted by the tempter, and that the same thing might occur in regard to the church which he was so desirous should be preserved pure. We all know the account of how the serpent (here refers to Satan) deceived Eve. Satan cast doubt on God's Word and character. He twisted the commands of God a little to make it seem unfair. Satan's Flat-Out denial of God's command and punishment of God. Unfortunately, Eve bought the lie and ate the forbidden fruit. Satan had seduced, thus demonstrating that the many were in danger of being led astray. Satan adapts his temptations to the character, circumstances of the tempted, thru cunning devices, deceitful plotting. Hence, all should be on their guard. The battle that is going on is for control of our minds. If Satan can control our minds, everything else will follow. The mind is corrupted when the soul is filled with unholy plans; purposes, desires. The goal of Satan's deception is to keep people from worshipping God. To turn from all spiritual adultery we should continually submit ourselves to God, draw strength/power from Him, put on full armor of God and resist the devil. "*Beware, lest your hearts be deceived and you turn away and serve other gods and worship them*" (Deut. 11:16) Fear God and give Him glory. Worship the One who made the heavens and the earth and the sea and the springs of waters.

Paul was afraid that church would lose simplicity, single hearted devotedness to Christ, from pure doctrines; manner of living; simplicity in praise and worship. Every leader of church should be concerned that his flock will be enticed away from the truth. Believers in Jesus Christ are the bride of Christ, and we wait with great anticipation for the day when we will be united with our Bridegroom. Until then, we remain faithful to Him and say with all the redeemed of the Lord, "Come, Lord Jesus!" (Rev. 22:20) The eternal habitation of the Bride is the holy city, the New Jerusalem.

Jesus was asked by a Pharisee and one of them, a lawyer. Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest? (Matthew 22:34–37) Jesus answered by saying, “*Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.* This is the greatest and most important commandment. The second is like it: *Love your neighbor as yourself.* All the Law and the Prophets depend on these two commandments” (Mark 12:30–31)

Christ fulfills the Law; consequently nothing of the law was to fail until it had completely accomplished its purpose. *Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I came to fulfill them and to make them all come true.* (Mat. 5:17) Jesus answered that it is by keeping two commandments could inherit eternal life. (Luk 10:25) The Law deals with our relationship with God and our relationship with other people. Without a right relationship with God, our relationships with others will not be right. The cause of world’s problems is that man needs to be reconciled to God.

Do we live according to God’s commandments? Are we putting our personal relationship with God first? Are we allowing other aspects of our lives to come before the worship of the true God? We have to be honest with ourselves. We know that we do not and how often we fail to do so. We have sinned and dealt perversely and done wickedly and have rebelled, turning aside from God’s commandments and standards. (Dan 9:5) But good news is commandments were given as to bring us to Christ. In Rom. 8:1–11 *For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.* We have to be obedient to Christ, follow Him to have His way, acknowledge that we are crucified with Him. ‘It’s no more I but Christ who lives in me.’ Once we come to Christ, we are empowered by the Holy Spirit. It is by His power that we are able to resist sin “*You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness*” (Rom 6:18) Let us ask God to heavenly fire us and take us through. Walk in the Spirit and you will not fulfill the lust of the flesh. Be filled with the Spirit implies guiding, and controlling every part of our lives by God.

Jesus revealed the “new commandment” in John 13:34–35, “*A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.*” Jesus said the world would be drawn to His message when it saw His followers continuing to love each other. Followers of Christ, the disciples are recognized by their love for each other.

The new commandment to love one another is one we all need. The love which Jesus taught them began to change the disciples. He modeled love for them. He demonstrated the compassion and tenderness that God has for mankind. He taught this love in new covenant way: *But I say to you, Love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven*” (Matt. 5:43–45) Agapao is a word in Greek. It refers to the kind of love that doesn't serve itself, but extends itself for the sake of another. Agape love is that world hadn't seen in action until Jesus came along and his disciples with it. Do good: When you find a way you can do something good for one of your enemies, do it, because you are trying to find it in your own heart to love him for Jesus' sake. Bless: When you think of the person who is slandering you, find ways to work blessing into your thoughts. Instead of complaining about your unjust treatment, go out of your way to speak well of your enemies. Pray: You begin to pray and intercede for your enemies. Start to ask God to help them. Ask God to heal the hurts in their lives that are some of motivators of their evil actions. Ask God to bless them and show mercy to them. You'll find that God will begin to put love in your heart toward your enemies. When we love one another, love our enemies, we can lead a life overcoming, victorious life that is hidden with Christ. And obeying Jesus' commands, along with working of the Holy Spirit in our hearts, we will accomplish it. “*This is love, that we walk according to his commandments.*” (2 John 1:6) We love truly only when we endeavor to obey His commands.

And walk in love, as Christ also has loved us and given Himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling aroma. (Eph 5:1–2) The result of a sacrificial walk in love is a sweet-smelling aroma to God. We must be a living sacrifice to God. (Rom. 12:1) as in offering the sacrifice of praise to Him. (Heb. 11:4) Those who love God are imitators of God as His dear children. A walk in love is thus imitating Him. Jesus is our example of walking in love. (Phi. 2:5) Love is giving one's self as a servant in obedience to God which is an offering and sacrifice to Him.

Jesus had shown them that love is not dependent upon the worthiness of the one being loved. God’s love embraces flaws, weaknesses, and outright unworthiness. Jesus demonstrated this unconditional love by washing His disciples’ feet, even the one who would betray Him. After performing, Jesus said, “*Now that I have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you*” (Joh 13:14–15) Living with this kind of love was the new command Jesus gave to everyone who wants to be His disciple. (Luk 9:23)

The Law of Christ is Love. We are therefore expected to carry burdens of on another in prayer. The most important Christian calling is to walk in Love. Every born again believer has been given the ability to love like God loves. *The Love of God has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us*” (Rom. 5:5) We have become children of God because the Holy Spirit has been given to us. When the Holy Spirit came in, He came in with all of God’s love. Accept our Father’s Love for you, and share His love with others, and you will be blessed.