

Principles of Peace – the 10 Commandments

God has given us the 10 commandments as a guide to good living. They are commandments not suggestions. They are the principles that will regulate peace and happiness. They have existed from creation. God created us and knows what is best. Jesus magnified the law by revealing its deep principles as well as living out these principles in His life. As we follow them by His strength, we will find peace and protection.

1. Peace promised to those who obey His Law:

Psalm 119:16 Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them.

Isa 48:22 There is no peace, saith the LORD, unto the wicked.

Isa 48:18 O that thou hadst hearkened to my commandments! then had thy peace been as a river, and thy righteousness as the waves of the sea:

Note: Peace is the result of following God's law and ways.

2. The Law in the Old Testament

The 10 Commandment Law was given to Moses on Mount Sinai. Though the law was given to Moses, but it existed prior to Moses.

3. God wrote the 10 commandment law with his own finger.

Deut 4:13 And he declared unto you his covenant, which He commanded you to perform, even the **ten commandments**; and **He wrote them upon two tables of stone.**

Note: When God gave the Ten Commandments- He wrote them Himself on tables of stone. He did not entrust writing the 10 commandment to man.

4. After Moses broke the 10 Commandments God rewrote them with his own finger in stone.

Exodus 34:1-4

1 And Jehovah said unto Moses, Hew thee two tables of stone like unto the first: and I will write upon the tables the words that were on the first tables, which thou brakest.

2 And be ready by the morning, and come up in the morning unto mount Sinai, and present thyself there to me on the top of the mount.

4 And he hewed two tables of stone like unto the first; and Moses rose up early in the morning, and went up unto mount Sinai, as Jehovah had commanded him, and took in his hand two tables of stone.

5. Abraham had kept His commandments and Laws. Gen 26:5

Gen 26:5 Because that Abraham obeyed my voice, and kept my charge, my commandments, my statutes and my laws.

Note: Abraham kept the law before Moses received the law at mount Sinai.

6. Noah was a preacher of righteousness – The Commandments.

2 Pet 2:5 and spared not the ancient world, but preserved Noah with seven others, a **preacher of righteousness**, when he brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly;

7. The Commandments are Righteousness:

Psalms 119:172 Let my tongue sing of thy word; For **all thy commandments are righteousness.**

8. What is Sin?

1 John 3:4 Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.

Note: Sin is breaking God's Law.

9. Adam sinned – thus Adam broke God's Law.

Romans 5:12 Therefore, as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin; and death passed unto all men, for that all sinned:--

10. Cain disobeyed God by killing his brother Abel.

Gen 4:7-11

7 If thou did well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou did not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him.

Note: Cain was harboring hatred toward his brother that eventually led to murder.

8 And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him.

9 And the LORD said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper? ,

10 And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground.

11 And now art thou cursed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother's blood from thy hand;

11. Cain was jealous of his brother.

1 John 3:12 Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous.

Jesus magnified the Law and made it honorable:

12. Jesus will show us the deep principles of the law.

Isa 42:21 The LORD is well pleased for his righteousness' sake; he will **magnify the law**, and make it honorable.

Note: Part of Christ's mission was to teach men to live by purity of principle. He came to show us how to live for God.

13. Jesus revealed to us the spirituality of the Law:

He revealed, unfolded its deeper meaning.

Matthew. 5:20 For I say unto you, That **except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees**, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Note: The religious leaders were noted for their outward righteousness – religious piety – supposed holiness. Jesus called them hypocrites – white washed tombs full of dead men's bones. He knew they were faking it.

14. Jesus lived the Law out in His life.

1John 3:5 And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; and in him is no sin.

15. Jesus also revealed perpetuity (endlessness) of God's Law: Matt. 5:17-18

Matthew. 5:17-18

17 Thinknot that I am come to destroy the law or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill.

18 For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

Note: Not one dotting of an **I** or crossing of a **T** will pass from the law. It is just as wrong today to lie, steal and murder, and break the Sabbath as when the commandments were first written in stone.

Jesus magnified each commandment:

16. The 1st Principle - Put God first and only

1st Commandment. Exodus 20:3 Thou shalt have **no other gods before me**.

Principle: Put God first and only

Matt. 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Luke 12:31 But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Note: We are to **seek God** and **His principles first** and He will take care of our needs.

17. The 2nd Principle - Serve only God.

2nd Commandment. Exodus 20:4-5

4 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, 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:

5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous (Possessive)

God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;

Note: We are to serve God and Him alone. Some people have generational idols – sins that carrying down from one generation to another. The children not punished for the sins of the parents – they are only punished for the same sins if they participate in them.

God does not tolerate competition. He is the one who saves, provides and cares for us. He sent his Son to die on the cross so we may go to heaven. He values and guards our relationship with Him.

18. You cannot serve two masters:

Matthew 6:24 **No man can serve two masters:** for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon. (**Money**)

Note: We cannot serve two masters – we can only serve one master. We cannot serve God and riches.

19. Mammon is money.

New International Version

Matthew 6:24 "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. **You cannot serve both God and money.**

20. Mammon is **contrasted** with true riches:

Luke 16:11 If therefore ye have not been faithful in the **unrighteous mammon**, who will commit to your trust the **true riches**?

21. Love of money is the root of all evil – which greedy people run after, leave the faith and results in many sorrows.

1 Timothy 6:10 For the love of money is the **root of all evil:** which while some **coveted** after, they have **erred** from the faith, and pierced themselves through with **many sorrows.**

22. The 3rd Principle -Honor God's Name with Reverence:

3rd Commandment.

Exodus 20:7 Thou **shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain;** for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

23. Don't use God's name in a meaningless way:

Matt. 6:5-9 And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men.

Verily I say unto you. they have their reward.

7 But when ye pray, use not **vain repetitions**, as the heathen do: **for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.**

8 Be not ye therefore like unto them: for your Father knoweth what things ye have need of, before ye ask him.

Note: We are not to use God's name in vain – empty – meaningless repetitions. God hears our prayers because of our sincerity not because of some repetitious formula – saying it over and over again. If we believe He hears us – we don't have to keep on repeating His name repeatedly.

We are not to use His name as a curse word or to dam people.

24. We are to reverence His Name:

Deuteronomy 28:58 If thou wilt not observe to do all the words of this law that are written in this book, that thou mayest **fear this glorious and fearful name, THE LORD THY GOD;**

25. Don't be a hypocrite by taking on His name and not doing His will:

Matt. 7:21 **Not every one** that saith unto me, **Lord, Lord**, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the **will of my Father** which is in heaven.

Note: Not everyone who calls Him Lord will enter into the kingdom of heaven. Only those who do His **will** will be there. If we are saved by grace, that grace will save us.

26. The 4th principle - Serve God on His Holy Day.

4th. Commandment: Remember the Sabbath Day to Keep it Holy:

Exodus 20:8-11

8 Remember the **SABBATH** day, to keep it holy.

9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:

10 But the seventh day is the **SABBATH** of the **LORD** thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:

11 For in six days the **LORD** made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the **LORD** blessed the **SABBATH** day, and hallowed it.

27. Jesus Kept the Seventh-day Sabbath:

Luke 4:16 And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the **SABBATH day**, and stood up for to read.

How Jesus Kept the Sabbath

28. Jesus went participated in worship.

Luke 4:16 And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the **SABBATH day**, and stood up for to read.

29. Jesus Healed and did God's work on the Sabbath.

Mark 3:1-4

- 1 And he entered again into the synagogue; and there was a man there which had a withered hand.
- 2 And they watched him, whether he **would heal** him on the SABBATH day; that they might accuse him.
- 3 And he saith unto the man which had the withered hand, Stand forth.
- 4 And he saith unto them, Is it **lawful to do good-on the SABBATH** days, or to do evil? to save life, or to kill? But they held their peace.

Note: Jesus did good on the Sabbath in healing people. The Jews falsely accused him of breaking Sabbath when he healed someone. They were wrong.

30. Jesus taught on the Sabbath:

Luke 6:6-10

6 And it came to pass also on another SABBATH, that he entered into the synagogue and **taught:** and there was a man whose right hand was withered.

31. Jesus said it is good to do good on the SABBATH.

9 Then said Jesus unto them, I will ask you one thing; Is it lawful on the SABBATH days to do good, or to do evil? to save life, or to destroy it?

10 And looking round about upon them all, he said unto the man, Stretch forth thy hand. And he did so: and his hand was restored whole as the other.

Example: The word Sabbath means rest. God rested from his labors on the Sabbath. (Genesis 2:1-4). It is Ok to rest on the Sabbath after worship. To rest on the Sabbath, sing, visit sick, lonely, frustrated, give Bible studies, communion, spiritual fellowship, pray, spending time with God in solitude (alone), reading the Bible, spending time in God's creation.

Word of Caution: Some may say, "its Sabbath all day" therefore you have to listen **to them** all day. It may be Sabbath all day, but it isn't church all day. Sometimes the Sabbath day is evaporated with relearning all things you already know. After worship it is good to get some rest, and minister to your family or others who are hurting. **Your family is your first church.** There should be no guilt in ministering or spending time with your family on Sabbath – provided you are not using that time to do worldly things. But staying in church all day is defeating the gospel commission to "Go" therefore and teach all nations. Much time is wasted in talking and making the Sabbath day a burden by those who want to control your time and talents. We need to put into practice the things we learn rather than wearing ourselves out with endless debates and talks and activities on the Sabbath.

Need for Balance: We need to make a Balance between Worship, Rest, and Work for God on the Sabbath.

32. The 5th principle - Honor your parents:

5 th Commandment:

Exodus 20:12 Honor thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

33. This is the first commandment with a promise.

Ephesians 6:2 Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;)

3. That it **may be well with thee**, and thou **mayest live long on the earth**.

Note: The promise is that it may go well with those who care for their parents and live long on the earth.

34. The religious Jews had a policy that if they gave a special gift to the synagogue they were relieved from caring for their parents.

Matthew. 15:3-6

3 But he answered and said unto them, Why do ye also transgress the commandment of God by your tradition?

4 For God commanded, saying, Honor thy father and mother: and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death.

But ye say, Whosoever shall say to his father or his mother, It is a gift, by whatsoever thou mightest be profited by me;

6 And Honor not his father or his mother, **he shall be free (from caring for them)**. Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition.

35. Jesus made sure His mother was taken care of before He died.

John 19: 25 Now there stood by the **cross of Jesus** his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Cleophas, and Mary Magdalene.

26 When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple (John) standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, **Woman, behold thy son!**

27 Then saith he **to the disciple, Behold thy mother!** And from that hour **that disciple (John) took her unto his own home.**

Poem of when Jesus took care of his mother by giving her to John the disciple:

"O, pitiful, loving Savior, amid all His physical pain and mental anguish, he had a thoughtful care for His mother! He had no money with which to provide for her comfort; but He was enshrined in the heart of John, and He gave His mother to him as a precious legacy, thus He provided for her that which she most needed, - the tender sympathy of one who loved her because she loved Jesus. "

(Desire of Ages p. 752)

36. 6th principle of peace - Honor Life:

6th. Commandment. Ex 20:13 Thou shalt not kill.

Note: You should not murder. The word here is murder. It isn't referring to killing in general but to murder.

37. Anger the seed of murder Matt.5:21-22

21 Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt **not kill**; and whosoever shall **kill** shall be in danger of the judgment: .

22 But I say unto you, That whosoever is **angry** with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, (idiot) shall be in danger of hell fire.

38. Anger and hatred may birth murder.

1 John 4:20-21

20 If a man say, I love God, and **hateth** his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?

21 And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

39. Jealously a seed of hatred and murder:

1 John 3:12 Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous.

Note: Cain is an example of one who had steaming jealousy, and hatred which led to murder.

40. The 7th principle - Honor Marital Relationships:

7th. Commandment: Exodus 20:14 Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Note: God hates adultery – adultery is when a married person violates the marital vow and has sexual relations with a person they are not married to or who is married to someone else. Includes a single person who has sex with a married person who is not their spouse. They and their participating illicit partner have committed adultery.

41. Whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.

Hebrews 13:4 Marriage is honourable (is to be honored by all), and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge.

Note: Marriage is to be honored by all. We are to respect the marital relationship of others by not having sex or having an affair with their spouse. God will judge such actions.

42. Don't entertain lustful thoughts:

Matt.5:27-28

27 Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery:

28 But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman **to lust** after her hath committed **adultery** with her already **in his heart**.

Note: God wants us to have pure thoughts. We are not even to lust in our minds after the others people. We are not to have sexual thoughts about another person. Our desire should be only for our spouse.

43. How to sever – cut off lustful thoughts and actions:

Matt. 5:29 And if thy right **eye** offend thee, **pluck it out**, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.

Note: Stop looking at the thing, or person that you lust after. The eye – represents what we look at, the hand represents what we are doing.

Stop doing it – **stop imagining sin and practicing sin**. Stop looking at it and doing it. Some are inspired to sin by watching others do it, thinking about it or watching it on Television. Soap operas are wicked and wrong. We are not to put shows that have adultery, fornication, violence, murder, drinking, and smoking before our eyes.

44. We will not set any wicked thing before our eyes:

Ps 101:3 I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me.

Note: We will not watch wicked things. We will hate the things that people do that cause us to stumble. This includes soap operas, reality TV programs and movies that depict people performing sins – such as sex, violence, murder, adultery ... etc.

45. Cut off all lust:

Mt 5:30 And if thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not that thy whole body should be cast into hell.

Note: If there is something you are doing that is wrong – cut it off – stop doing it.

46. Pointers: The best way to deal with sins is to cut it off.

- Don't look at sinful things. Don't allow it to occupy your mind. (Psalms 101:3.)
- Feed yourself spiritually daily. (Psalm 1:2-3.)
- Don't give sin an opportunity – avoid a compromising position – stay away from temptation.
Romans 13:14.
- Submit to God and resist the Devil. (James 4:7.)
- Don't think you are too strong to fall. (1 Corinthians 10:12.)
- Resist unto Blood. Resist until you die. (Hebrews 12:4.)

47. 8th Principle - Respect other's Possessions:

8th. Commandment.

Exodus 20:15 Thou shalt not steal.

Note: We are to honor other people's possessions. We are not to take what does not belong to us.

48. Work rather than steal.

Ephesians 4:28 Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.

49. Return the tithe to God. Malachi 3:8; Mt 23:23

Mal 3:10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

50. Tithe is 1/10 or 10% of our income. Ge 28:22; Ge 14:20; Hebrew 7:2-4.

Genesis 28:22 And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God's house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give **the tenth** unto thee.

Genesis 14:20 And blessed be the most high God, which hath delivered thine enemies into thy hand. And he gave him **tithes of all**.

Note: The tenth was to support God's work of saving souls.

51. It is God who gives us the power to gain wealth.

Deuteronomy 8:18 But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is **he that giveth thee power to get wealth**, that he may establish his covenant which he swore unto thy fathers, as it is this day.

52. He has given us life. We should be grateful for Him giving us life and give our time, treasures, and talents to Him.

Genesis 1:26 And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.

Ge 1:27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

53. The 9th principle - Honor the Truth:

9th. Exodus 20:16 Thou shalt not bear witness against thy neighbor.

Note: We are not to tell lies on other people.

54. The devil is the father of lies.

John 8:44-45

44 Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

45 And because I tell you the truth, ye believe me not.

55. Those who continue to lie and those who love lies will be lost.

Rev 22:15 For without (on the outside of the heavenly city) are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremonger, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever **loveth and maketh a lie**.

Rev 21:27 And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or **maketh a lie**: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Note: Lying originated with Satan. No liar or lover of lies will go to heaven

56. 10th Principle -Be Content and don't desire what is not yours.

10th. Exodus 20:17 Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

57. Beware of covetousness:

Luke 12:15 And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

Note: Your worth is not determined by your material possessions. Materialism is leading many to hell. The devil has convinced people through advertisements, TV, reality shows that the more is better – that you are a better person if you have more things. People lie, cheat and steal for things. People waste their health and their spiritual souls trying to keep up with their neighbors or friends. We can trust that God will provide for all that we need. And if we are living and trusting in him – He will take of us – and what we don't have is what we don't need.

58. Be unselfish:

Luke 12:16-21

16 And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully:

17 And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits?

18 And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods.

19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, and be merry.

20 But God said unto him, Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?

21 So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.

Note: Selfishness will make you lose your soul. Having material wealth – houses, land, businesses, doesn't necessarily mean you are blessed. Many people will be lost because they live and love their possessions.

Do you want to live according to the principles God has for you? Do you want live a life that pleases God and have peace in your heart? Do you want to obey God by keeping His commands?
