

TABLE OF CONTENTS
BOOK FIVE - DISCERNING GOOD AND EVIL ACCORDING TO THE
TEN COMMANDMENTS

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT DISCERNING GOOD AND EVIL

[LESSON 28](#)

... ACCORDING TO THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

[LESSON 29](#)

... ACCORDING TO THE SECOND COMMANDMENT

[LESSON 30](#)

... ACCORDING TO THE THIRD COMMANDMENT

[LESSON 31](#)

... ACCORDING TO THE FOURTH COMMANDMENT

[LESSON 32](#)

... ACCORDING TO THE FIFTH COMMANDMENT

[LESSON 33](#)

... ACCORDING TO THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT

[LESSON 34](#)

... ACCORDING TO THE SEVENTH COMMANDMENT

[LESSON 35](#)

... ACCORDING TO THE EIGHTH COMMANDMENT

[LESSON 36](#)

... ACCORDING TO THE NINTH AND TENTH COMMANDMENTS

XXVIII. WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

LESSON TWENTY-EIGHT

...ABOUT DISCERNING GOOD AND EVIL

INTRODUCTION

In previous lessons we have seen that it is the Word of God, the Bible, that gives direction and meaning to the life of the believer. We have seen that if we are to build upon the foundation of Jesus Christ, then we must know what the Word of God is saying and apply it to our lives.

As learners of the Word we see from the Word that there are three ways to approach the Word; each way having a specific purpose or outcome.

The first, and I might add, the most important is seen in John 5:39:

"Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which speak of Me."

We are to search the Scriptures; to search in every "nook and cranny", that is, the obscure, hidden places, as well as, the clear and obvious places, in order that we might find Jesus. If you do, you will find Him as your Savior/Deliver; your Healer; your Provider; and the Holy Spirit Baptizer.

Secondly, according to 2 Timothy 2:15 we are to STUDY the Word.

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a work-man that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

Here is the process of studying what the Word is saying, so that, you may get at it's literal and correct meaning. Through the study of God's Word you learn to divide the Word of truth.

Thirdly, we are to become SKILLED in the Word of righteousness, in order that, we might discern both good and evil. Hebrews 5:13,14:

"For every one that useth milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil."

This, third approach, becoming skilled in the "Word of righteousness" is the purpose and goal for this unit of study (lessons 28 - 36) which we begin with this lesson.

The basis of this unit of study will be the "Ten Commandments". These commandments are found in Exodus, chapter 20 and in Deuteronomy, chapter 5. We will for the purpose of this study, list the commandments according to the old tradition, instead of the newer/later evangelical tradition.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

I. Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Exodus 20:3

II. Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain. Exodus 20:7

III. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Exodus 20:8

IV. Honour thy father and thy mother: Ex 20:12

V. Thou shalt not kill. Exodus 20:13

VI. Thou shalt not commit adultery. Ex 20:14

VII. Thou shalt not steal. Exodus 20:15

VIII. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour. Exodus 20:16

IX. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house... Exodus 20:17a

X. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his livestock, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's. Exodus 20:17b

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT GOOD AND EVIL

James 1:17

Matthew 13:25,39

John 13:2

Acts 5:3

Amos 5:15

Isaiah 7:15

Romans 12:9

Proverbs 6:16-19

Conclusions: We would note from the Above Scriptures that (1) every thing that is good comes from God and that the devil is the author of evil, (2) if something is not good, that is to say, does not come from God, then it is evil, (3) God hates evil, and (4) we are, therefore to hate evil and love God.

DISCERNING GOOD AND EVIL

In this lesson, we would see what is good and what is evil according to the First Commandment, in order that, we might accordingly order the course of our lives.

THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

"Thou shalt have no other Gods before me." Exodus 20:3.

...DISCERNING GOOD

According to the First Commandment, what GOOD (godly behavior) are we to discern?

Matthew 10:28

Matthew 10:37

Proverbs 3:5

Conclusions: We are, according to this commandment, to FEAR, LOVE, and TRUST God above all things.

When are we FEARING God above all things?

Psalms 33:8

Genesis 17:1

Genesis 39:9

Proverbs 8:13

Bible example: The three men in the fiery furnace feared God more than the king. Daniel 3.

Conclusions: We fear God above all things when with our whole heart we revere (reverence) Him as the highest Being, honor Him with our lives, and avoid what displeases Him.

When are we LOVING God above all things?

Matthew 22:37

Psalms 73:25,26

Bible example: Abraham loved God more than his son. Genesis 22.

Conclusions: We love God above all things when with our whole heart we cling to Him as our God and gladly devote our lives to His service.

When are we TRUSTING in God above all things?

Psalms 118:8

Proverbs 3:5

Bible example: David trusted in the Lord when He fought against Goliath. 1 Samuel 17:37,46,47.

Conclusions: We trust in God above all things when with our whole heart we commit our lives to His keeping and rely upon Him for help in every need.

...DISCERNING EVIL

According to the First commandment what EVIL (ungodly behavior) are we to discern.

Matthew 4:10

Isaiah 42:8

Conclusions: It is EVIL to have other gods instead of God. This is know as Idolatry.

When do men have other gods?

Isaiah 42:8

Psalms 115:3,4

Exodus 20:4,5

John 5:23

Matthew 10:28

Matthew 10:37

Proverbs 3:5

Ephesians 5:5

Mark 10:24

Philippians 3:19

Psalms 14:1

Bible examples: Israel worship the golden calf. Exodus 32. - The people worship Baal. 1 Kings 18:18-24. - The Philistines made Dagon their god. Judges 16:23,24. The rich man thought more of costly clothes and good eating than of God. Luke 16:19. - The rich young man loved his possessions more than Christ. Matthew 19:22.

Conclusions: Men have other gods when they regard and worship any creature as God; believe in a god who is not the Triune God; fear, love, or trust in any person or thing as they should fear, love, and trust in God alone.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

What are some of the ways in which God's children, in this day and time, are doing what is EVIL, and thus are not fearing, loving and trusting in God above all things?

RESPONSE TO THE TRUTH

Do you fear, love and trust in God above all things?

XXIX. WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

LESSON TWENTY-NINE

...ABOUT DISCERNING GOOD AND EVIL

INTRODUCTION

We learn from Hebrews 5:12-14 that one of the proofs of being skilled in the Word is the ability to discern both good and evil. To discern good and evil is to understand that good, all that is really good comes only from God; and that evil comes from the devil; and that we who are children of God through the new birth in Jesus Christ are to hate evil and to cleave to that which is good. Amen?

In this lesson, we would see what is good and what is evil according to the Second Commandment, in order that, we might accordingly order the course of our lives.

THE SECOND COMMANDMENT

"Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord, thy God, in Vain." Exodus 20:7.

What is God's name?

Isaiah 42:8

Matthew 1:21

Exodus 3:13-14

Isaiah 43:15

Isaiah 44:6

Isaiah 47:4

Jeremiah 32:18

Exodus 20:24

COMPOUND NAMES OF JEHOVAH

Jeremiah 23:6 - Jehovah Tsidkenu, Lord our Righteousness

Leviticus 20:8 - Jehovah M'kaddesh, Lord our Sanctifier

Exodus 15:26 - Jehovah Rapha, Lord our Healer

Genesis 22:14 - Jehovah Jirah, Lord our Provider

Judges 6:24 - Jehovah Shalom, Lord our Peace

Psalms 23:1 - Jehovah Rohi, Lord our Shepherd

Exodus 17:15 - Jehovah Nissi, Lord our Banner

Ezekiel 48:35 - Jehovah Shammah, The Lord is there

Conclusions: God's name is every name by which God has made Himself known, and every statement in which God tells us about Himself.

... DISCERNING GOOD

According to the Second Commandment, what GOOD (godly behavior) are we to discern?

Psalms 50:15

Matthew 7:7

John 15:7,8

John 14:14

Psalms 103:1

Psalms 118:1

1 Peter 3:15

Matthew 10:32

Romans 10:10

Bible examples: The ten lepers called upon Jesus in their trouble. Luke 17:11-13. - The grateful stranger thanked Jesus and glorified God for the healing. Luke 17:15,16. Hannah petitioned and thanked God for the gift of a son. 1 Samuel 1 and 2.

Conclusions: We should call upon His name in every trouble, pray, praise, give thanks, and confess the true faith.

...DISCERNING EVIL

According to the second Commandment, what EVIL (ungodly behavior) are we to discern?

Exodus 20:7

Conclusion: According to this commandment it is evil (ungodly) to use the Lord's name in VAIN.

What is using God's name in vain?

Leviticus 19:12

Leviticus 24:15

Leviticus 24:16

Psalms 74:10

James 3:9,10

Romans 12:14

Psalms 24:3,4

Zechariah 8:17

Matthew 5:33-36

Deuteronomy 18:10-12

Leviticus 19:31

Jeremiah 23:31,32

Deuteronomy 18:21-22

Ezekiel 13:19

Psalms 50:16,17

Revelation 22:18,19

Matthew 5:19

Matthew 15:8

Matthew 7:21

Matthew 10:33

Mark 8:38

Bible examples: The Jew reviled Jesus when He was hanging on the cross. Matthew 27:39-43. - Rabshakeh blasphemed the God of Israel. 2 Kings 18:28-35; 19:21,22. - The Jews cursed themselves and their children. Matthew 27:25. - Goliath cursed David. 1 Samuel 17:43. - Peter cursed. Matthew 26:74. - Certain Jews swore to commit murder. Acts 23:12 - Herod swore in an unknown and unimportant matter. Matthew 14:6-9. - The Egyptian sorcerers performed supernatural things with the help of the devil. Exodus 7 and 8. King Saul sought the help of the witch of Endor. 1 Samuel 28. - The lie of a false prophet caused a prophet of God to be deceived and killed. 1 Kings 13: 11-19. - The Scribes and the Pharisees were hypocrites. Matthew 23:13-33.. - Ananias and Sapphira were hypocrites. Acts 5:1-11.

Conclusions: Using God's name in vain is:

1. Employing any name of God uselessly or carelessly(My God, Good Lord, Jesus, etc.)
2. Cursing by God's name - blaspheming God by speaking evil of Him or mocking Him; - calling down the anger punishment of God upon any person or thing.
3. Swearing which is done falsely, thoughtlessly, or in sinful, uncertain, or unimportant matters.
4. Using witchcraft by God's name - using God's name in order to perform supernatural things with the help of devil, such as conjuring, fortune-telling, and consulting dead; - seeking the aid of people who practice these and similar satanic arts.
5. Lying and deceiving by God's name - teaching false doctrine and saying that it is God's Word or revelation; covering up an unbelieving heart or a sinful life by a show of piety.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

What are some of the ways in which God's children, in this day and time, in light of what we have been discussing, are doing what is EVIL?

RESPONSE TO THE TRUTH

Is your fear and love for God such, that it keeps you from taking the Lord's name in vain?

[BOOK 5 - FOUNDATION SERIES](#)

[CONTENTS](#)

XXX. WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

LESSON THIRTY

... ABOUT DISCERNING GOOD AND EVIL

INTRODUCTION

We learn from Hebrews 5:12-14 that one of the proofs of being skilled in the Word is the ability to discern both good and evil. To discern good and evil is to understand that good, all that is really good comes only from God; and that evil comes from the devil; and that we who are children of God through the new birth in Jesus Christ are to hate evil and to cleave to that which is good. Amen?

In this lesson, we would see what is good and what is evil according to the Third Commandment, in order that, we might accordingly, order the course of our lives.

THE THIRD COMMANDMENT

"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy." Exodus 20:8

Does God require that believers of the New Testament observe the Sabbath (Saturday) and other holy days of the Old Testament?

Matthew 12:

Colossians 2:16,17

Conclusions: God does not require that New Testament believers observe the Sabbath or the other holy days of the Old Testament. They were abolished by God, Himself.

Did God command New Testament believers to observe any specific day?

Romans 14:5,6

Galatians 4:10,11

Conclusion: God did not command New Testament believers to observe any specific day.

Why, then, do we observe Sunday and other church festivals?

Hebrews 10:25

Acts 2:42

John 20:1

Acts 2:1

Acts 20:7

1 Corinthians 16:2

Conclusions: We gather together weekly and at other times in order to have time and opportunity for public worship. We observe Sunday as our primary day for public worship since, it was on a Sunday, that Jesus rose from the dead; it was on Sunday fifty days later that the New Testament Church was born; Sunday was the pattern set by the New Testament Church.

...DISCERNING GOOD

According to the Third Commandment, what GOOD (godly behavior) are we to discern?

Deuteronomy 5:12

When are we SANCTIFYING the holy day?

Deuteronomy 5:13,14

Exodus 20:9-11

Hebrews 10:25

Deuteronomy 5:15

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Luke 22:19,20

1 Thessalonians 2:13

Isaiah 66:2

Ecclesiastes 5:1

Psalms 26:8

Acts 2:42

Colossians 2:42

Joshua 1:8

Luke 11:28

Hebrews 13:17

Galatians 6:6-7

1 Corinthians 9:11

Mark 16:15

Bible examples: Jesus gladly heard and learned the Word of God. Luke 2:41-52. - Mary sat at the feet of Jesus and learned His Word. Luke 10:39. - Mary kept and pondered the Word of God in her heart. Luke 2:19. - The Bereans searched the Scriptures daily. Acts 17:11.

Conclusions: We are SANCTIFYING the holy day when we:

1. set aside one day a week as a day of rest;
2. gather together with the church for public worship;
3. partake of the Lord's Supper in remembrance of our of deliverance from Egypt through the death of Jesus on the Cross;
4. hold preaching and the Word of God sacred;
5. gladly hear it, learn it, and meditate upon it;
6. honor and support the preaching of the Word of God; and
7. diligently spread the Word of God.

... DISCERNING EVIL

According to the Third Commandment, what evil (ungodly behavior) are we to discern?

John 8:47

Luke 10:16

Acts 13:45

Numbers 15:30-36

Hebrews 10:25-26

Bible examples: The scribes and the Pharisees despised

Baptism. Luke 7:30. - Saul rejected the Word of God. 1

Samuel 15:10-23.

Conclusions: We would discern from the Third Commandment that it is EVIL to despise preaching and the Word of God by not attending public worship; by not using the written Word or disobeying the Word; or when by being negligent or careless about attending public worship, or the use of the Word of God, or in obeying the Word.

RESPONSE TO THE TRUTH

Are you SANCTIFYING the Holy Day?

[BOOK 5 - FOUNDATION SERIES](#)

[CONTENTS](#)

XXXI. WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

LESSON THIRTY-ONE

... ABOUT DISCERNING GOOD AND EVIL

INTRODUCTION

We learn from Hebrews 5:12-14 that one of the proofs of being skilled in the Word is the ability to discern both good and evil. To discern good and evil is to understand that good, all that is really good comes only from God; and that evil comes from the devil; and that we who are children of God through the new birth in Jesus Christ are to hate evil and to cleave to that which is good. Amen?

In this lesson, we would see what is good and what is evil according to the Fourth Commandment, in order that, we might accordingly, order the course of our lives.

With the Fourth Commandment we begin the second table of the Law. Whereas, the first table of the Law spoke of our relationship to God, the second table of the Law speaks of our relationship to those around us. We see in Matthew 22:39, the summary of that relationship.

"Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."

Who is our neighbor, and how should we love them?

Galatians 6:10

Matthew 5:44

Luke 10:25-37

Matthew 7:12

Conclusions: Our neighbor is every one of our fellow men; and we should love them as ourselves, showing this love by keeping the commandments of the second table of the Law.

THE FOURTH COMMANDMENT

"Thou shalt honor thy father and thy mother, that it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth." Exodus 20:12

In the Fourth Commandment we want to discern GOOD and EVIL in our relationships with the AUTHORITIES whom God has placed over us in the FAMILY, CHURCH, and STATE.

...DISCERNING GOOD

According to the Fourth Commandment, what GOOD (godly behavior) are we to discern?

A. IN THE FAMILY

Exodus 20:12

Deuteronomy 5:16

Malachi 1:6

Ephesians 6:2,3

Colossians 3:20

Ephesians 6:1

Proverbs 23:22

1 Timothy 5:4

Leviticus 19:32

1 Timothy 5:8

Bible examples: Joseph honored his father. Genesis 46:29. - King Salomon honored his mother. 1 Kings 2:19. - Jesus was subject to Joseph and Mary. Luke 2:51. - Joseph provided for his father and brothers and families. Genesis, chapters 42-47.

B. IN THE CHURCH

Luke 10:16

1 Thessalonians 5:12,13

Hebrews 13:7

1 Timothy 5:17-19

Hebrews 13:17

Galatians 6:6

Bible examples: Elisha honored and served his teacher. 2 Kings 2:12. Jesus set at the feet of the Scribes, both listening and asking questions. Luke 2:46.

C. IN THE STATE

Matthew 22:21

Romans 13:6,7

Romans 13:1

Titus 3:1

1 Peter 2:13,14

1 Timothy 2:2

D. OF THOSE IN AUTHORITY

Matthew 20:25,28

1 Peter 5:3

Ephesians 6:4

1 Peter 5:2,3

Acts 20:28

Romans 12:7,8

Romans 13:4

Genesis 9:6

Deuteronomy 1:16,17

Conclusions: The GOOD (godly behavior) we are to discern from the Fourth Commandment is:

1. To HONOR our parents and others in authority, that is to REGARD them as GOD'S REPRESENTATIVES;
2. To SERVE our parents and others in authority, by GLADLY doing for them what we can;
3. To OBEY our parents and others in authority in ALL THINGS in which God has placed them over us;
4. To LOVE and ESTEEM our parents and others in authority as PRECIOUS GIFTS OF GOD;
5. Those whom God has placed in authority are to SERVE those whom God has placed under their authority by faithfully carrying out the responsibilities of their position.

... DISCERNING EVIL

According to the Fourth Commandment, what evil (ungodly behavior) are we to discern?

Proverbs 30:17

Ephesians 6:4

Ephesians 6:6

Romans 13:2

1 Peter 5:3

Acts 5:29

Bible examples: The sons of Eli grieved their father by their wickedness. 1 Samuel 2:12,23,25. - Absalom rebelled against his father and king. 2 Samuel 15.

Conclusions: From this commandment we are to discern that it is EVIL to DESPISE our parents and others whom God has given authority by DISREGARDING THEIR DIGNITY, or PROVOKING them to anger by DISOBEDIENCE or by any other kind of WICKEDNESS.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

Why does God add the promise "**that it may be well with thee and thou mayest live long on the earth**"?

RESPONSE TO THE TRUTH

This commandment means, that we should fear and love God that we may not despise our parents and others in authority, nor provoke them to anger, but give them honor, serve and obey them, and hold them in love and esteem.

Is this reflected in you life? _____ Yes _____ No If not, why not?

[BOOK 5 - FOUNDATION SERIES](#)

[CONTENTS](#)

XXXII. WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

LESSON THIRTY-TWO

... ABOUT DISCERNING GOOD AND EVIL

INTRODUCTION

We learn from Hebrews 5:12-14 that one of the proofs of being skilled in the Word is the ability to discern both good and evil. To discern good and evil is to understand that good, all that is really good comes only from God; and that evil comes from the devil; and that we who are children of God through the new birth in Jesus Christ are to hate evil and to cleave to that which is good. Amen?

In this lesson, we would see what is good and what is evil according to the Fifth Commandment, in order that, we might accordingly, order the course of our lives.

THE FIFTH COMMANDMENT

"Thou shalt not kill." Exodus 20:13.

In the Fifth Commandment we want to discern GOOD and EVIL as they relate to HUMAN LIFE and the WELL-BEING of our- selves and our neighbor.

... DISCERNING GOOD

According to the Fifth Commandment, what GOOD (godly behavior) are we to discern?

Isaiah 58:7

James 2:15,16

Romans 12:20

Hebrews 13:16

Matthew 5:5,7,9

Matthew 5:25

Matthew 6:15

Ephesians 4:32

Colossians 3:12,

Bible examples: Abraham rescued Lot from his enemies. Genesis 14:12-16. David protected the life of Saul. 1 Samuel 26:1-12. The good Samaritan helped the man who had fallen among thieves. Luke 10:33-35. The centurion was kind to his sick servant. Matthew 8:5-13. Joseph was forgiving toward his brothers. Genesis 45:33.

Conclusions: We would discern from the Fifth Commandment that it is GOOD to HELP, BEFRIEND, BE MERCIFUL, KIND, and FORGIVING towards our neighbor.

... DISCERNING EVIL

According to the Fifth Commandment, what EVIL (ungodly behavior) are we to discern?

Deuteronomy 5:17

Genesis 9:6

Matthew 5:21

Matthew 26:51,52

Romans 13:9

Matthew 15:19

1 John 3:15

Matthew 5:22

Matthew 5:25

Romans 12:19

Bible examples: Cain killed his brother. Genesis 4:8. David killed Uriah through others. 2 Samuel 11:15. Killing through carelessness. Exodus 21:29; Deuteronomy 22: 8. Judas killed himself. Matthew 27:5. Joseph's brothers harmed Joseph and embittered the life of their father by their wickedness. Genesis 37:23-35. The Egyptians embitter ed the lives of the children of Israel by hard labor. Exodus 1. The Jews showed their anger against Stephen. Acts 7:54. God warned Cain against anger. Genesis 4:5-7.

Conclusions: We would discern from the Fifth Commandment that it is EVIL to take the life of a fellow man or our own life; to hurt or harm our neighbor in his body, that is, to do or say anything which may destroy, shorten, or embitter his life; to bear anger and hatred in our hearts against our neighbor.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What are some of the ways in which we endanger, harm, shorten or take our own life, without actually committing suicide?

Is it EVIL for a believer, a child of God, to kill while a soldier during war time?

If the believer thinks that the war is an unjust war, does that make a difference? Or, When is a war and unjust war?

RESPONSE TO THE TRUTH

This commandment means, that we should fear and love God that we may not hurt nor harm our neighbor in his body, but help and befriend him in every bodily need.

Is this reflected in your life? ____ Yes ____ No If not, why not?

[BOOK 5 - FOUNDATION SERIES](#)

[CONTENTS](#)

XXXIII. WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

LESSON THIRTY-THREE

... ABOUT DISCERNING GOOD AND EVIL

INTRODUCTION

We learn from Hebrews 5:12-14 that one of the proofs of being skilled in the Word is the ability to discern both good and evil. To discern good and evil is to understand that good, all that is really good comes only from God; and that evil comes from the devil; and that we who are children of God through the new birth in Jesus Christ are to hate evil and to cleave to that which is good. Amen?

In this lesson, we would see what is good and what is evil according to the Sixth Commandment, in order that, we might accordingly, order the course of our lives.

THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT

"Thou shalt not commit adultery."Exodus 20:14

In the Sixth Commandment we want to discern GOOD and EVIL as they relate to MARRIAGE and PURITY.

What is marriage?

Genesis 2:18-24

Matthew 19:6

Conclusions: Marriage was instituted by God and is to be a lifelong union of one man and one women unto one flesh.

Why did God institute marriage?

Genesis 1:27,28

Genesis 9:1

Genesis 2:18

Genesis 2:24

1 Corinthians 6:16

1 Corinthians 7:2,9

Conclusions: God instituted marriage for the pro-creation of children; to provide needed companionship; and an intimate relationship where sexual feelings and needs could be met in a God pleasing way.

... DISCERNING GOOD

According to the Sixth Commandment, what GOOD (godly behavior) are we to discern, in relationship to marriage and purity?

Genesis 2:24

Genesis 2:18

Ephesians 5:24,25

1 Peter 3:7

1 Peter 3:1

Colossians 3:19

1 Corinthians 7:3,4

1 Peter 2:11

Philippians 4:8

Ephesians 4:29

Genesis 39:9

Psalms 119:11

Galatians 5:16

Psalms 51:10

Proverbs 23:31-33

1 Corinthians 6:18

Genesis 39:12

1 Corinthians 6:19

Proverbs 1:10

1 Corinthians 15:33

Bible example: Joseph resisted the temptation of the wife of Potiphar and fled from her.

Genesis 39:7-12.

Conclusions: We would discern from the Sixth Commandment that it is GOOD:

1. For married couples to cleave (adhere) each other;
2. To give themselves to each other;
3. To love and honor each other, the husband his wife as his God-given helpmeet and the wife her husband as her God-given head;
4. To lead a chaste and decent life in thoughts, words, desires, and deeds;
5. To fight to overcome all impure thoughts and desires with God's Word, prayer, temperance and Holy Spirit;
6. To Flee and avoid every opportunity for unchasteness;
7. Separate yourselves from evil companionship.

... **DISCERNING EVIL**

According to the Sixth Commandment what EVIL (ungodly behavior) are we to discern?

Romans 1:26,27

Leviticus 18:22

1 Corinthians 6:9,10

Leviticus 18:23

1 Corinthians 6:15,18

Genesis 39:9

Leviticus 18:6-20

1 Corinthians 5:1

Luke 18:20

Matthew 19:9

Matthew 5:32

Matthew 19:3-6

1 Corinthians 7:15

Ephesians 5:12

Matthew 14:6

Romans 13:13-14

Ephesians 5:3,4

Matthew 5:28

Matthew 15:19

Colossians 3:5,6

Bible examples: David committed adultery with the wife of Uriah. 2 Samuel 11. - Herod took his brothers wife. Mark 6:18. - Potiphar's wife, with lust in her heart, cast her eyes upon Joseph. Genesis 39:7-12. Samson committed fornication. Judges 16:1.

Conclusions: We would discern from the Sixth Commandment that it is EVIL:

1. To break the marriage vow by unfaithfulness or desertion;
2. To be unchaste and unclean in deeds, words, desires, and thoughts;
3. To be involved in any form of fornication (Fornication being defined as any form of sex or sexual gratification outside the bonds of marriage;

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Is the practice of polygamy EVIL?

Are homosexual marriages approved of and instituted by God?

Why not?

To what extent has TV and movies effected the morals of God's people in the last 30 years?

RESPONSE TO THE TRUTH

This commandment means, that we should fear and love God that we may lead a chaste and decent life in word, deed, thought, and desire; and each love and honor his spouse.

Is this reflected in your life? _____ Yes _____ No If not, why not?

[BOOK 5 - FOUNDATION SERIES](#)

[CONTENTS](#)

XXXIV. WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

LESSON THIRTY-FOUR

... ABOUT DISCERNING GOOD AND EVIL

INTRODUCTION

We learn from Hebrews 5:12-14 that one of the proofs of being skilled in the Word is the ability to discern both good and evil. To discern good and evil is to understand that good, all that is really good comes only from God; and that evil comes from the devil; and that we who are children of God through the new birth in Jesus Christ are to hate evil and to cleave to that which is good. Amen?

In this lesson, we would see what is good and what is evil according to the Seventh Commandment, in order that, we might accordingly, order the course of our lives.

THE SEVENTH COMMANDMENT

"Thou shalt not steal" Exodus 20:15

...DISCERNING GOOD

According to the Seventh Commandment, what Good (godly behavior) are we to discern?

Exodus 23:4

Matthew 7:12

Matthew 5:42

Proverbs 19:17

Leviticus 19:36

Hebrews 13:16

1 Corinthians 13:4,5

Bible examples: Abraham gave Lot the choice land. Genesis 13:9. - Abraham rescued Lot from the enemy and recovered his property Genesis 14:12-16. - Zacchaeus promised to restore fourfold what he had taken by fraud and to give half of his goods to the poor. Luke 19:8.

Conclusions: We would discern from the Seventh Commandment that it is GOOD to:

1. Help our neighbor to improve and protect his property and business;
2. Help him in every need;
3. Rejoice when we see him prosper.

...DISCERNING EVIL

According to the Seventh Commandment what EVIL (ungodly behavior) are we to discern?

Exodus 20:15

Leviticus 19:11

1 Corinthians 6:10

Proverbs 29:24

1 Thessalonians 4:6

Leviticus 19:35,36

Deuteronomy 27:17

Psalms 37:21

Proverbs 28:24

Psalms 15:5
Habakkuk 2:6
Jeremiah 22:13
James 5:4
Deuteronomy 24:15
Luke 12:1
1 Timothy 6:9
Romans 1:29
Psalms 10:3
Proverbs 18:9
Luke 15:13,18
2 Thessalonians 3:10-12
Ephesians 4:28

Bible examples: The men who fell upon the traveler on the way to Jericho robbed him. Luke 10:30. - Achan stole when he secretly took a garment and silver and gold. Joshua 7:20-22. - Judas was a thief. John 12:6. - Gehazi obtained a present by lying and trickery. 2 Kings 5:20-24.

Conclusions: We would discern from the Seventh Commandment that robbery, theft, fraud, usury, gambling devices which obtains, or seeks to obtain, what is, or should be, another's property, covetousness, squandering, idleness, or any other means to cause someone to suffer loss or want IS EVIL.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

Is taking advantage of government programs EVIL?

RESPONSE TO THE TRUTH

This commandment means, that we should fear and love God that we may not take our neighbor's money or goods, nor get them by false ware or dealing, but help him to improve and protect his property and business.

Is this reflected in your life? _____ Yes _____ No

If not, why not?

[BOOK 5 - FOUNDATION SERIES](#)

[CONTENTS](#)

XXXV. WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

LESSON THIRTY-FIVE

... ABOUT DISCERNING GOOD AND EVIL

INTRODUCTION

We learn from Hebrews 5:12-14 that one of the proofs of being skilled in the Word is the ability to discern both good and evil. To discern good and evil is to understand that good, all that is really good comes only from God; and that evil comes from the devil; and that we who are children of God through the new birth in Jesus Christ are to hate evil and to cleave to that which is good. Amen?

In this lesson, we would see what is good and what is evil according to the Eighth Commandment, in order that, we might accordingly, order the course of our lives.

THE EIGHTH COMMANDMENT

"Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor." Exodus 20:16.

... DISCERNING GOOD

According to the Eight Commandment, what GOOD (godly behavior) are we to discern?

James 4:11

Ephesians 4:25

Proverbs 31:8,9

Ecclesiastes 5:4

Zechariah 8:17

1 Peter 4:8

1 Corinthians 13:7

Bible example: Jonathan spoke well of David. 1 Samuel 19:4. - The people of Capernaum spoke well of the centurion. Luke 7:4,5.

Conclusions: We would discern from the Eighth Commandment that it is GOOD to:

1. Defend our neighbor; that is, to take his part and shield him against false accusations;
2. Speak well of our neighbor; that is, to praise his good qualities and deeds so far as it can be done in keeping with the truth;
3. Put the best construction on everything; that is, to cover up his faults and explain in his favor whatever can be so explained.

... **DISCERNING EVIL**

According to the Eighth Commandment what EVIL (ungodly behavior) are we to discern?

Zechariah 8:17

Matthew 9:4

Exodus 23:

Proverbs 12:22

Proverbs 19:5

Ephesians 4:25

Proverbs 29:5

Psalms 5:6,9

Matthew 23:14

Acts 5:2,3

Ecclesiastes 5:4

Proverbs 20:19

James 4:11

Psalms 50:19-22

Bible examples: False witnesses arose against Jesus. Matthew 26:59-61. False witnesses arose against Naboth. 1 Kings 21:13. - Abraham and Sarai lied to the Pharaoh, and again the same lie was told to Abimelech. Genesis 12:11-20. - Isaac lied about Rebekah to Abimelech. Genesis 26:7. - Rebekah and Jacob deceive Isaac. Genesis 27:18. - Gehazi lied about Elisha and then lied to him. 2 Kings 5:22,25. - Deog betrayed Ahimelech. 1 Samuel 22:6-19. - Judas betrayed Jesus. Matthew 26:14-16. - Judah did not keep his word to Tamar. Genesis 38:11,26. The chief butler failed to keep his Word to Joseph. Genesis 41:9.

Conclusions: We would discern from the Eighth Commandment that it is EVIL is to:

1. Make any untrue statement against our fellow man in a court of law, or for that matter, under any circumstance, or for any reason;
2. Belie our fellow man; that is, to lie about him or to him, or withhold from him the truth in order to harm him;
3. Betray our fellow man; that is, to reveal his secrets;
4. Slander or defame our fellow man; that is, to speak evil of him and thus injure or destroy his good name;
5. Have evil thoughts against our fellow man to plot against him;
6. Not to keep a promise;
7. Neglect to protect or defend the good name of our fellow man.

QUESTION FOR DISCUSSION

Honesty is not only the "best policy," it is also God's will. Honesty characterizes the Christian's dealing with his fellow men. Understanding this, what about "social" lies?

RESPONSE TO THE TRUTH

This commandment means, that we should fear and love God that we may not deceitfully belie, betray, slander, nor defame our neighbor, but defend him, speak well of him, and put the best construction on everything.

Is this reflected in your life? _____ Yes _____ No If not, why not?

[BOOK 5 - FOUNDATION SERIES](#)

[CONTENTS](#)

XXXVI. WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

LESSON THIRTY-SIX

... ABOUT DISCERNING GOOD AND EVIL

INTRODUCTION

We learn from Hebrews 5:12-14 that one of the proofs of being skilled in the Word is the ability to discern both good and evil. To discern good and evil is to understand that good, all that is really good comes only from God; and that evil comes from the devil; and that we who are children of God through the new birth in Jesus Christ are to hate evil and to cleave to that which is good. Amen?

In this lesson, we would see what is good and what is evil according to the NINTH and TENTH Commandments, in order that, we might accordingly, order the course of our lives.

THE NINTH AND TENTH COMMANDMENTS

"Thou shalt not covet thy neighbors' house. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his livestock, nor anything that is thy neighbor's." Exodus 20:17.

What does God particularly want us to discern in the last two commandments?

Romans 7:7

James 1:14,15

Leviticus 19:2

Matthew 5:48

Psalms 37:4

Conclusions: God would have us discern that in His sight evil desire, or lust, is indeed sin and deserves condemnation; and that we should not have any evil lust whatsoever in our hearts, but only holy desires and love of God and of all that is good.

... **DISCERNING GOOD**

What specifically is the GOOD which we are to discern from these last two commandments?

Galatians 5:13

Galatians 6:6

Ephesians 5:21

Philippians 2:3,4

Hebrews 13:5

Romans 13:14

1 Timothy 6:8

Bible example: Paul returned a runaway servant to his master Philemon. Epistle to Philemon.

Conclusions: We would discern from these two commandments that it is GOOD to be a service to our neighbor by helping him keep his inheritance or house; and to serve him by helping him keep his wife, servants, livestock, and all that he has; and to be content with what God has given us.

... **DISCERNING EVIL**

What specifically is the EVIL which we are to discern from these last two Commandments?

Exodus 20:17

Deuteronomy 5:21

Romans 7:14,18

Romans 8:7

Romans 13:9

James 1:14,15

Ephesians 2:3

1 Timothy 6:8-10

Bible examples: Ahab coveted Naboth's vineyard and obtained it by a show of right. 1 Kings 21:1-16. - David coveted Uriah's wife and took her. 2 Samuel 11:2-4. - Absalom estranged the hearts of the people from David. 2 Samuel 15:1-6.

Conclusions: From these last two commandments we would discern that it is EVIL to covet, that is have a sinful desire or lust for anything that belongs to our neighbor.

DISCUSSION QUESTION

Does wanting something which we don't have mean that we are not content with what we do have?

RESPONSE TO THE TRUTH

These commandments mean that we should love and fear God that we may not craftily seek to get our neighbor's inheritance or house, nor obtain it by a show of right, but help and be of service to him in keeping it; likewise, that we may not estrange, force, or entice away from our neighbor his wife, servants, or livestock, but urge them to stay and do their duty.

Is this reflected in your life? Yes _____ No _____

If not, why not?

THE CLOSE OF THE COMMANDMENTS

"I, the Lord, thy God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me, and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love Me and keep My Commandments." Exodus 20:5,6.

Galatians 3:10

Ezekiel 18:20

Hebrews 12:5-11

Deuteronomy 5:31-33

Deuteronomy 28:1,2

Psalms 81:8-16

1 Timothy 4:8

Romans 3:19

Genesis 32:10

DISCUSSION QUESTION

Why does God say, "**I, the Lord, thy God, am a jealous God**"?

With what does God promise to all that transgress His Commandments?

Who does God promise to punish?

What does God mean when He promises to visit the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate him?

Why does God promise such punishment?

What does God mean by promising mercy unto thousands of them that love Him and keep His commandments?

Why does God add such promises?

What does this mean? It means that God promises to punish all that transgress these commandments. Therefore we should fear and love God that we not act contrary to them. God, also, promises every blessing to all that keep these commandments. Therefore we should, also, love and trust Him and willingly do according to His Commandments