

LESSON 7

THOU SHALT NOT MURDER: READ: Exo.20:13

1. INTRODUCTION:

1. I am sure all of us would judge ourselves innocent of this commandment.
 - a. You are probably thinking that this command and lesson is for someone else.
 - b. But think about this, there is something disturbing about the silence of the church when over a million unborn babies are slaughtered in our country.
 - c. And the silence when millions of children every year starve to death while we are over indulged.
2. Obeying this 6th commandment is more than just not doing something.
 - a. "WHY NOT MURDER"? Look at Gen.9:1-7 READ, God says we have the right to kill any animal that we please.
 - b. Why then are human creatures alone not to be killed.
 - c. In Gen.9 is the story of Noah after the flood, where God judged the world for its wickedness - only Noah and his family are left.
 - d. In verse 1-3 Up until this point many think man had been vegetarian, man had killed for sacrifices but now God says you have the green plants but now you have the right to have dominion over all the animals and kill them for food. BUT
 - e. Since you are going to become a killer of things I am going to set the boundaries vrs.4-7.
3. Why are the human species declared morally un-killable?
 - a. This passage is not pro-life but pro-person.
 - b. This passage is about the sanctity of persons.
 - c. While God breaths the breath of life into everything that is living it is people (individuals) that He loves as his children.
4. The value of a human being is in his origin and his likeness to God.
 - a. We do not define worth in terms of sex or appearance.
 - b. There is no other species that can communion with God, that can relate to God, or have fellowship for eternity with God.
 - c. People are sacred - that's why we do not kill them - THAT IS THE FIRST REASON.

2. DISCUSSION:

THE SECOND REASON IS THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD.

1. A. Heb.9:27 READ
2. God is the judge - who am I to judge?
3. So it is not my right to decide when someone is to meet the judge, only the judge (God) has that right.
4. We live in a world that says God is dead, and wonder why we cannot stop the murdering.
5. The word kill in Exo.23:13 = malicious, unlawful killing.
6. Some versions have translated this word = MURDER.
7. In the law there are three kinds of Homicides that Moses discussed (Num.35).
8. Premeditated murder: Moses addressed a man that takes a rock and deliberately strikes a man with the intention of harming him and if he dies the law say he is a murderer, and should be put to death.
9. Accidental Homicide: Suppose I am working and I drop a rock and it falls and hits a man and he dies. - I did not intend for this to happen, I am not guilty of blood shed - I am not a murder.
10. Justifiable homicide: Where I am not guilty of bloodshed if I kill to defend not as the aggressor.
11. All murders are killings but not all killings are murders.

WHAT IS NOT FORBIDDEN BY THE 6th. COMMANDMENT?

1. It does not forbid killing in self-defense. Exo.22:2, READ
2. Killing in war is not forbidden.
 - a. The same God that says not to kill, (murder) later sends the Hebrews to war and instructs them to slaughter the enemy.
1. Not just once many times.
2. One of the most significant conversions that God shared with us is that of Corneilius, a soldier and commander of soldiers, and I cannot find where becoming a Christian he had to give up his career. (Acts 10).
3. Eccl.3:8, READ.
4. The 6th. commandment does not forbid capital punishment. Exo.21:12 READ.
5. Under the law capital punishment was the penalty for a number of offenses including, murder [including abortion], rape, adultery, and kid-napping.
6. What about the New Testament? READ: Rom.13:1-4.
7. God has granted to the governments the power to discipline the wrong doer.
8. This is not just for slapping of the wrist.
9. God's law has never allowed us to ignore justice, and He said in the beginning that he would demand an accounting when man sheds the blood of his fellow man.
10. Listen to what God said about not carrying out the sentence quickly.
11. Eccl.8:11 READ.

WHAT IS FORBIDDEN BY THE 6th. COMMANDMENT?

1. Murder: You knew that; but suicide is also forbidden it is a form of murder, your life is just as precious in God's eyes as anyone else's.
2. God gave us life and He alone should take it.
 - a. Abortion: 99.99% of abortions are people who want to live immorally without responsibility. READ: Exodus 21:21-23 which specifically refers to killing the unborn child: deserves death.
 - b. Euthanasia: I am adamantly opposed to someone taking steps to end someone else's life.
3. Human beings are sacred and no matter how well they function or how much of a burden they are, Murder is forbidden.
4. Indifference is forbidden by the 6th. commandment.
 - a. This commandment is not just a call not to murder, but is also a call to support and protect the right of everyone to live.
 - b. This judges the drug peddler that has no respect for the right or welfare of the life of those to whom he sells the drugs.
 - c. What about the employer who bypasses the safety standards to make extra money and endangers the lives of people?
 - d. What about that person who will drive an automobile after using drugs or drinking and kills someone in the process.
 - e. Or the church member who doesn't care about the hungry the sick or naked.
 - f. Because indifference is absolutely against the heart of God.
5. Anger and hatred are also forbidden.
 - a. Murder is not just an act but an attitude, not just a deed but a motive.
 - b. These implications come from the sermon on the mount with Jesus.

LET ME LEAVE YOU WITH TWO THOUGHTS:

1. Our concern for our fellow man shows we have kept this commandment.
2. Our concern shows that we believe each life is sacred.
3. Our concept of God determines if we can keep the 6th commandment.
4. Laws and guns and jails do not do anything about the heart, that is why people murder. (It starts in the heart).
5. A man's heart remains evil until he believes that God is God the creator.
6. If the concept of God decreases, murder will increase.
7. One struggle for the next several years will be because science is going to say to us, the child in the womb is going to be this sex, this color, this size, this smart, do you want it?
8. Also, they are going to ask about what kind of life should be lived, how long we should allow people to live before they become a burden to the state.
9. Our attitude toward all these questions is going to come down to our fundamental belief - what makes a person worthwhile.
10. If it is not his ultimate relationship to God, we will not have an answer.

3. CONCLUSION:

1. The most important capital punishment ever given was both deserved and undeserved.
 - a. Jesus Christ's death was capital punishment.
 - b. It was undeserved because He was an innocent man.
 - c. It was deserved because of the crimes He bore, but the irony is that the crimes He bore were not His, but ours.

So before we get to feeling so pious, and self-righteous, remember that we deserved to die, and if it were not for Jesus we should have received the penalty that He bore on the cross.

- d. He did this so we could wear a crown.
- e. If you are not living the right life how could you refuse a love like this.