

#### The Sermon on the Mount/The 10 Commandments

This lesson draws a parallel between the 10 Commandments and The Sermon on the Mount.

"The Sermon on the Mount." "The 10 Commandments." Both falling from the same pair of lips, and both spoken by the second person in the Trinity, (according to Hebrews 12:25-26).

And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. <sup>2</sup>Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup> "Blessed *are* the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>Blessed *are* those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

<sup>5</sup> Blessed *are* the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup> Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.

<sup>7</sup> Blessed *are* the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

<sup>8</sup> Blessed *are* the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

<sup>9</sup> Blessed *are* the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

<sup>10</sup> Blessed *are* those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup> Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great *is* your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you. New King James Version (NKJV)

#### The Beatitudes can be understood as:

The 1<sup>st</sup> Commandment.

I. There is One God, Him only shalt thou serve.

In the Beatitudes Jesus isn't just saying what might happen, He is saying what He will do. He is saying who He will allow into the kingdom of heaven, who gets comforted, who inherits the earth, who will be filled, who gets mercy and who will see God. Then He says, "if you are persecuted because you are righteous, you get heaven." Then He ups the ante, "if they revile you and persecute you for MY sake, rejoice....for GREAT is your reward in heaven."

We know Jesus is the architect of creation. (Colossians 1:16, Revelation 3:14). After each day of creation He says it is good, except Monday, because Monday is rough. After He creates Adam and Eve He say it is very good. But here... the same guy, Jesus, says......"if they revile and persecute and lie about you for My sake? GREAT is your reward. Great. The 1st commandment? There is only One God, serve Him. The Beatitudes tells us how.

<sup>13</sup> "You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. <sup>14</sup> "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup> Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all *who are* in the house. <sup>16</sup> Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. (NKJV)

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Commandment.

II Thou shalt make no idols, to worship them.

When we refuse to "salt the earth", "turn on the lights", and not just in our homes only, why? He uses two different light analogies. 1st a candle, and then a city. We are to light our homes, and our cities. When we don't, why don't we? Are we afraid of the reviling? The persecution? A loss of standing? Because we don't care enough about Jesus to tolerate the drama? What is our Idol? Is it what people think of us? The last verse read...."so they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven." Thou shalt make no idols, to worship them.

# The 3<sup>rd</sup> Commandment. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord your God in Vain.

Watch what you say when you talk about God. In all these commandments Jesus has amplified the meaning. This is no exception. Don't take the name of God in vain, or perhaps, if you don't mean to serve God, don't say you will, (if you're going to call yourself a Christian, act like it). That's another way to define it. But in this next passage He refers to the line of speech that softens God's intentions. This is a mistake. God has chosen the foolishness of preaching to save sinners, so we must tell the truth. If we don't preach, who will? We must call sin, sin. Carefully listen to this next passage in that context.

<sup>17</sup> "Do not think that I came to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I did not come to destroy but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup> For assuredly, I say to you, till heaven and earth pass away, one jot or one tittle will by no means pass from the law till all is fulfilled. <sup>19</sup> Whoever therefore breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches men so, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does and teaches *them*, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup> For I say to you, that unless your righteousness exceeds *the righteousness* of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. (NKJV)

Did you see that word again? "Whoever does and teaches them will be called GREAT in the kingdom of heaven." Now the next commandment, the 4<sup>th</sup>, is "honor the Sabbath Day" but Jesus like all great teachers goes on a tangent. Do you know why? Because all great teachers go on tangents. Next time I'm barreling down a hill and my wife is trying to keep the wheels on the stage coach remember Matthew chapter 5. It happens to the best of

### The 4<sup>th</sup> Commandment Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it Holy.

You will think I'm reaching on this one, but trust me. This next paragraph refers to keeping the Sabbath Day.

<sup>43</sup> "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' <sup>44</sup> 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 spitefully use you and persecute you, <sup>45</sup> that you may be sons of your Father in heaven; for He makes His sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. <sup>46</sup> For if you love those who love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? <sup>47</sup> And if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more *than others?* Do not even the tax collectors do so? <sup>48</sup> Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect. (NKJV)

How is that about the Sabbath Day? In the Old Covenant, we were to keep the Sabbath Day Holy to the Lord.

In the New Covenant we are to keep every day Holy to the Lord.

Re-read verse 48 above,

"Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in Heaven is perfect."

We are to be keep 7 days a week, Holy to the Lord.

#### 5<sup>th</sup> Commandment. Honor your father and mother.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> "Not everyone who calls me 'Lord, Lord' will enter the Kingdom of heaven, but only those who do what my Father in heaven wants them to do. <sup>22</sup> When the Judgment Day comes, many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord! In your name we spoke God's message, by your name we drove out many demons and performed many miracles!' <sup>23</sup> Then I will say to them, 'I never knew you. Get away from me, you wicked people!' (GNT)

<sup>24</sup> "So then, anyone who hears these words of mine and obeys them is like a wise man who built his house on rock. <sup>25</sup> The rain poured down, the rivers flooded over, and the wind blew hard against that house. But it did not fall, because it was built on rock.

<sup>26</sup> "But anyone who hears these words of mine and does not obey them is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. <sup>27</sup> The rain poured down, the rivers flooded over, the wind blew hard against that house, and it fell. And what a terrible fall that was!"

In the 10 Commandments we are to honor our earthly father and mother. In the Sermon on the Mount, we are to honor our Heavenly Father. How? By building our house on the rock of faith in Jesus whom He sent. Remember the parable of the rich man who sent his son as a messenger and they killed him? Plead the 5<sup>th</sup>. To finish chapter 7 and the Sermon on the mount we read,

<sup>28</sup> When Jesus finished saying these things, the crowd was amazed at the way he taught. <sup>29</sup> He wasn't like the teachers of the Law; instead, he taught with authority. (GNT)

The 6<sup>th</sup> Commandment.

#### Thou shalt not murder.

<sup>21</sup> "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.' <sup>22</sup> But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, <sup>[1</sup> 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire. <sup>23</sup> Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you, <sup>24</sup> leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. <sup>25</sup> Agree with your adversary quickly, while you are on the way with him, lest your adversary deliver you to the judge, the judge hand you over to the officer, and you be thrown into prison. <sup>26</sup> Assuredly, I say to you, you will by no means get out of there till you have paid the last penny. (NKJV)

## The 7<sup>th</sup> Commandment. Thou shalt not commit adultery.

<sup>27</sup> "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not commit adultery.' <sup>28</sup> But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust for her has already committed adultery with her in his heart. <sup>29</sup> If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast *it* from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell. <sup>30</sup> And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast *it* from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell. <sup>31</sup> "Furthermore it has been said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' <sup>32</sup> But I say to you that whoever divorces his wife for any reason except sexual immorality causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a woman who is divorced commits adultery. (NKJV)

## The 8<sup>th</sup> Commandment Thou shalt not steal.

In keeping with Jesus teaching amplifying the 10 commandments, here the Lord bends the paper back on itself. Not only do not steal, but don't even defend yourself from someone else taking advantage of you! Yikes. In the O.T. we hear Thou shalt not steal, (don't make someone else's possessions more important than God). In the N.T. don't make your possessions more important than God.

<sup>38</sup> "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' <sup>39</sup> But I tell you not to resist an evil person. But whoever slaps you on your right cheek, turn the other to him also. <sup>40</sup> If anyone wants to sue you and take away your tunic, let him have *your* cloak also. <sup>41</sup> And whoever compels you to go one mile, go with him two. <sup>42</sup> Give to him who asks you, and from him who wants to borrow from you do not turn away. (NKJV)

## The 9<sup>th</sup> Commandment Thou shalt not bear false witness.

What is bearing false witness? Lying. Jesus takes it to heaven and back.

<sup>33</sup> "Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform your oaths to the Lord.' <sup>34</sup> But I say to you, do not swear at all: neither by heaven, for it is God's throne; <sup>35</sup> nor by the earth, for it is His footstool; nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. <sup>36</sup> Nor shall you swear by your head, because you cannot make one hair white or black. <sup>37</sup> But let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No.' For whatever is more than these is from the evil one. (NKJV)

# The 10<sup>th</sup> Commandment. Thou shalt not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

<sup>24</sup> "You cannot be a slave of two masters; you will hate one and love the other; you will be loyal to one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

<sup>25</sup> "This is why I tell you: do not be worried about the food and drink you need in order to stay alive, or about clothes for your body. After all, isn't life worth more than food? And isn't the body worth more than clothes? <sup>26</sup> Look at the birds: they do not plant seeds, gather a harvest and put it in barns; yet your Father in heaven takes care of them! Aren't you worth much more than birds? <sup>27</sup> Can any of you live a bit longer by worrying about it? (GNT)

