

THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT: HONOR LIFE

Part 3 of LOVE PEOPLE. Exodus 20:13.

Peter Foxwell. Cornerstone Church. July 17, 2022.

INTRODUCING THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT

The Sixth Commandment

Exodus 20:13 (ESV) You shall not murder.

The Meaning of the Sixth Commandment

It prohibits murder - the taking of innocent life.

God wants us to honor life made in his image.

Genesis 9:5-6 (ESV) And for your lifeblood I will require a reckoning: from every beast I will require it and from man. From his fellow man I will require a reckoning for the life of man. 6 "Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image

The Implications of the Sixth Commandment

The Anglican Catechism: "Genocide, infanticide, abortion, suicide, and euthanasia are all forms of murder. Sins of murderous intent include physical and emotional abuse, abandonment, willful negligence, and wanton recklessness.

Exodus 1:15–22; 21:28–30; 2 Kings 17:16–18; Psalm 139:13–16; Amos 1:13–15; Acts 9:1–2; Didache 2.2.

To Be a Christian: An Anglican Catechism. (2020). Crossway

WHAT JESUS TAUGHT ABOUT THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT

Jesus Is the Ultimate Interpreter of the Commandments

Matthew 5:17 (ESV) "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.

Jesus taught and lived out the full meaning and application of the commandments.

Jesus Taught About the Sixth Commandment

Matthew 5:21-22 (ESV) 21 "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.' 22 But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable to the hell of fire.

Jesus confirmed it: You have heard it said ...

Jesus interpreted it: But I say to you ...

Jesus explained it: Everyone who is angry with his brother ...

Jesus illustrated breaking it: Whoever insults his brother ... and whoever says, 'You fool!' ...

Jesus warned about the consequences: 1) liable to judgment ... 2) liable to the council ... 3) liable to the hell of fire ...

TAKING THE SIXTH COMMANDMENT SERIOUSLY

All of Us Should Admit Our Anger Problem

David Powlison in *Good and Angry*, chapter 2:

Why We Get Angry

James 4:1-2 (ESV) What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? 2 You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel.

What Anger Looks Like

Ed Welch, Chapter 6 of *A Small Book About a Big Problem Meditations on Anger, Patience, and Peace*. (2017). New Growth Press.

- Covert anger: Sarcasm, grumbling, gossip, frustration, irritation.
- Cold anger: Silent treatment, cold shoulder, controlling, criticizing.
- Hot anger: Jealousy, quarrels, abuse, rage.

All of Us Should Ask for Help with Our Anger Problem

God Promises to Help Us

James 4:6,10 (ESV) But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble" ... 10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

How Will God React When We Ask for Help?

Micah 7:18-19 (NLT) You will not stay angry with your people forever, because you delight in showing unfailing love. 19 Once again you will have compassion on us. You will trample our sins under your feet and throw them into the depths of the ocean!

NEXT STEPS - THIS WEEK

During the week, take some steps to reflect on and apply today's Bible teaching. Do this alone, or with a friend, or in your small group.

Do you agree that we all have an anger problem? Explain your answer.

Do **you** have an anger problem? How do you know? What are some examples of anger in your life?

Why do you get angry? What goals or expectations are unmet? What false gods are you bowing to?

Have you considered the weightiness of the sin of anger? Jesus taught that unforgiven anger leads to eternal judgment (Matthew 5:21-22). Take a moment to quietly meditate on that sobering reality.

How does your anger affect the people around you? How do you feel about that?

Take a moment to review what God has done to cleanse, forgive, and free you from the penalty and power of your sinful anger. Read: Colossians 1:21-22 and 2:13-15. Do you feel God's open invitation to ask for his help and forgiveness?

Have you asked for God's help? If not, what do feel is holding you back?