

Commandment #6 – “Thou Shalt Not Kill” - Exodus 20:13

INTRODUCTION: Think you can skip this one?

- What does “kill” really mean? “ratsach” = ‘to murder’.

I. EXTERNAL

A. What Is NOT Murder?

- 1.- **Accidental Death** – Manslaughter, un-intentional killing.
- God established “*Cities of Refuge*” for these cases.
- 2.- **Hunting** – Genesis 9:3
- 3.- **Self-Defense** – Exodus 22:2 ... 21:22-25
- “An “*eye for eye*” was a RESTRICTION, nor PERMISSION.
- 4.- **Capital Punishment** – Genesis 9:6
- 5.- **War** – Not all killing is murder ... but all murder is killing.

B. What IS Murder”

- 1.- **Murder** – Genesis 9:6
- The death penalty was given for death by negligence.
- 2.- **Abortion** – God knows us even in the womb.
- 3.- **Suicide/Mercy Killing** – Causing death to one whom God hasn’t allowed to die.

II. INTERNAL - Jesus goes deeper than just external “killing”.

- “*The heart of the problem, is the problem of the heart.*”

Matthew 5:21-24 – We can commit “murder” without a gun, knife ... just like Adultery – 5:27-28

Jesus lists 3 types of ANGER – 5:22

- 1.- **Unjust Anger** – “*without a cause*” – False accusations.
- 2.- **Contemptible Anger** – “*Raca*” – Defamation of Character.
- 3.- **Wicked Anger** – “*You fool!*” – Character assassination.
- This was an accusation of idolatry – Psalm 14:1

What Is Jesus Saying Here?

- 1.- **They Are All Sins** – Same result – Romans 6:23
- 2.- **Look At Your Heart** – Sins of the heart carry the same eternal punishments as sins of the flesh.
- 3.- **You Can Kill With Your Words** – 5:22 – James 3,6, 8-10

III. ETERNAL - **How Should We Deal With It NOW?**

- 1.- **Think Before You Act** – Ephesians 4:26-27 – James 1:19
- 2.- **Turn It Over To The Lord** – Matthew 18:21-22

CONCLUSION: There’s forgiveness ... through Jesus!