

PRESENTATION #1. Christian Ethics and the Formation of Conscience

THE 10 COMMANDMENTS OF GOD

Often called, 'The Decalogue' (*Exodus 20:1-17*)

(Catholic/Lutheran numbering as opposed to the Orthodox/Reformer numbering)

1. I am the Lord your God, *who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.*
2. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, *for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.*
3. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. *For six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.*
4. Honour your father and your mother, *so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God has given you.*
5. You shall not murder.
6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.
9. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife.
10. You shall not covet your neighbour's goods. *Your neighbour's house, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.*

PRESENTATION #1. Christian Ethics and the Formation of Conscience

THE 8 COMMANDMENTS OF CHRIST

'The Beatitudes' (*Matthew 5:1-12*) (*Identical for all Christians*)

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

1. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
2. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
3. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
4. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
5. Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
6. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
7. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
8. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

MORAL PRINCIPLES IN THE GOSPEL (Legal but immoral)

1. Treating persons with contempt and shaming them in the name of religion.
2. Using religion to control and not to lead.
3. Religious practice for evil ulterior motives (*Hypocrisy*).
4. Knowingly justifying evil actions in the name of religion.