

## 6<sup>th</sup> Commandment: "People of Life"

USA 10 Comm DANGEROUS: Removed from Schools, Courts, Gov't Bldgs  
 Esp. 1<sup>st</sup> 4 Commands > Right God, Right Worship, Right Name, Right Day  
 7<sup>th</sup> Comm > INTERFERES with our SEXUAL FREEDOMS  
 # 5 > Well, OK Honor Mom & Dad > Esp if YOU ARE A MOM or DAD

6<sup>th</sup> Commandment > MOST POPULAR > All AGAINST MURDER, esp OWN  
 Nearly GLOBAL Support > HOMICIDE is CRIMINAL ACT

### 1. Prohibition against Death

### 2. Promotion of Life

#### 1. Prohibition against Death

a. Commandment Defined > Just TWO WORDS – But Wide MEANING

SHORTEST Command > 2 Hebrew Words: 'DON'T KILL': '*lo ratzach*'  
 Hebrew 8 Words for KILL / Word in Command CHOSEN CAREFULLY

SIMPLE WORDS > Not Always SIMPLE > New Missionaries in Uganda  
 Trying to Learn LUGBARA > Mentors British Couple transl. Bible > 50<sup>th</sup> Year!  
 FLUENT Speakers > Went on SAFARI > House Man > "fu the chickens"  
 2 Letter Lugbara Word – FU – 17 Possible Meanings – dep. Tone & Context  
 One tone "take care of" > WANTED Him to TEND Them / other tone "KILL"  
 CAME HOME TO FIND CHICKENS IN THE FREEZER

#### EXACT: **Unlawful Killing of an Innocent Person**

"You shall not murder."

Exodus 20.13 NIV

FOLLOWING > 10 Commands – CASE LAWS > Applic: Nation 2-3 Million

Anyone who strikes a man and *kills him* shall surely be put to death. However, if he *does not do it intentionally*, but God lets it happen, he is to flee to a place I will designate. But if a man schemes and *kills another man deliberately*, take him away from my altar and put him to death. Exodus 21.12-15

DIFFERENCE > Intentional and Unintentional > Murder and MISTAKE  
 Cities of REFUGE > Thru PROMISED LAND > Flee and Justice Decided

WORD *ratzach* NEVER Used in LEGAL SYSTEM or in MILITARY USAGE  
Other Words used for DEATH PENALTY or DEATH in MORTAL COMBAT

Some CASES > TAKING LIFE is Act of PROTECTION or SELF-DEFENSE

After September 11, 2001 in New York: 'If we kill as a response to this great tragedy, we are no better than the terrorists who launched this awful offensive. Killing is killing, and killing is wrong.' Source Unknown

PERSON Welcome to OPINION: But BIBLE teaches DIFFERENTLY  
BIBLE = HIGH, SACRED View of LIFE > Taking Life Punishable by DEATH

If a man strikes someone with an iron object so that he dies, he is a murderer; the murderer shall be put to death...If anyone with malice aforethought shoves another or throws something at him intentionally so that he dies or if in hostility he hits him with his fist so that he dies, that person shall be put to death; he is a murderer. Numbers 35.16-21

PRIMARY ROLE of GOVERNMENT > PROTECT LIFE, RESTRAIN EVIL

GOVT First BEGUN After FLOOD > Man CANNOT Control Evil NATURE  
Whoever sheds the blood of man, *by man shall his blood be shed* Genesis 9.6

HUMAN CONDITION > BEFORE Flood

The LORD saw how great man's *wickedness on the earth* had become, and that *every inclination* of the thoughts of his heart was *only evil all the time*. Genesis 6.5

FLOOD Changed EVERY INCH of PLANET EARTH > NOT Human Heart

HUMAN CONDITION > AFTER Flood

Then Noah built an altar to the LORD...The LORD smelled the pleasing aroma and said in his heart: "Never again will I curse the ground because of man, even though *every inclination of his heart is evil from childhood*." Genesis 8.20-21

ONLY GRACE of God can CHANGE PEOPLE > From INSIDE Out  
NEED Human GOVT to RESTRAIN EVIL > NOT ALL Live in GRACE

Everyone must submit himself to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established...Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and he will commend you. For he is God's servant to do you good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, *for he does not bear the sword for nothing.* Romans 13.1-5

ROMAN SWORD > Implement of DEATH PENALTY > Agent of WRATH

Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every authority instituted among men: whether to the king, as the supreme authority, or to *governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right.* 1 Peter 2.13,14

NOT MOB VIOLENCE or VIGILANTE JUSTICE > JUST Government  
Difference? GOAL Not Destruction but PROTECTION, Preservation of LIFE

LARGER Scale > GOAL of JUST WAR – Keeping the CITIZENS SAFE

War is horrible and should be fought rarely, and only to avoid greater horrors.  
Stephen Carter

GOD Placed PROTECTING SIGN on FIRST MURDERER Cain  
The LORD said to him, "...if anyone kills Cain, he will suffer vengeance seven times over." Then *the LORD put a mark on Cain* so that *no one who found him would kill him.* Genesis 4.15

Life is so sacred that even the life of the murderer is to be respected; it is not wantonly or ruthlessly taken away. Crime is not to be punished by crime; the life of the murderer is not to be taken in the way of violence or thirst for blood after the pattern of the murderers own crime. John Murray

6<sup>th</sup> Command: 2 Words - Opens Huge Stream of Bible Themes, Genesis to Rev.

b. Creator's Design > Master Artist's SIGNATURE on His MASTERPIECE

SIXTH DAY > UNIQUE Creation of God > Only Man & Woman LIKE GOD  
 God said, "Let us make man *in our image, in our likeness, and let them rule...*  
*So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him;*  
 male and female he created them. Genesis 1.26-27

EVEN AFTER > CURSE of SIN and FLOOD of EARTH...  
 "Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed; *for in the*  
*image of God has God made man.*" Genesis 9.6

As long as Man remains Man, he bears the image of God. Herman Bavinck

IMAGE of GOD > BASIS of DEATH PENALTY > Life is FROM GOD

Our neighbor bears the image of God: to use him, abuse, or misuse him is to do violence to the person of God who images himself in every human soul.

...men, who have been *made in God's likeness...* John Calvin  
 James 3.9

A person may not be killed for this reason, that he is, either actually or potentially, someone who declares God's praise, and therefore anybody who kills another person thereby robs God. J.L. Koole

c. Culture of Death > Death more than FINAL Event > Live 'Death' STYLE

*death reigned* from the time of Adam to the time of Moses, even over those who did not sin by breaking a command...by the trespass of the one man, *death reigned* through that one man... Romans 5.14,17

WORLD – LOST Connection with God of LIFE > Living WAY of DEATH

1) Medicine – Great Blessing > MOST CARE GIVERS Fear God, Honor Life

GOD is SOVEREIGN as GIVER and TAKER of HUMAN LIFE  
 Only HE has RIGHT and POWER to Begin and End BREATH of LIFE  
 HUMANITY is DETERMINED by IMAGE of God > NOT VIABILITY  
 NOT PRODUCTIVITY to the SOCIETY

Blessed is he who has regard for the weak

Psalm 41.1

A small but influential group of philosophers and health-care policy makers actively seek to persuade our culture that killing is beneficent, suicide is rational, natural death is undignified, and caring properly and compassionately for people who are elderly, prematurely born, disabled, despairing or dying is a burden that wastes emotional and financial resources. Wesley J. Smith

We can no longer base our ethics on the idea that human beings are a special form of creation made in the image of God, singled out from all other animals and alone possessing an immortal soul. Once all this religious mumbo-jumbo has been stripped away, we may continue to see *normal members* of our species as possessing greater capacities of rationality, self-consciousness, communication, etc. than members of other species, but we will *not* regard as sacrosanct the life of *each and every member of our species*.

Dr. Malcom Potts, Professor of Medicine

SOMETIMES Oppression and Violence FROM > Health Care PROVIDERS  
SCARY for Me – Wife says NOT NORMAL – Dr. Potts doesn't NEED ME!

BIBLE teaches EVEN LIFE Before BIRTH is GIFT from GOD...

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb... My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. Psalm 139.13-16

The fetus, though enclosed in the womb of its mother, is already a human being, and it is almost a monstrous crime to rob it of the life which it has not yet begun to enjoy. John Calvin

If men who are fighting hit a pregnant woman and she gives birth prematurely ... if there is serious injury, you are to take life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burn for burn, wound for wound, bruise for bruise. Exodus 21.22-24

LAW of GOD - LEGAL STATUS and PROTECTION for UNBORN  
ANCIENT LAW of Israel More Compassion USA Law > Unborn not PEOPLE

2) Money: NEUTRAL Tokens – Instruments of GOOD and BAD – All NEED

EVANGELICAL Church > HIGH Scores on LIFE ISSUES > esp Abortion  
LOW SCORES > What happens to PEOPLE AFTER BIRTH > JUSTICE

God's CONCERN for POST-BORN is as GREAT as the PRE-BORN – More?  
Many LIFE Issues > FINAL ANALYSIS > About MONEY, MATERIALISM

Some SEEK to Live BETTER & Better – Many MORE Seek to SIMPLY LIVE

AMOS > BOLD PROPHET spoke out AGAINST INJUSTICE, OPPRESSION  
“On the day I punish Israel for her sins...I will tear down the winter house  
along with the summer house; the houses adorned with ivory will be destroyed  
and the mansions will be demolished," declares the LORD. Amos 3.14,15

Hear this word, you cows of Bashan on Mount Samaria, you women who  
oppress the poor and crush the needy and say to your husbands, "Bring us some  
drinks!"  
Amos 4.1

AMOS – Really BOLD! Calling RICH WOMEN – COWS!! Not Me! Amos!

GOD CONCERNED for Poor, Widows, Orphans, Aliens, Sex Slaves, Unpaid

Now listen, you rich people...You have hoarded wealth in the last days. Look!  
The wages you failed to pay the workmen who mowed your fields are crying  
out against you. The cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord  
Almighty. You have lived on earth in luxury and self-indulgence. You have  
fattened yourselves in the *day of slaughter*. You have *condemned and  
murdered* innocent men, who were not opposing you. James 5.1-6

STRONG LANGUAGE > Written to CHRISTIAN CHURCH! JUSTICE!!  
Some of STRONGEST Words > Mouth of GENTLE, LORD JESUS CHRIST

When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will  
sit on his throne in heavenly glory. All the nations will be gathered before him...

"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by  
my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the

creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry... thirsty... a stranger... needing clothes... sick or in prison...?'"

"The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the *least of these brothers of mine*, you did for *me*.'

"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels....'" "They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?'"

"He will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever *you did not do for one of the least of these*, you *did not do for me*.'" "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."  
Matthew 25.31-46

**SURPRISED Goats > NOT Think were GOATS > Church Goers, Pray, Read B Strong PRIVATE, PERSONAL DISCIPLESHIP > Failed in PUBLIC Service TRUE, SAVING Faith > BOTH Personal AND Public > Love God & Neighbor**

This commandment is violated not only when a person actually does evil, but also when he fails to do good to his neighbor, or, though he has opportunity, fails to prevent, protect, and save him from suffering bodily harm or injury. If you send a person away naked when you could clothe him, you have let him freeze to death. If you see someone suffer hunger and do not feed him, you have let him starve... It will do you no good to plead that you did not contribute to his death by word or deed, for you have withheld your love from him and robbed him of the service by which his life might have been saved  
Martin Luther

Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless; maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed. Rescue the weak and needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.  
Psalm 82.3-4

**GOD Hates ABORTION AND OPPRESSION > Both Abuse IMAGE Bearers**

Gallup Poll > Most RESISTANT to Neighbor of COLOR Moving NEXT Door!  
American WHITE Evangelical Christians

CHRISTIAN Subculture: T-Shirts, Meetings, Concerts, Cruises > ISOLATION  
Never SAY Dirty Words, WATCH Dirty Movies > GOOD! RIGHT!  
But HOW does that SEPARATION Spirituality HELP our LOST NEIGHBOR?

BOW Heads to Pray in Restaurant - GOOD! Do We PRAY For, or SPEAK For  
WORKERS in Restaurant with UNLIVEABLE Wages? Exploited? Abused?

3) Media > AMERICAN Examples > GLOBAL Similarities > Export FILTH

Uganda in 1980's > CIVIL WAR > SOLDIERS Children > Violence, Suffering  
FEW Rich Tavern Owners > AFFORD TV & VCR > HUGE CROWDS  
New Movies from AMERICA > Terminator, Blood & Guts > Life Imitates Art

By the time the average American child finishes elementary school, he or she  
will have watched eight thousand televised murders and one hundred thousand  
acts of on-screen violence. American Psychological Association

If you have the impression that movies today are bloodier and more brutal than  
ever in the past, and that their body counts are skyrocketing, you are absolutely  
right. Inflation has hit the action-adventure movie with a big slimy splat.  
New York Times

The current tendency is to make mayhem a subject of mirth. As the on-screen  
mutilation and dismemberment becomes progressively more grotesque and  
horrible, film makers make light of their character's pain by introducing sadistic  
humor as an indispensable element of entertainment...It's the violence itself  
that's supposed to be hilarious, and that leaves audiences howling with  
laughter...The nightmarish mix of comedy and carnage demonstrates more  
clearly than anything else that the brutality in today's films is different in kind,  
not just extent, from the screen violence of the past. Michael Medved

Out of one thousand studies on the relation between violence on the screen and  
violence in real life, more than 980 established a definite link.  
American College of Forensic Psychiatry, 1998



MILITARY Psychologist > Teaches People to Overcome Reluctance to Kill  
Claims - SAME TECHNIQUES used in KIDS VIOLENT VIDEO GAMES

DEATH REIGNS – SATAN allowed to RULE FALLEN WORLD...

...him who holds the power of death - that is, the devil... those who all their  
lives were held in slavery by their fear of death Hebrews 2.14-15

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy... John 10.10a

## 2. Promotion of Life

CULTURE of DEATH > OVERWHELMING > Media Violence, Homicide,  
Rape, Abortion, Euthanasia, Assisted Suicide, War, Terrorism, Oppression

MANY PARALYZED with FEAR > HIDE from Scary World > Inside Church

a. God of Life > God INSIDE Church > MADE World, Loves Fallen World

Jesus: ‘...I have come that they may have *life*, and have it to the *full*’  
John 10.10b

UNIQUENESS of God > Life IN Himself < NOT Dependent or Derivative  
For as the Father has *life in himself*, so he has granted the Son to have *life in himself*.  
John 5.26

Jesus: ‘I am the... *life*.’ John 14.6

FIRST CHAPTER of Bible > Life Giving God GIVES Life to All CREATION

How many are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you made them all; the earth  
is full of your creatures. There is the sea, vast and spacious, teeming with  
creatures beyond number--living things both large and small...These all look to  
you to give them their food at the proper time. When you give it to them, they  
gather it up; when you open your hand, they are satisfied with good things.  
When you hide your face, they are terrified; when you take away their breath,

they die and return to the dust. When you send your Spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth. Psalm 104.24-30

PRAISE Him! God of CREATION! Providence! RENEWAL! New Creation!

## b. God gives New Life

1931 America's MOST WANTED Criminal 'Two-Gun Crowley'  
BRUTAL Homicides, Killed Policemen – Captured in Girl Friend's Apartment  
Blood-Spattered Note in Pocket: 'Under my coat is a weary heart, but a kind one, one that would do nobody any harm.' Two-Gun Crowley

NEW Life ONLY Interesting to People who KNOW they are DEAD!  
THINK Alive and Well by YOUR GOODNESS > God's New Life NOTHING

PAUL Compares the OLD COVENANT with NEW COVENANT...  
...tablets of stone...*the letter kills*, but the Spirit gives life...*the ministry that brought death*, which was engraved in letters on stone 2 Corinthians 3.3-7

LETTER of LAW KILLS? Esp when APPLIED by RABBI Jesus...  
You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.' But I tell you that anyone who is *angry* with his brother will be subject to *judgment*. Matthew 5.21-22

1<sup>st</sup> GLANCE > 6<sup>th</sup> Comm EASIEST to KEEP > 'I Never KILLED Someone'  
JESUS – 10 Commands – Search INSIDE and OUTSIDE – Deeds & INTENT  
6<sup>th</sup> Comm – HARDEST to REALLY KEEP!

Q. 107 Is it enough then, if we do not kill our neighbor in any such way?

A. No; for when God condemns envy, hatred, and anger, he requires us to love our neighbor as ourselves, to show patience, gentleness, mercy, and friendliness towards him, to prevent him as much injury as we can, and also to do good to our enemies. Heidelberg Catechism

VERY MAN who GAVE LAWS to Israel > MOSES < Was a MURDERER!  
 OT KING who MOST LIKE KING JESUS > DAVID < Was a MURDERER!  
 World's Greatest Theologian, Missionary, CP > PAUL < Was a MURDERER!

Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown mercy because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: *Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners* - of whom I am the worst. But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life.  
 1 Timothy 1.13-16

Last Century > Preached on Sunday Nights – KULANI Prison, Island of Hawaii  
 Church Members – All Prison Inmates / ELDERS of Church All Murderers!

Whether NAME is Paul, Moses, David, Two-Gun Crowley, or Mark Blair  
 GOD gives MERCY to MURDERERS – In Word and Deed – NEW LIFE in X

UNIMAGINABLE EVENT > God Saved WORLD thru MURDER of His SON

Jesus LAST Breathes of LIFE > Words of FORGIVENESS for MURDERERS  
 Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."  
 Luke 23.34

The liberating Word of justification and the liberating Word of justice are thus brought together in Jesus Christ in such a way while they are not confused, neither are they separated.  
 John de Gruchy

c. God's People are Life Givers Apply Comm – Reformers: Luther, Calvin

REFORMATION > JUSTIFICATION by FAITH > Saved, Right with GOD  
 LIFE Now LIVED to BENEFIT Others > Bring them to KNOW Saving God

TIME of REFORMATION in Europe > ALMOST Everyone IN CHURCHES  
 How to DISTINGUISH those TRUSTING in Traditions, Rituals, Man, Self  
 AND those FULLY TRUSTING in FINISHED WORK of Jesus the SAVIOR?

**SIMILAR Situation > NT Israel > Land of COVENANT People, Devout Jews WHO was TRUSTING in GOD & SON > Who was SELF-RIGHTEOUS?**

On one occasion an expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he asked, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

"What is written in the Law?" he replied. "How do you read it?"

He answered: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind"; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"

"You have answered correctly," Jesus replied. "Do this and you will live."

But he wanted to justify himself, so he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

In reply Jesus said: "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, when he fell into the hands of robbers. They stripped him of his clothes, beat him and went away, leaving him half dead. A priest happened to be going down the same road, and when he saw the man, he passed by on the other side. So too, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he traveled, came where the man was; and when he saw him, he took pity on him. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may have.'

"Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?"

The expert in the law replied, "The one who had mercy on him."

Jesus told him, "Go and do likewise."

Luke 10.25-37

**PRIEST! – Surely HE is GOOD Man > All those SACRIFICES! PASSES BY!**

**LEVITE! – Surely HE is GOOD Man > All those SERMONS! PASSES BY!**

**SAMARITAN! Good Jew can't EVEN SAY WORD! Dirty, Unclean, Godless STOPS! Cares! RISKS DANGERS! Treats Wounds! WASTES TIME! Pays!!! NT APPLIC of 6<sup>th</sup> Comm > NOT Who is MURDERER? EASY! Everyone!!**

**WHO is MURDERER that Received MERCY? Undeserved Love, Forgiveness**

**MURDERER that has RECEIVED MERCY is one who SHOWS MERCY!**

He will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help.  
 He will take pity on the weak and the needy and save the needy from death. He  
 will rescue them from oppression and violence, for precious is their blood in his  
 sight.  
 Psalm 72.12-14

HOW is HE Going to DO ALL THIS? Through GRATEFUL MURDERERS!  
 BODY of JESUS – Those JUSTIFIED who Demonstrate JUSTICE

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE and CONCERN for WHOLE WORLD

Violence in America / Ethnic Stuggle in Europe / Genocide in Africa  
 Persecution in China / Terrorism in Mid-East / Oppression in Central Asia

This is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another.  
 Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother.  
 And why did he murder him? Because his own actions were evil and his  
 brother's were righteous. Do not be surprised, my brothers, if the world hates  
 you. We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love our  
 brothers. Anyone who does not love remains in death. Anyone who hates his  
 brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life in him.  
 1 John 3.11-15

When HIS LIFE Almost OVER – Redeemed MURDERER – LAW GIVER  
 MOSES > Presents ULTIMATE CHOICE to Covenant People entering LAND

This day I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before  
 you life and death, blessings and curses. *Now choose life*, so that you and your  
 children may live and that you may love the LORD your God, listen to his  
 voice, and hold fast to him. *For the LORD is your life*, and he will give you  
 many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and  
 Jacob.  
 Deuteronomy 30.19-20

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