

Ten Commandments (Part 47)  
(The Sixth Commandment – Part 6)

V. Jesus' Application of the 6<sup>th</sup> Commandment (Matt. 5:21-26)

A. Jesus sees the obligations of the 6<sup>th</sup> Commandment extending to thoughts and words as well as outward actions (vs. 21, 22) See 1 John 3:15.

B. Jesus makes application of the 6<sup>th</sup> Commandment to public worship (Matt. 5:23, 24).

Professor John Murray (POC p. 163): *“Acceptable worship and ethical integrity are inseparable. Worship, however proper it may be in itself, however closely conformed it may be to the regulative prescriptions of divine revelation, is, nevertheless, not acceptable to God nor edifying to ourselves if it is not complemented by the strictest regard for the demands of ethical equity.”*

-Three Observations:

- 1) There is no indication whatsoever that there was anything wrong with the worship itself.
- 2) The act of worship was to be discontinued.
- 3) The worshiper is required to go and be reconciled to the offended brother.

→The 6<sup>th</sup> Commandment demands that we be concerned for other people's state of mind, as well as our own, especially their state of mind toward us. Estrangement between brothers in Christ is the root and source of the very sin that the 6<sup>th</sup> Commandment forbids—the sin of murder.

Practical Lessons

- 1) Jesus assumes that His people will worship corporately and publicly.
- 2) The Bible says much more about worshiping with integrity than with proper forms (Is. 1:10-17; Jer. 7:1-10; Ezek. 8:6-11a, 12, 16; Amos 5:21-24; Micah 6:6-8; Mark 7:6).
- 3) We are to make every effort to heal breaches in relationships, whether we are at fault or not (Eph. 4:29-32).