

“O How Love I Thy Law!”
The Sixth Commandment
“In Him Was Life”
Exodus 20:13; John 1:1-4

Introduction:

1. Tonight - We Return:
 - To Exodus 20:13 - Which Is There On Your Message Guide:
 - Where We Are Given:
 - This Sixth Commandment:
 - “Thou Shalt Not Kill!”
2. Now - We’ve Already Considered:
 - The Great Doctrine:
 - That Underlies:
 - This Commandment!
 - The Truth That:
 - God Is A God Of Life:
 - And So - Life Is Precious To Him!
 - Not Only Because:
 - He Is The Source:
 - Of Life - But Also Because:
 - He Is The Sustainer Of Life!
3. But - It Is Clear:
 - Not Only From Our Own Experience:
 - But From History Itself:
 - That Life Is Not Always Precious:
 - To Us! To Mankind!
 - And - This Is Seen:
 - Very Early On:
 - In Our History - When:
 - The Very First Son Of Adam & Eve Slew His Own Brother!
 - We Find This Recorded For Us:
 - In Genesis 4:1-16 - So - Please Turn There With Me:
 - In Your Bibles - As We Read About:
 - The Very First Murder!
 - “And Adam knew Eve his wife; and she conceived, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD. / 2 And she again bare his brother Abel. And Abel was a keeper of sheep, but Cain was a tiller of the ground. / 3 And in process of time it came to pass, that Cain brought of the fruit of the ground an offering unto the LORD. / 4 And Abel, he also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat thereof. And the LORD had respect unto Abel and to his offering: / 5 But unto Cain and to his offering he had not respect. And Cain was very wroth, and his countenance fell. / 6 And the LORD said unto Cain, Why art thou wroth? and why is thy countenance fallen? / 7 If thou doest well, shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door. And unto thee shall be his desire, and thou shalt rule over him. / 8 And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother, and slew him. / 9 And the LORD said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother’s keeper? / 10 And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother’s blood crieth unto me from the ground. / 11 And now art thou cursed from the earth, which hath opened her mouth to receive thy brother’s blood from thy hand; / 12 When thou tillest the ground, it shall not henceforth yield unto thee her strength; a fugitive and a vagabond shalt thou be in the earth. / 13 And Cain said unto the LORD, My punishment is greater than I can bear. / 14 Behold, thou hast driven me out this day from the face of the earth; and from thy face shall I be hid; and I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond in the earth; and it shall come to pass, that every one that findeth me shall slay me. / 15 And the LORD said unto him, Therefore whosoever slayeth Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold. And the LORD set a mark upon Cain, lest any finding him should kill him. / 16 And Cain went out from the presence of the LORD, and dwelt in the land of Nod, on the east of Eden!”
 - So - We See From These Verses:
 - That Even Though The Life Of Abel:
 - Was Not Precious:

- To Cain!
 - Yet - The Life Of Cain:
 - Was Still Precious:
 - To God!
 - And God Preserved:
 - The Life Of Cain:
 - Even though Cain:
 - Rejected The Grace And Life Of God:
 - As He “Went Out From The Presence Of The Lord!”
4. But - Whereas:
- Cain Broke The Letter Of God’s Law:
 - By Committing Murder:
 - Jesus Taught Us That:
 - There Is More To This Commandment:
 - Than **Just** Murder!
 - As We Saw Last Sunday Night:
 - From Matthew 5:
 - Murder With The Hands:
 - Always Begins:
 - When There Is Murder:
 - In The Heart!
 - This Was True For Cain:
 - And - This Is True:
 - For Us!
 - So - Jesus Goes To The Heart Of The Matter:
 - And Says - The Sixth Commandment:
 - Also Deals With:
 - What You **Think**:
 - About Others!
 - How You **Treat**:
 - Others!
 - And Especially:
 - What You Say To & About Others:
 - With Your **Tongue**!
 - Matthew 5:21-22 - “Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: / But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire!”

5. So - Even Though:

 - You Might Never Be Like Cain:
 - In Your **Actions**:
 - How Many Times:
 - Have You Been Like Cain:
 - In Your **Attitude** Toward Others?
 - This Is What The Law Of God:
 - Was Designed For!
 - To Reprove You & To Challenge You:
 - Of Your Own Sins & Failures:
 - Against God And Others!
 - But - What Can We Do?
 - And - Where Can We Go?
 - When We Find This Poisonous:
 - And Murderous Attitude:
 - In Our Own Hearts?

6. Well - We Must Run To:

 - The Refuge Of The Lord Jesus Christ!
 - The Only One Who:
 - Can Fulfill The Entirety Of:

- God's Law For Us!
- And - Can Forgive:
 - The Failure Of God's Law:
 - Within Us!
- But - Even More:
 - Jesus Is The One Who Can Then Enable Us:
 - To Live According To The Spirit Of This Commandment!
- And - In This Way:
 - We Find The Correction We Need:
 - In The Lord Jesus Christ!
- 7. So - If You Want To Learn:
 - How Life Can & Should Be Precious To You:
 - Just Look And See:
 - How Life Was / Is Precious:
 - To Christ!
 - If You Go Over To:
 - John 1:1-4 - We Read These Words:
 - About Jesus - "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. / The same was in the beginning with God. / All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. / In him was life; and the life was the light of men!"
 - So - "In Him – In Jesus – Was Life!"
 - Of Course:
 - This Means That:
 - All That Is True About:
 - God's Life - Is Also True:
 - About Jesus Life!
 - He Too:
 - Is The Source:
 - And - The Sustainer:
 - Of Life!
 - But It Also Means:
 - That Life Is Precious To Jesus:
 - In A Way That:
 - It Never Had Been:
 - In The History Of Mankind!
 - So - Let's First Look At How:

1. ***Life Was Precious In Jesus' Thoughts Of Others!***

- Where We Constantly Fail:
 - In Our Thoughts About Others:
 - Even - At Times - Being "Angry" With Our "Brother Without A Cause!"
 - Jesus' Thoughts Were Perfect & Pure!
 - Now - There Were Times:
 - When Jesus Was Angry!
 - But - Unlike A Lot Of Our Anger:
 - His Anger Was "With A Cause" - And:
 - Was A Righteous Anger!
 - In Mark 3:1-5 - We Find The Time:
 - When Jesus - "Entered again into the synagogue; and there was a man there which had a withered hand. / And they watched him, whether he would heal him on the sabbath day; that they might accuse him. / And he saith unto the man which had the withered hand, Stand forth. / And he saith unto them, Is it lawful to do good on the sabbath days, or to do evil? to save life, or to kill? But they held their peace. / And when he had looked round about on them with anger, being grieved for the hardness of their hearts, he saith unto the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it out: and his hand was restored whole as the other!"
 - The Anger Jesus Felt:
 - And The Anger Jesus Thought:
 - Was Because Of:

- The Sin And The Hardness:
 - Of The Hearts Of Those Self-Righteous Pharisees!
- And Jesus Was Further Disturbed:
 - Because It Was The Pharisees Themselves:
 - Who Were Trying To Interfere:
 - In The Life And The Welfare:
 - Of Those In Need!
 - People With Physical Needs:
 - Like The Man With The Withered Hand!
 - But Also - People With Spiritual Needs!
- And So - The Lord's Anger:
 - Was Always Directed At:
 - The Sin And Stubbornness:
 - Of Those Who Withstood:
 - The Life He Came To Offer!
- But - How Else Did Jesus:
 - Think And Feel About Others?
 - There Are Several Times In The Gospels:
 - When We Are Brought Into:
 - The Very Heart And Mind Of Christ!
- For Example:
 - In Matthew 9:35-38 - We Are Told:
 - "And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. / But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. / Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; / Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest!"
 - When Jesus Thought Of Others:
 - He Was "Moved With Compassion" Toward Them:
 - And Sought To Meet Their Most Desperate Need!
 - Their Need Of A Shepherd!
 - Their Need Of Him!
- Another Example:
 - Is Found In John 13:1 - When:
 - "Before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end!"
 - When Jesus Thought Of His Disciples:
 - He "Loved" Them!
 - And Even "Loved Them Unto The End!"
 - That Is - To The Fullest Extent Possible - In His Heart & With His Life!
- O - What Tender Thoughts:
 - Jesus Had & Still Has:
 - For Others!
 - When Jesus Died On The Cross:
 - He Did So:
 - With You On His Mind:
 - And In His Heart!
 - He Was Filled With:
 - Divine Love - And Moved With:
 - Infinite Compassion:
 - So That He Could Embrace You With His Open & Everlasting Arms!
- Your Life Was Precious:
 - In The Thoughts Of Jesus!
 - And That Is Why He Came:
 - To Save You!
- John 1:4:

- "In Him Was Life; And The Life Was The Light Of Men!"
- But Also - We Can See How:

2. *Life Was Precious In Jesus' Treatment Of Others!*

- Again - When We Fail:
 - In Our Own Treatment Of Others:
 - Even - At Times - Treating Them:
 - As If They Have No Value & No Worth!
 - Yet, Jesus' Treatment Was Full Of Grace And Truth! (John 1:14)
 - His Work In This World:
 - Was Constantly:
 - A Work Of Life!
- He Cared For:
 - The Physical Life:
 - Of Man!
 - We Already Saw This:
 - Back In Matthew 9:35:
 - When "Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people!"
 - Disease & Sickness:
 - Is The Enemy Of Life:
 - Even As Death Is!
 - And So - Jesus Sought To Alleviate The Physical Suffering Of Others:
 - By Healing Them And Offering Them Hope!
 - How Many Other Times:
 - Are We Told That:
 - Because Of Jesus:
 - "The blind [could] see, the lame [could] walk, the lepers [were] cleansed, the deaf [could] hear, the dead [were] raised, [and] to the poor the gospel [was] preached!" (Luke 7:22)
 - The Physical Lives Of Men:
 - Were Precious To The One:
 - Who Gave Them Life!
 - But Also:
- He Cared For:
 - The Spiritual Life:
 - Of Man!
 - In Fact - He Reached Out To:
 - The Natural & Physical Needs Of Others:
 - So That He Might:
 - Touch Their Deeper, Spiritual Needs!
 - In John 10:7-10 - Jesus Said:
 - "Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. / All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them. / I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. / The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly!"
- So - The One Who Gave You:
 - Your Physical Life:
 - Is The One Who Came:
 - So That You Might Also Have:
 - An Eternal Life:
 - And - An Abundant Life!
 - Your Life Is Precious:
 - In The Treatment Of Jesus!
 - So Remember John 1:4:
 - "In Him Was Life; And The Life Was The Light Of Men!"

- It Is His Life:
 - That Is Your Light!
 - But Then - We Can Also See How:

3. *Life Was Precious In Jesus' Tongue To Others!*

- So - Even Though We Fail:
 - Over & Over Again:
 - With Our Own Tongues & In Our Own Words:
 - To Others!
 - Yet The Words Of Jesus:
 - In This World:
 - Were Words of Life:
 - And - Words Of Light!
 - In John 6:63:
 - Jesus Said - "The words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life!"
 - So:
- Not Only Did The Touch Of Jesus:
 - Bring **Healing**:
 - So Did His Words!
 - In Matthew 8 - When A Roman Centurion Came To Jesus So That He Might Heal His Servant - Who Was "At Home Sick Of The Palsy And Grievously Tormented!"
 - The Centurion Believed That All Jesus Had To Do Was "Say The Word!"
 - And So - In Matthew 8:13:
 - "Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour!"
 - We Need To Remember:
 - That There Is Still Great Power:
 - In The Words Of Jesus!
 - But Then Also:
- Not Only Did The Touch Of Jesus:
 - Bring **Hope**:
 - So Did His Words!
 - In John 6 - When Jesus Posed This Question To His Disciples:
 - "Will Ye Also Go Away?"
 - Peter Answered:
 - In John 6:68-69 - "Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life. / And we believe and are sure that thou art that Christ, the Son of the living God!"
- So - The One Who:
 - Created Your Life:
 - And - Cares For Your Life:
 - Also Communicates His Own Life:
 - To You:
 - Through His Word!
 - Your Life Is Precious To The Lord!
 - And You Can Hear This:
 - Through The Words Of Jesus!
 - Even As The Hymn Goes:
 - "O I want to talk like Jesus, Gracious are the words from Him we hear: Words of life and hope for sinners, Tender healing words of love and cheer. O the power and the value of a fitly spoken word! O I want to talk like Jesus, Any time or place my voice is heard!"

Conclusion:

1. Over & Over Again:
 - Jesus Showed That:
 - Life Was – And Still Is:
 - Precious To Him!
 - Every Life!
 - Even Your Life!

2. As We Are Told Once Again:
- From John 1:4:
- “In Him Was Life; And The Life Was The Light Of Men!”
- * Is The Life Of Jesus The Light Of Your Own Life Today?
 - * Is Jesus Your Refuge When You Fail In Your Relationships With Others?
 - * Are You Now Following The Example Of Jesus?
- With Your Tongue, Through Your Treatment, And In Your Thoughts?

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