

# What Are The Basic Commandments of God?

Do you know what God commands you and me to do? Of course, we are commanded to believe (trust and obey) in Jesus and His great sacrifice. That is first, but after you come to Jesus and make Him your Lord, then what? If you will follow this teaching closely, and look up the numerous Scripture references, you will be enlightened and empowered to live for Jesus Christ. This is not a complete list, but it is a basic starting point. Be blessed!

Following is a list of the Ten Commandments with the exception of the commandment to keep the Sabbath.

Why don't I include the Sabbath as mandatory when teaching Christians?

The Sabbath was instituted as one of the covenant requirements for Israel, and for them alone. The Sabbath was never commanded to any other nation or people except Israel.

***So you must keep the Sabbath, for it is holy for you. Everyone who defiles it must surely be put to death; indeed, if anyone does any work on it, then that person will be cut off from among his people. Six days work may be done, but on the seventh day is a Sabbath of complete rest, holy to the Lord; anyone who does work on the Sabbath day must surely be put to death. The Israelites must keep the Sabbath by observing the Sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual covenant.*** (Exodus 31:14-16 NET)

No other nation was commanded the Sabbath as a perpetual Covenant. The sentence, ***“The Israelites must keep the Sabbath by observing the Sabbath throughout their generations as a perpetual covenant,”*** should make this point clear. God didn't say “all generations” must observe the Sabbath. NO! He said that the Israelites must keep the Sabbath throughout THEIR generations. Again, ONLY the generations of the Israelites were commanded the Sabbath as a perpetual covenant.<sup>1</sup>

“True, but God instituted and made it holy as the day of rest for all Creation,” some would say. Yes, but in Genesis, before the command was given to Israel at Sinai, there was no command to keep the Sabbath as a special weekly observance. Abraham, Isaac, or Jacob never kept the Sabbath. In the book of Genesis, nobody kept the Sabbath as a special day until God gave that commandment to Israel at Sinai in the book of Exodus.

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<sup>1</sup> The same thing can be said about circumcision. It was a covenant requirement for Abraham and his natural descendants alone. See Genesis 17:9-14. Circumcision was never a covenant requirement for the Gentile world, and not a requirement for the Gentile converts. The Jerusalem church council reached that conclusion in Acts 15. That is one reason that Paul opposed forcing the Gentile males that converted to the Lord to be physically circumcised. See Romans 2 and Galatians 6.

Some would say that the apostles kept the Sabbath after the day of Pentecost in Acts 2 because Paul and others went continually into the synagogues on the Sabbaths to teach and preach. Yes, they did go into the synagogues repeatedly on the Sabbaths.<sup>2</sup> All synagogues goers worshipped on the Sabbath. There were synagogues all over the Roman Empire. What other day were they going to find people gathered at the synagogues? The apostles were not going to find general gatherings on any other day but the Sabbath. If I were to go preach at a synagogue today, I would have to go on a Sabbath day too! That was when Jews were supposed to meet.

Paul was evangelizing first in the synagogues of every city that would let him tell them about Jesus. That does not translate into compelling the Gentiles to keep the Sabbath as was required for the Israelites. To the contrary, Paul never mentions the necessity of keeping the Sabbath in any of his epistle to the Gentile churches. Neither does Peter, James, Judas, or John, all the way to the Revelation!

Notice that Jesus does not reprimand the churches of the Gentiles for violating any ritual command in Revelation chapters 2 and 3. He rebukes most of them for idolatry, sexual immorality, and false teachings leading people into sin, but there was not a rebuke for breaking a Sabbath day, neglecting the use of prayer shawls, phylacteries, failing to circumcise their baby boys, observing the Sabbath, or not keeping the feasts or festivals commanded Israel! Why? Keeping ritual commandments were never imposed on the Gentile followers of Jesus according to Acts 15:19, 20, 28, and 29.

Gentiles were not to be coerced (forced, pressured, compelled) to live like Jews! (See Galatians 2:14 in various translations.) The church council in Acts 15 reached that conclusion after much debate. The Gentile converts were only to obey MORAL GUIDELINES. They understood that ritual commandments were not for the Gentiles that received the Lordship of Jesus the Messiah (Anointed).

The Temple was destroyed in 70 A.D. When that happened, the priesthood and sacrifices ceased with the destruction of the Temple, and they disappeared into history. Therefore, all commandments and rituals associated with the Temple, priesthood, and sacrifices became obsolete and unobservable.<sup>3</sup> The Sabbath observance was one of them.

For the believer, Jesus' sacrifice was the final sacrifice and no other needs to be offered His sacrifice fulfilled all others.<sup>4</sup> Because of the destruction of the Temple,

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<sup>2</sup> Acts 13:14, 44, 15:21, 16:13, 17:2, 18:4.

<sup>3</sup> About 400 or more of the 613 original commandments written down by Moses became obsolete. I teach on this in a lot of detail in the 62-page free PDF, *"Did the Grace of God Cancel Biblical Commandments?"*

<sup>4</sup> See Hebrews 9:1-14 in NASB. The symbol (picture, illustration, simile, and parable) of Temple, priesthood, and sacrifice was overtaken by the reality of Jesus). In Col. 2:16, 17, Paul called the ritual commandments a shadow of things to come, and that Jesus was the reality.

and the sacrifice of Jesus, Christians are not subject to keeping any ritual commandment<sup>5</sup> but they are absolutely required to obey MORAL commandments as taught by all the apostles (including Paul) and the Lord Jesus. References to this are all over the New Testament.

Below are quoted the Ten Commandments from Exodus 20:1-7, 12-17 (NET),<sup>6</sup> with the exception of the Sabbath. Then, I give you references to where these commandments can be found in the New Testament. They are not all direct quotations from Exodus, Deuteronomy, or Leviticus. Sometimes, the commandments can take the form of something forbidden for Christians. In other verses, the commandments are implied without a direct quotation.

1. ***You will not have other gods before Me.*** See Matthew 4:10, 6:24; Luke 4:8.
2. ***You will not make for yourself an idol (carved image) or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above or is on the earth beneath or that is in the water below. You will not bow down to them or serve them for I the Lord am a jealous God, responding to the transgression of the fathers by dealing with the children to the third and fourth generation of those that reject me, and showing covenant faithfulness to a thousand generations of those that love me and obey my commandments.*** See Acts 15:20, 17:29, 30; 1 Corinthians. 5:11 and 6:9, 10- idolatry is in this list of unrighteous practices or sinful acts, 1 Cor. 10:7, 14, 12:2; 2 Corinthians 6:16; Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 5:5; Colossians 3:5, 6; 1 Thessalonians 1:9; 1 John 5:21; Revelation 9:20, 21:8, 22:15.
3. ***You will not take the name of the Lord (YHVH) your God in vain for the Lord will not hold guiltless anyone who takes his name in vain.*** This means that we never use His Name for idle, frivolous, or insincere purposes because those that do will face God's punishment. See Matthew 6:9- hallowed, consecrated, holy, sanctified is His Name; Luke 11:2; 1 Timothy 6:1.
4. ***Honor your father and your mother, that you may live a long time in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.*** See Matthew 15:4, 19:19; Mark 7:9-13, 10:19; Luke 18:20; Ephesians 6:1-3; Colossians 3:20; Romans 1:29-32 mentions that the *disobedient to parents* are "worthy of death." Oh boy, I can hear the objections. That doesn't mean that you will be the one carrying out any death sentence, even if at times you may be tempted! No, we love our little ones, but they need to learn about the consequences of disobedience. Thought I would mention that. The wages of sin is death, and that has never changed. Death and separation from God will come to all the unrepentant.

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<sup>5</sup> Colossians 2:16, 17 and see Galatians 4:9,10 in the NET version. The translation note after the word "religious" in verse 10 gives further explanation.

<sup>6</sup> See also Deuteronomy 5:7-21.

The only way to get out of the death penalty on sin is to repent and receive cleansing from all unrighteousness by the blood of Jesus. (See 1 John 1:7-10.)

5. ***You will not murder.*** See Matthew 5:21, 22; Mark 10:19; Romans 13:9, James 2:11, 1Peter 4:15; 1 John 3:15.
6. ***You will not commit adultery.*** See Matthew 5:27, 28, 32; 19:18; Mark 10:11, 12, 19; Luke 16:18, 18:20; John 8:4-11- woman caught in adultery was told to go and sin no more; Romans 7:3; 1Corinthians 6:9, 10, 18; Galatians 5:19-21; 1 Thessalonians 4:3; Hebrews 13:4, Revelation 2:20-23.
7. ***You will not steal.*** See Matthew 19:18; Mark 10:19; Luke 18:20; Romans 13:9; 1 Cor. 6:10; Ephesians 4:28; 1 Peter 4:15; Revelation 9:21.
8. ***You will not give false testimony against your neighbor.*** This is the same as saying that we should not lie, slander, or be a false witness against our neighbor. See Matthew 15:19, 20, 19:18; Mark 10:19; Luke 18:20; John 8:44; Romans 13:9; Ephesians 4:25; Col. 3:9; Titus 3:2; Revelation 21:8, 22:15.
9. ***You will not covet your neighbor's house. You will not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor ANYTHING that belongs to your neighbor.*** To covet is to have a greedy desire to possess someone's spouse, inheritance, property, money, etc., by any means. Examples: David and Uriah's wife Bathsheba (2 Samuel 11); Ahab and plot of land belonging to Naboth (1 Kings 21); Luke 12:15(NASB) - "*guard against EVERY form of greed*"; Romans 7:7, 13:9; Ephesians 5:3; 1Timothy 6:10 (KJV); Hebrews 13:5 (KJV).
10. ***You must love you neighbor as yourself.*** (Leviticus 19:18) Repeated in Matthew 5:43, 19:19, 22:39; Mark 12:31; Romans 13:9; Galatians 5:14; James 2:8. Romans 13:8 indicates that "love one another" and "love your neighbor" are synonymous or equivalent terms. We read Jesus stating the equivalent "love one another" in John 13:34, 15:12, 17; and see also 1 Thessalonians 4:9; 1 Peter 1:22; 1 John 3:11, 23, 4:7, 11, 12; 2 John 1:5

I added Leviticus 19:18 as a tenth commandment because Jesus and Paul added it to the list of basic moral commandments as we will see below.

Are these commandments valid today for Christians?

Obviously, they are valid today from all the verses I gave you from the New Testament. Some very foolish people deny their relevance. How should we understand this? Should we reject or replace God's commandments? We should NEVER do that, according to Jesus, Paul, and the rest of the NEW TESTAMENT!

Jesus stated to the rich young ruler in Matthew 19:17-19 (NET): ***“...If you want to enter into life, keep the commandments.”*** The rich young ruler asked, ***“Which ones?”*** This man knew there were different kinds of commandments. Specifically, there were moral and ritual commands. This is why he asked Jesus which ones. Jesus answers with commandments that were not dependent on the Temple rituals, Levitical priesthood, and the shed blood and burnt offerings of innocent clean animals.

***Jesus replied, “Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not give false testimony, honor your father and mother, and love your neighbor as yourself.”***

Those are MORAL commandments, and they are in the Ten Commandments and Leviticus 19:18. The above are not ritual or ceremonial type commandments as were practiced in the Temple. According to the book of Hebrews 9:1-14, Jesus fulfilled and laid aside any further need for Temple, Levitical priesthood, and the sacrifice of innocent animals.

Notice how Jesus tags the list of commandments with ***“and love your neighbor as yourself”*** from Leviticus 19:18. Jesus does it again in Mark 12:28-31 (also in Matthew 22:36-39). He states there that the most important commandments are: 1. He is one Lord, and we are to love God with all your heart, mind, and strength (from Deuteronomy 6:4, 5) and: 2. Love for our neighbor (from Lev. 19:18). Paul also tags his list of moral commandments with Leviticus 19:18. We’ll get to it below.

Eternal life in God depends on following Jesus<sup>7</sup> as the Master instructed the rich young ruler, and then, after you have been born from above, the balance is based on keeping His commandments that include love for your neighbor. This is exactly what John had in mind in 1 John 3:23, 24. The apostle John condensed the commandments into believing on the Name of Jesus (becoming a follower of Jesus, being born from above), and loving one another. He then continues to state that the one that obeys His commandments ABIDES in Christ. Look at note #7. These are inseparable, as the following will affirm.

***So the dragon became enraged at the woman and went away to make war on the rest of her children, those who keep God’s commandments and hold to the testimony about Jesus*** (Revelation 12:17 NET).

The children or sons of God are those that keep the commandments of God AND HOLD (fast) to the testimony of Jesus. It’s Jesus AND the commandments. It is not

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<sup>7</sup> See Matthew 19:17-21- “come follow me” is becoming His disciple or making Him your Lord. Compare Mat. 7:21-23 and Romans 10:9. The confession of His lordship must be seen as a submission to the Lord with honor and respect for the will and word of God that leads to obedience. See also Luke 6:46-49, 25:11-13. After we receive Jesus as Lord and Savior, what matters is keeping the commandments of God. See 1 Corinthians 7:19.

Jesus without the commandments, or the commandments without Jesus. Leave out either of the aforementioned and it is a highway to destruction.<sup>8</sup> It is receiving the Lord Jesus AND keeping the commandments of God that defines us as children or sons of and daughters of God. Eternal life requires both!

***And we can be sure that we know him if we obey his commandments. If someone claims, "I know God," but doesn't obey God's commandments, that person is a liar and is not living in the truth. But those who obey God's word truly show how completely they love him. That is how we know we are living in him. Those who say they live in God should live (abide, reside, remain) their lives as Jesus did. (1 John 2:3-6 NIV)***

In that passage, the apostle John also taught that to obey the commandments and the Word was how we LIVE, ABIDE, RESIDE, or REMAIN in Him! Does that open your eyes to the meaning of Jesus when He taught about *abiding* (same Greek word) in Him in John 15:1-7? It takes OBEDIENCE to God's Word and Commandments to live, abide, reside, and remain in Jesus.

Just in case there is any question concerning that verse in Revelation 12:17, here is another one just two chapters later:

***This requires the steadfast endurance of the saints—those who obey God's commandments and hold to their faith in Jesus (Rev. 14:12 NET).***

That verse is even more of a *revelation*. The play on the word was intended.

Who are the saints, and what is the steadfast endurance of those called "saints"? The saints (separated unto God) are those that OBEY God's commandments AND hold to their faith in Jesus. Both parts of this statement are connected by the "AND." They are inseparable parts of what God requires of every Christian. It is a huge mistake to separate obeying God's commandments from holding fast or standing firm in faith in Jesus.

What did Paul say about it?

***For the commandments, "Do not commit adultery, do not murder, do not steal, do not covet," (and if there is any other commandment) are summed up in this, "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Romans 13:9 NET).***

Every moral commandment in Scripture is summarized by the commandment to love your neighbor as yourself (Leviticus 19:18). When you say, "love your neighbor as yourself," you are also stating, "***Do not commit adultery, do not murder, do not***

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<sup>8</sup> Please study in detail the 3-part podcast series, "Entering into Life- According to Jesus!" They will answer question along this line of inquiry.

***steal, do not covet,” (and if there is any other (moral) commandment).”*** Did you get that? Why is this true?

Paul continues in Romans 13:10: ***“Love does no wrong to a neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.”***

Love doesn't reject or downplay God's moral law. It embraces it and obeys it!

There is no such thing as walking in love towards a neighbor or towards God and the Lord Jesus and breaking moral commandments. Breaking a moral commandment against a neighbor is completely contrary to Christian love. You don't love Jesus or the Father if you don't obey His moral guidelines!

***The person who has my commandments and obeys them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and will reveal myself to him... If anyone loves me, he will obey my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and take up residence with him*** (John 14:21-23 NET).

***We know we love God's children if we love God and obey his commandments. Loving God means keeping his commandments, and his commandments are not burdensome*** (1 John 5:2, 3 NLT).

Loving God means we are keeping (obeying) His commandments, and His commandments are not *burdensome* (grievous, severe, or stern- Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon)!

Let that sink in.

Loving God is not just singing Him songs, and telling Him in praise and worship that you love Him. Actually, you can praise and worship Him all day, but if you don't OBEY His commandments you don't love Him. This brings us back to John 14:21-23. IF you love Him, you will keep His commandments!

From Leviticus 19 and 20, here are a few other moral commands we MUST obey if we love God and our neighbor.

***You must not eat blood.*** (Lev. 19:26) This is one of the commandments directly referred to in the decision the Jerusalem church council. They commanded the Gentiles converted to Jesus to abstain from idolatry, sexual immorality, things strangled, and blood (Acts 15:19, 20, 28, 29 NET).

***You must not practice divination, soothsaying*** (Lev. 19:26) ***and do not turn to the spirits of the dead*** (necromancy) ***or seek familiar spirits*** (Lev. 19:31). Those familiar evil spirits were of supposed dead relatives or people known to you. In another place, it forbids ***necromancy, the medium, the spiritist, and witchcraft.***

Read it:

***There must never be found among you anyone who sacrifices his son or daughter in the fire, anyone who practices divination, an omen reader, a soothsayer, a sorcerer, one who casts spells, one who conjures up spirits, a practitioner of the occult, or a necromancer. Whoever does these things is abhorrent to the Lord and because of these detestable things the Lord your God is about to drive them out from before you.*** (Deuteronomy 18:10-12 NET)

Paul and the book of Acts echoed that prohibition. Paul refers to sorcery in the so-called vice list of Galatians 5:19-21.<sup>9</sup> When Paul cast out a spirit of divination from a young woman in Acts 16:16-18, it was because divination is a work of the devil. In the book of Revelation, we are told who will have a part in the lake of fire and sorcery is in the lists! (See Rev. 9:20, 21, 21:8, 22:15.) Also, notice the story of Paul being confronted by the false prophet and sorcerer named Elymas. Paul commanded judgment to come on him, and it did! (See Acts 13:6-12 NLT.)

***You must not slash your body for the dead or incise a tattoo on yourself*** (Leviticus 19:28). These were a part of pagan rituals associated directly with idolatry. Though not mentioned in the New Testament, Jesus taught that the smallest letter or the decorative marks of God's Law will not pass away until all is fulfilled. (See Matthew 5:17-19.) Leviticus 19:26 should be obeyed. It's still relevant. Don't worry about it if you made a fool of yourself and got tattoos BEFORE you came to Jesus. We all made fools of ourselves in many ways before we came to Jesus. Don't be condemned over it because those were tattoos from your past. In Christ Jesus, your past sins were removed and obliterated. Receive your forgiveness in Christ, and don't do it again.

***You must not do injustice in any form of business*** (Lev. 19:35-36). Should there be honesty in business? Yes, absolutely! Dishonesty in business is theft, lying, and not loving your neighbor as yourself. One more commandment is often broken by unjust business practices; "You will not covet." When there is price gouging, intellectual theft, lying to the IRS about your business income, inflating value of an item to charge a customer more than is right, hostile takeovers, hiding the truth about the condition of something for sale, bribery, taking clients away from a company you worked for, and the list goes on and on. Yes, taking a ream of paper or a box of paper clips from the office is theft! Of all people in the earth, Christians should be full of integrity in business. We don't lie, and we don't steal or cheat in business in any way, shape, or form. Our word is as good as money in the bank. We give our word in business (or in life), and we keep it no matter what. We are truthful, honest, and practice righteousness. See Psalms 15:1-5!

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<sup>9</sup> "Vice lists" are actually sins against God's commandments. See Matthew 15:19; 1 Cor. 5:9, 10, 6:9,10; Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 5:3-7; Colossians 3:5; Revelation 9:20, 21, 21:8, 22:15.

**You must not curse your father and mother, nor commit adultery, homosexuality, bestiality, or have incestuous relations.** The Greek word *porneia*, translated as fornication, or sexual immorality in other translations, includes all forms of sexual deviations: adultery, unmarried sexual encounters, homosexuality, bestiality, lesbianism, incest, and prostitution. These were under a death penalty under Mosaic Law (Lev. 20:9-21). Today, those sins may not be under a death penalty to be carried out by man's laws, but they are under the wrath and judgment of God. The wages of these sins is still death. For the unrepentant, a death penalty is demanded for their sin.<sup>10</sup>

***The rest of humanity, who had not been killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands, so that they did not stop worshiping demons and idols made of gold, silver, bronze, stone, and wood—idols that cannot see or hear or walk about. Furthermore, they did not repent of their murders, of their magic spells, of their sexual immorality, or of their stealing.*** (Revelation 9:20, 21 NET)

I can hear the objections. "Oh brother Rodriguez, I never heard anything like that before," some may be quick to respond in sheer unbelief, and yet it is all over the Scriptures. Let's settle it some more.

***Finally then, brothers and sisters, we ask you and urge you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received instruction from us about how you must live and please God (as you are in fact living) that you do so more and more. For you know what commands we gave you through the Lord Jesus. For this is God's will: that you become holy, that you keep away from sexual immorality, that each of you know how to possess his own body in holiness and honor, not in lustful passion like the Gentiles who do not know God. In this matter no one should violate the rights of his brother or take advantage of him, because the Lord is the avenger in all these cases, as we also told you earlier and warned you solemnly. For God did not call us to impurity but in holiness. Consequently, the one who rejects this is not rejecting human authority but God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you*** (1 Thessalonians 4:1-8 NET).

To violate the rights or take advantage of a brother or sister in the Lord in matters of lustful passions and sexual immorality will bring on the wrath of the Lord who is the avenger. The wages of sin is still death (Romans 6:23; James 1:14, 15).

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<sup>10</sup> The word translated *sexual immorality* includes all sexual perversions. *Porneia* and its related words *porneuo*,  *pornos*, *porne*, are often translated *fornication* in older translations and *sexual immorality* in newer ones. The second is a better translation. Look at "*Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*" with the Strong's Concordance numbers #4202, 4203, 4204, 4205. In 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 6:9  *pornos* is used, and 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 6:13 it uses *porneia*. These words include all sexual perversions: adultery, fornication, homosexuality, lesbianism, bestiality, incest, and so on.

***So put to death your worldly impulses; sexual sin, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). It is because of these things that the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. You used to behave like them as you lived among them. But now you must also get rid of anger, wrath, malice, slander, obscene speech, and all such sins*** (Ephesians 5:3-8 ISV).

The wrath of God is not just going to come sometime in the future. Paul states that it is coming (present tense) upon those who are (present tense) disobedient. There is NO way out except through repentance.

***Not at all! And you will perish, too, unless you repent of your sins and turn to God*** (Luke 13:3 NLT).

Jesus' powerful and stern rebuke to the Thyatira church (Rev. 2:18-29), the false prophetess Jezebel and her followers will straighten you out if you think there is no present day wrath or vengeance against God's people when they practice sin.

***“But I have this against you: You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophet and who teaches and leads my servants to practice immorality and to eat food sacrificed to idols. I gave her time to repent, but she refused to repent of her immorality. Look! I am going to strike her with illness. Those who commit adultery with her will also suffer greatly, unless they repent from acting like her. I will strike her children dead. Then all the churches will know that I am the one who searches minds and hearts. I will reward each of you as your actions deserve. But as for the rest of you in Thyatira—you who do not hold to this teaching and who have not learned what some people call the deep things of Satan—I won't burden you with anything else.”***

The Lord gave Jezebel and her followers time to repent, but they refused. They were judged and turned over to sickness, destruction, and death.

That was not an isolated case against some church members.

Paul turned a man over to Satan for the destruction of his flesh because he was sexually involved with the wife of his earthly father (1 Cor. 5:1-5). It was a clear case of a prohibited sexual union (incest and adultery), and Paul judged the situation by the Holy Spirit and took action.

***But among you there must not be either sexual immorality, impurity of any kind, or greed, as these are not fitting for the saints. Neither should there be vulgar speech, foolish talk, or coarse jesting—all of which are out of character—but rather thanksgiving. For you can be confident of this one thing: that no person who is immoral, impure, or greedy (such a person is an idolater) has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. Let nobody deceive you with***

***empty words, for because of these things God's wrath comes on the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not be partakers with them*** (Ephesians 5:3-7 NET).

The wrath of God will eventually come upon those practicing sin or disobedience (sons of disobedience). Don't let anybody deceive you!

Here is a key to deliverance if you sin.

***But if we judged ourselves in the right way, then God would not judge us.***  
(1 Corinthians 11:31 ERV)

If you sin, admit or acknowledge your transgression, confess it to God, and forsake it or drop it like a bad habit! That's when God's mercy will show up on your behalf.

***One who covers up his transgressions will not prosper, but whoever confesses and forsakes them finds mercy*** (Proverbs 28:13 TLV).

Only repentance and cleansing in the Blood of Jesus will deliver a person from the Lord coming as the avenger with wrath against those practicing transgressions. If you are practicing any realm of sin and call yourself a Christian, stop right now and repent. If you will judge yourself, you will not be judged (1 Cor. 11:31). If you have sinned, don't try to hide it from the Lord, but be quick to repent, confess or acknowledge your sin, and receive His forgiveness and great mercy! See 1 John 1:7-10, 2:1, 2; James 5:16; 2 Cor. 12:20, 21.

***The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake. He does not want anyone to be destroyed, but wants everyone to repent*** (2 Peter 3:9 NLT).

What if EVERY person that walked down the aisle of a church to receive Jesus was given this instruction? What if on the day people come to Jesus and make Him Lord and Savior, they received this document? Would it help them to understand that they have the Holy Spirit to help them and guide them into all truth? (See John 15:26, 16:13.) They are not left helpless, and these commandments are not burdensome! (1 John 5:2, 3) They can and should be obeyed!

Would this document help them live their Christian life? Yes, it would! Please put this document into the hands of all Christians, but especially into the hands of babies in Christ.

Glory to God!

