

**The Gospel of Jesus Christ**  
**August 13**

**I. Introduction**

- A. Witnessing on Tuesday evening. . . testimonies
- B. 12 who knelt in the parting lot.
- C. Technique: be bold

**II. How to share your faith.**

**A. Be bold**

- 1. Ro 1:16\* I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.
- 2. 2Ti 1:8 So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord, or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God,
- 3. Pr 28:1\* The wicked flee when no one pursues, But the **righteous** are **bold** as a lion.

**B. "Can I talk to you about the good news of Jesus Christ?"**

- 1. Question: "Do you know what the good news of Jesus Christ is? (gospel - euangellion, means {good news})
  - a) Mt 4:23\* And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the **gospel** of the kingdom
  - b) Mt 24:14 "And this **gospel** of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.
  - c) Mr 16:15 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the **gospel** to every creature.
  - d) Ac 8:25 So when they had testified and preached the word of the Lord, they returned to Jerusalem, preaching the **gospel** in many villages of the Samaritans.

**III. We are sinners - 10 Commandments.**

**A. Seen in the 10 commandments.**

- 1. 'You shall have no other gods before Me.'
- 2. 'You shall not make for yourself a carved image--any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.'
- 3. : 'You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.'
- 4. 'Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.'
- 5. 'Honor your father and your mother.'
- 6. 'You shall not murder.'
- 7. 'You shall not commit adultery.'
- 8. 'You shall not steal.'
- 9. 'You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.'
- 10. 'You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's.'

**B. Exodus 20**... moral statutes given by God, through Moses, so that the Israelites could enjoy fruitful and holy lives. The Commandments were significant in that they formed the basis of Jewish life, law and faith. ..kept in the Ark of the Covenant at the command of God.

- 1. **God's Standard of Holiness**...also known as the Law. To deviate by any degree from the 10 Commandments was to sin and fall short of God's standard of holiness. Knowing that it was impossible for any human being to perfectly follow the Law, a sacrificial system mediated by the Levitical priesthood was established. Through this system, God permitted ancient Israel to make reparations for the sins they committed. As an example, an appropriate sacrifice would involve the slaughtering of a young lamb that is found to be without any blemish. The sacrifices continued endlessly, as did the sins. This system of blood sacrifice was not meant to be barbaric, but rather, symbolic of the gravity of sin. The annual Jewish holy day of Yom Kippur is a day of atonement that is set aside for the reparation of sins
- 2. **Jesus** - The response to this perplexing question lies in [Jesus Christ](#). In fact, Jesus came to earth in order to reconcile this dilemma. Like the perfect lambs that were constantly sacrificed for the sins of Israel, Jesus was perfect and without blemish, because he was sinless. Like the lambs, He was [sacrificed](#) for the reparation of sins. Unlike the lambs, however, the sacrifice of Jesus Christ redeemed the sins of all humanity for all time. Unlike the lambs, Jesus Christ [resurrected](#) from the

dead and conquered the power of sin for all humanity for all time. The Bible tells us why Christ had to become a sacrifice: *"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life"* (John 3:16).

3. When we examine our life in light of the 10 Commandments, we realize our shortcomings and our need for redemption. Jesus Christ is our redeemer. Therefore, God gave the 10 Commandments not to condemn humanity, but to show us His love for us. For, *"While we were still sinners, Christ died for us"* (Romans 5:8).

### **C. The goal of the 10 commandments was to show us our sin.**

#### **1. 'You shall have no other gods before Me.'**

- a) Is God first in your life? Do you love God above all else?

- (1) Many years ago, I purchased a TV for our children, but the first evening we had it, I arrived home from work and found that they didn't even bother to greet me. They were too busy watching television. I turned it off and explained to them that if they ignored me because they preferred to watch TV they were setting their love on the gift rather than the giver, a wrong order of affections. - Ray Comfort

- b) In the same way, if we love anything -- husband, wife, children or even our own lives -- more than we love God, we are setting our affection on the gift rather than the Giver, which is a transgression of the First Commandment. In fact, the Bible says that we should so love God that our love for Mom and Dad and brother and sister should seem like hatred compared to the love we have for the God who gave those loved ones to us. We are also commanded to love our neighbor as much as we love ourselves. Good Samaritan is a picture of how God expects us to love our fellow human beings. We should love them as much as we love ourselves...whether they be friend or foe. Have you loved God with all your heart? Have you loved humanity as much as you love yourself? You be the judge. Will you be innocent or guilty on Judgment Day of breaking that Commandment? I'm not judging you -- I'm asking you to judge yourself before the Day of Judgment. The sentence for breaking this Commandment is death.

#### **2. 'You shall not make for yourself any graven image.'**

- a) This means that we shouldn't make a god to suit ourselves, either with our hands or our mind. Many are guilty of this and make a god to suit myself. Our god didn't mind a 'white' lie or a fib here and there -- in fact, he didn't have any moral dictates. But in truth my god didn't exist. He was a figment of my imagination, an 'image' which I shaped to suit myself. Is your god the One revealed in Holy Scripture? If not, then you have made your own god to suit yourself - you have committed the oldest sin in the Book. Scripture warns that no idolater will enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

- b) Remember Aaron and the children of Israel... they made a God according to their own idea of God... a calf. Here in American, we worship ourselves, and live to please ourselves.

#### **3. 'You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.'**

- a) Have you ever taken God's name in vain -- instead of using a four-letter word to express disgust, you've used His name? Hitler's name wasn't despised enough to use as a curse word. If you have used His holy name in that manner, you are a blasphemer and will not enter the Kingdom of God.

#### **4. 'Remember the Sabbath Day, to keep it holy.'**

- a) Do you set aside a day of worship each week to give to God?. God gave you the gift of life,

#### **5. 'Honor your father and your mother.'**

- a) Have you always honored your parents in a way that's pleasing in the sight of God? Ask Him to remind you of the sins of your youth. You may have forgotten them, but God hasn't.

#### **6. 'You shall not murder.'**

- a) Jesus warned that if we get angry without cause we are in danger of judgment. If we call our brother a "fool" we are in danger of hell's fire. If we hate our brother, God calls us a murderer. We can violate God's Law by attitude and intent.

#### **7. 'You shall not commit adultery.'**

- a) Who of us can say that we are pure of heart? Jesus warned, 'You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not commit adultery.' But I say to you that whoever looks at a woman to lust after her has committed adultery already with her in his heart.' Remember that God has seen every thought you have had and every sin you have ever committed. The day will come when you have to face His Law, and we are told that the impure, fornicators (those who have sex before marriage) and adulterers will not enter the Kingdom of God.

Punishment for transgression of this Commandment is the death penalty.

**8. 'You shall not steal.'**

- a) Have you ever taken something that belonged to someone else (irrespective of its value)? Then you are a thief -- you cannot enter God's Kingdom.

**9. 'You shall not bear false witness.'**

- a) Have you ever told a lie? Then you are a liar. How many lies do you have to tell to be a liar? Just one. The Bible warns that all liars will have their part in the Lake of Fire. You may not think deceitfulness is a serious sin. God does!

**10. 'You shall not covet.'**

- a) That means we shouldn't desire anything that belongs to another person. The covetous will not inherit the Kingdom of God.

**D. Purpose of 10 commandments is not to clean, but like a mirror**

1. all a mirror does is show you the truth. If you see egg on your face, you don't try and wash yourself with the mirror, its purpose should be to send you to water for cleansing. Neither should you try and wash yourself with the mirror of God's Law . . . that's not its purpose.

- a) "Therefore the law was our tutor *to bring us* to Christ, that we might be justified by faith."  
**Galatians 3:24, NKJV.**

2. 10 give us a picture of how we will do before the judgment seat of Christ.

3. HELL - **Mark 9:43-48**

**IV. THE GOOD NEWS**

- A. Even though you have angered God by your sin, are guilty God does not want you to end up in Hell.

1. Jesus Paid your FINE 2000 years ago.

2. 'He was bruised for our iniquities . . . Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the Law being made a curse for us . . . God commended His love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.'

- B. "For it pleased *the Father* that in Him all the fullness should dwell, and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross. And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight-- **if indeed you continue in the faith**, grounded and steadfast, and are **not moved away** from the hope of the gospel which you heard, which was preached to every creature under heaven, of which I, Paul, became a minister." Colossians 1:19-23, NKJV.

- C. "Now, brothers, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you **hold firmly** to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain." **1 Corinthians 15:1, 2, NIV.**

**V. The Response - Repent**

- A. Repent** = to turn from your sin to live a new life in Jesus Christ through faith.

1. Don't put it off until tomorrow. Would you sell an eye for a million dollars? Your eyes are priceless to you, yet they are merely the windows of your soul. Your life (your soul) is of such value, Jesus said that you should despise the value of your eye compared to it. He said that if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast it from you, for it is better to enter Heaven blind, than to go to Hell seeing. In other words, of all the things that you should prioritize in you life, it's your eternal salvation.

2. Psalm 51 - a prayer of repentance

3. Then put your faith in Jesus Christ in the same way you would put your faith in a parachute. You don't just 'believe' it will benefit you, you actually trust yourself to it by putting it on. Then, once you have made peace with God, read the Bible daily and obey what you read.

- B. "The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified his servant Jesus. You handed him over to be killed, and you disowned him before Pilate, though he had decided to let him go. You disowned the Holy and Righteous One and asked that a murderer be released to you. You killed the author of life, but God raised him from the dead. We are witnesses of this." Acts 3:13-15, NIV."

- C. Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord, and that he may send the Christ, who has been appointed for you--even Jesus." **Acts 3:19, 20, NIV.**

## Battle for the 10 commandments

*As you walk up the steps to the building which houses the U.S. Supreme Court you can see near the top of the building a row of the world's law givers and each one is facing one in the middle who is facing forward with a full frontal view - it is Moses and he is holding the Ten Commandments!*

*As you enter the Supreme Court courtroom, the two huge oak doors have the Ten Commandments engraved on each lower portion of each door.*

*As you sit inside the courtroom, you can see the wall, right above where the Supreme Court judges sit, a display of the Ten Commandments!*

*There are Bible verses etched in stone all over the Federal Buildings and Monuments in Washington, D.C.*

*James Madison, the fourth president, known as "The Father of Our Constitution" made the following statement "We have staked the whole of all our political institutions upon the capacity of mankind for self government, upon the capacity of each and all of us to govern ourselves, to control ourselves, to sustain ourselves according to the Ten Commandments of God."*

*Patrick Henry, that patriot and Founding Father of our country said, "It cannot be emphasized too strong or too often that this great nation was founded not by religionists but by Christians, not on religions but on the Gospel of Jesus Christ".*

*Every session of Congress begins with a prayer by a paid preacher, whose salary has been paid by the taxpayer since 1777.*

*Fifty-two of the 55 founders of the Constitution were members of the established orthodox churches in the colonies.*

*Thomas Jefferson worried that the Courts would overstep their authority and instead of interpreting the law would begin making law....an oligarchy....the rule of few over many.*

*The very first Supreme Court Justice, John Jay, said, "Americans should select and prefer Christians as their rulers."*

*How, then, have we gotten to the point that everything we have done for 220 years in this country is now suddenly wrong and unconstitutional?*