

THE COMMANDMENTS OF CHRIST

In which are included the commandments of his apostles, concerning which Jesus said *"He that heareth you, heareth me"*; and Paul, *"The things that I write are the commandments of the Lord"*.

I Concerning God

1. Love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and all thy soul, and all thy strength, and all thy mind (Matt 22v37).
2. Fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in Gehenna (Matt 10v28).
3. Glory in the Lord; not in man (1 Cor 3v21, 2 Cor 10v17).
4. Be imitators of God; be like Him in His kindness to the undeserving (Matt 5v45-48, Eph 5v1).
5. Pray to God always and faint not (Luke 18v1, Matt 7v7, 26v41, Eph 6v18, Phil 4v6, Col 4v2, 1 Thess 5v17, 1 Tim 2v8, Heb 4v16); pray with brevity and simplicity (Matt 6v7); pray secretly (Matt 6v6).
6. Have faith in God: cast your care upon Him: He knows your need and will provide (Mark 11v22, Matt 6v25, Phil 4v6, 1 Pet 5v7).
7. Give yourselves to His service without reserve, recognising that you cannot serve God and Mammon (Matt 6v24, Rom 12v1).
8. In everything give thanks to Him: for this is His will and pleasure concerning you (Eph 5v20, Col 3v15, 17, 1 Thess 5v18, Heb 13v15).
9. Recognise Him in all your ways, saying concerning your purposes "if the Lord will" (Jas 4v15, Prov 3v6).
10. Come out from the world and be separate unto Him, as his sons and daughters (2 Cor 6v14-17).

II Concerning Christ

11. Let Christ dwell in your heart by faith (Eph 3v17).
12. Give him a higher place than father, mother, husband, wife, children, relations, houses, and lands (Luke 14v26, Matt 10v37).
13. Set your affections upon him, and not upon the present world at all (Col 3v1-4, 1 John 2v15).
14. Take him for an example and follow in his steps (1 Pet 2v21-23, John 13v15).
15. Abide in him: do not let him slip from your memory and affections (John 15v7, Heb 2v1).
16. Call him to remembrance every first day of the week in the breaking of bread, as he has appointed (Matt 26v26-27, 1 Cor 11v24-26, Acts 2v42, 20v7, 1 Cor 16v2).
17. Be not ashamed to confess him before men (Luke 12v8, Mk 8v38, 2 Tim 1v8) at the same time taking care to expose not your holy things to the profane (Matt 7v6).
18. Aim to be in a state of continual readiness for his coming. With this in view, be on your guard against the engrossments of business, the cares of life, and the allurements of pleasure (Matt 24v44, Luke 12v35-37, 14v26, 2 Pet 3v14).
19. Endure to the end, submitting to hardship if the necessary consequence (Matt 24v13, 2 Tim 2v3).
20. Hold fast your confidence and rejoicing in him till you die or he come (Rev 2v10-25, Heb 3v14).

III Concerning Brethren and Sisters

21. Love one another with a pure heart fervently (John 13v34, Rom 12v10, Eph 5v2, Col 3v14, 1 Thess 4v9, Heb 13v1, 1 Pet 1v22, 1 Peter 4v8, 1 John 3v14-19).
22. Brethren not to exercise lordship over one another; the greatest to be as the youngest; he that is chief as he that doth serve; Christ's example the illustration of what is meant (Matt 23v11, Luke 22v26-27, John 13v13-17).
23. Not to be angry without righteous cause; and to take care lest anger even in that case lead to sin (Matt 5v22, Eph 4v26, Col 3v8).
24. In case of breach, to seek reconciliation and exercise forgiveness to the utmost extent (Matt 5v24, 18v35, Col 3v13).
25. In case of sin (known or heard of) speak not of it to others, but tell the offending brother of the matter between thee and him alone, with a view to recovery (Matt 18v15, Gal 6v1, Jas 5v19-20).
26. Grudge not: judge not: condemn not one another (Matt 7v1, Rom 14v13, 1 Cor 4v5, Jas 4v11).
27. Shut not your ear to the needy: relieve the afflicted (Acts 20v35, Rom 12v13, Jas 2v16, Gal 6v10, 1 John 3v17).
28. To seek not your own welfare only, not bear you own burdens merely, but have regard to those of others (Phil 2v4, 1 Cor 10v24, Gal 6v2).
29. Be of one mind, and follow the things that make for peace (1 Cor 1v10, 2 Cor 13v11, 1 Pet 3v8, Rom 14v19).
30. Confess your faults one to another (Jas 5v16).

IV Concerning the Stranger

31. Let your light shine before men (Matt 5v16, 10v32-33). Hold forth the Word of Life, (Phil 2v16). Say to the perishing, Come (Rev 22v17).
32. Agree with your adversary quickly, submitting even to wrong for the sake of peace (Matt 5v25, 1 Cor 6v7, Rom 12v18-19).
33. Do good to all men as opportunity may allow. The Samaritan succoured a stranger in distress: "Go thou and do likewise". If even thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink (Gal 6v10, Luke 6v27-28, 10v37, Rom 12v20, Matt 5v44).
34. Pray for them that despitefully use you and persecute you (Matt 5v44).
35. Recompense to no man evil for evil (Rom 12v17, 1 Thess 5v15); render not evil for evil or railing for railing, but contrariwise blessing (1 Pet 3v9); bless, and curse not (Rom 12v14).
36. Resist not evil; compel not the restitution of stolen goods; avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath (Matt 5v39-40, Luke 6v29-30, Rom 12v19).
37. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good (Rom 12v21).
38. As ye would that men should do unto you, do ye also so to them (Matt 7v12, Luke 6v31).
39. Walk not as other Gentiles walk (Eph 4v17); have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness (Eph 5v7-11); be not conformed to this world (Rom 12v2); come out from among them and be ye separate (2 Cor 6v17).
40. Walk honestly toward them that are without; give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully; be blameless and harmless, as the sons of God in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation (1 Thess 4v12, 1 Tim 5v14, Phil 2v15).

V Concerning Your Own Character

41. Be ye holy in all manner of conversation (1 Pet 1v15-16); without holiness, no man shall see the Lord (Heb 12v14).
42. Be wise as serpents, harmless as doves (Matt 10v16, Phil 2v15); not fools (Eph 5v15-17); gentle, meek, kindhearted, compassionate, merciful, forgiving (2 Tim 2v24, Tit 2v2, Eph 4v32, Col 3v12, Matt 18v35).
43. Old and young to be sober, grave, sincere and temperate (Phil 4v5, Tit 2v2, 7, 1 Peter 1v13, 5v8).
44. To be hearty in everything. "Whatsoever ye do, do it heartily as to the Lord and not unto men" (Rom 12v1-2, Col 3v23).
45. To be watchful, vigilant, brave, joyful, courteous, and manly (1 Cor 16v13, Phil 4v4, 1 Thess 5v6, 8, 10, 2 Pet 1v5-7).
46. Be sympathetic with others both in their sorrows and in their joys (Rom 12v5).
47. All of you be clothed with humility, not proud, minding not high things, but condescending to men of low estate (Luke 14v11-13, Rom 11v20, 12v3-16, Phil 2v3, Col 3v12, 1 Pet 5v5-6).
48. Be patient towards all, especially the weak and erring (Rom 12v10, 14v1, 15v1, 1 Thess 5v14); put away anger, wrath, bitterness, and all evil speaking (Eph 4v31, 1 Pet 2v1).
49. Follow after whatsoever things are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, of good report, virtuous, and praiseful (Phil 4v8); abhor evil, and abstain from its appearance (Rom 12v9, 1 Thess 5v22).
50. Things not to be named, still less practised, among saints: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, drunkenness, covetousness, wrath, strife, sedition, hatred, emulation, boasting, vain glory, envy, jesting, foolish talking (Eph 5v3-4, Gal 5v19-21).

VI Concerning Your Actions

51. Whether therefore ye eat or drink or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God (1 Cor 10v31, Col 3v17).
52. Live no longer the rest of your time in the indulgence of the lusts of the flesh, but in doing the will of God (1 Pet 4v2); reckon yourselves dead to sin but alive to righteousness (Rom 6v11), doing the will of God from the heart (Eph 6v6); henceforth live not unto yourselves, but unto him who died for you and rose again (2 Cor 5v15).
53. Be zealous of good works, always abounding in the work of the Lord, wearying not in well-doing (Tit 2v14, 1 Cor 15v58, 1 Thess 4v1, Heb 6v11, Gal 6v9, 2 Thess 3v13).
54. Beware of false teachers (Matt 7v15, Phil 3v2, 1 John 4v1).
55. Beware of covetousness; lay not up treasure upon earth; be ready to every good work (Luke 12v15, Matt 6v19, Tit 3v1, Heb 13v5).
56. Give to him that asketh, and to him that is in need, visiting the fatherless and the widow in their afflictions; and give liberally and cheerfully, remembering that the Lord loveth a cheerful giver, and is well pleased with such sacrifices (Matt 5v42, Rom 12v13, 2 Cor 9v6-8, Heb 13v16, Jas 1v27).
57. Do not your alms before men, to be seen of them; let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth (Matt 6v1-4).

58. Labour not to be rich: having food and raiment, be content (1 Tim 6v8, John 6v27, Matt 6v19).
59. Riches are dangerous; if they come to your hand, turn them into safeguards and friends by using them liberally in the Lord's service, whose stewards we are (1 Tim 6v10, 17-19, Luke 12v18-21, 16v9-13, 1 Pet 4v10).
60. Walk in the spirit: walk worthily; put off the old man of the flesh: put on the new man renewed in knowledge after the divine image (Gal 5v16-26, Eph 4v24, 5v8-19, Col 3v9).
61. Cleanse yourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit. Your bodies are members of Christ, and God's temple; if any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy (2 Cor 7v1, 1 Thess 4v3, 1 Cor 3v16-17, 6v15-20).
62. Follow peace with all men and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord (Heb 12v14, Rom 12v18, 14v19, 2 Cor 13v11, Eph 4v3).
63. Let every one of us please his neighbour for his good to edification, even as I (Paul) please all men in all things, not seeking mine own profit, but the profit of many that they might be saved (Rom 15v2, 1 Cor 10v33).
64. Do all things without murmuring and disputing (Phil 2v14).
65. Speak evil of no man; be no brawlers, but gentle, showing all meekness to all men (Tit 3v2).
66. Be swift to hear, slow to speak; slow to wrath (Jas 1v19).
67. Depart from all iniquity: let none of you suffer as an evil doer, or as a busybody in other men's matters (2 Tim 2v19, 1 Pet 4v15).
68. If any man suffer according to the will of God, let him commit the keeping of his soul to Him in well-doing, not rendering evil for evil, but rejoicing that he is a partaker of Christ's sufferings (1 Pet 4v19, 1 Thess 5v15, 1 Pet 4v13).
69. Drive away youthful lusts, but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart (1 Tim 6v11, 2 Tim 2v22).
70. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; desire it with the ardour of a new-born babe for its mother's milk; meditate on these things; give thyself wholly to them (Col 3v16; 1 Pet 2v2, 1 Tim 4v15).
71. Pay your debts: owe no man anything, but to love one another (Rom 13v7-8).
72. Be subject to rulers: obey magistrates: submit to every law and ordinance of man, except where they come into conflict with the law of Christ (Tit 3v1, 1 Pet 2v13-17, Rom 13v6, Acts 4v19).

VII Concerning Your Thoughts and Speech

73. The harbouring of unlawful desire is divinely reckoned as guilty action. It is forbidden (Matt 5v27-28).
74. Mortify, therefore, or hold in subjection, your members which are upon earth (Col 3v5, Gal 5v24, 1 Cor 9v27).
75. Remove all causes of spiritual stumbling, or hindrance from your path, even at the risk of pain and loss (Matt 5v29, Heb 12v1).
76. Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt; let no filthy communication proceed out of your mouth, but sound speech, with gravity, and sincerity and simplicity (Matt 5v37, Eph 4v29, Col 3v8, 4v6, Tit 2v7-8).
77. If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God (1 Pet 4v11).
78. Speak every man truth with his neighbour; lie not one to another (Eph 4v25, Col 3v9).
79. Swear not at all: let your communication be yea, yea, and nay, nay (Matt 5v34, Jas 5v12).
80. Out of the same mouth ought not to proceed blessing and cursing (Jas 3v10).

VIII Concerning Matrimonial Relations

81. At liberty to marry whom you will, only in the Lord (1 Cor 7v39).
82. Husbands and wives not to separate except for adultery (Matt 19v6-9, 1 Cor 7v10) which will exclude from the Kingdom of God (1 Cor 6v9).
83. A husband or wife becoming a believer without the other, not to leave the other, if he or she consent to a peaceable life (1 Cor 7v12-15).
84. Husbands to love, honour, and cherish their wives (Eph 5v25, Col 3v19, 1 Pet 3v7).
85. Wives to love, submit to, and obey their husbands as the head (Eph 5v23-24, Col 3v18, 1 Pet 3v1).

IX Concerning Parents & Children

86. Parents to bring up their children in the enlightenment of the truth, and to have them in subjection with all gravity (Eph 6v4, Col 3v21, 1 Tim 3v3-4).
87. Children to obey their parents in all things (Eph 6v1, Col 3v20).

X Concerning Masters and Servants

88. Masters to be kind, just and considerate (Eph 6v9, Col 4v1)

89. Servants to be obedient in all things to their masters, not with eye service as men pleasers, but with all faithfulness as unto Christ, even if the master happen to be a bad one (Eph 6v5-8, Col 3v22, 1 Tim 6v1-2, 1 Pet 2v18). But servants are at liberty to leave (1 Cor 7v21).
90. If the master be a brother, the servant (also a brother or sister), instead of rendering a slacker service on that account, is to show a greater measure of obedience (1 Tim 6v2).

XI Concerning Disobedient Brethren

91. If any man obey not the apostolic commands, the brethren to have no company with him (2 Thess 3v14).
92. To avoid those causing divisions (Rom 16v17).
93. To withdraw from everyone walking disorderly, or not in accordance with apostolic precept (2 Thess 3v6).
94. To put away wicked persons (1 Cor 5v11).
95. To reject or receive not into fellowship those who consent not to the doctrine or the commandments of the Lord Jesus (2 John v8-10, 1 Tim 6v3-5, Tit 3v10).
96. If any will not work, he is not to be relieved (2 Thess 3v10, 1 Tim 5v8).

XII Concerning the Assemblies of the Brethren

97. All things to be done decently, and in order (1 Cor 14v40).
98. All things to be done in love, and in mutual submission (1 Cor 16v14, 1 Pet 5v5).
99. Sisters to keep silence (1 Tim 2v11-12) and to dress modestly and in sobriety (1 Tim 2v9, 1 Pet 3v3-4).
100. The brethren at liberty on all questions of eating and drinking, and the observance of feasts, sabbaths, and holy days (Col 2v16, 1 Cor 10v25, Rom 14v5-7), except that they are not at liberty to do anything inconsistent with holiness, or the glory of God (1 Cor 10v31, 1 Pet 1v15-16, Heb 12v14).