

## The Sixth Word

### Exodus 20:13

*You shall not murder.*

#### 1) Defining Ratsakh

- Ratsakh is most often defined as the unlawful or immoral killing of another human being. It is also referred to as unintentional killing of another human through careless or negligent behavior (Deut. 19:4-6).
- Ratsakh is never used in reference to the military or the legal system.

#### 2) Why is murder prohibited?

##### Genesis 1:27

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

##### Genesis 9:6

"Whoever sheds the blood of man, by man shall his blood be shed, for God made man in his own image.

#### 3) Interpretation of the Law by the Pharisees

##### Matthew 5:21

<sup>21</sup> "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.'

- The Pharisees believed that if you physically murder another person you would be in danger of being punished by the civil magistrate.
- The Pharisees followed only the letter of the law.
- The Pharisees downplayed the actual intent of the law making it very easy for them to obey.

#### 4) Interpretation of the Law by Jesus

• Jesus critiques the misinterpretation of this commandment by the Pharisees and teaches the intention and spirit of the law.

##### • Negative Command

- Do no actual or potential harm.

Martyn Lloyd-Jones: Killing does not only mean destroying life physically, it means still more trying to destroy the spirit and the soul, destroying the person in any shape or form.

##### Matthew 5:22

<sup>22</sup> **But I say** to you that **everyone who is angry** with his brother will be liable to judgment; **whoever insults** his brother will be liable to the council; and **whoever says, 'You fool!'** will be liable to the hell of fire.

##### Matthew 15:18-19

<sup>18</sup> But what **comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart**, and this defiles a person. <sup>19</sup> For **out of the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false witness, slander.**

##### • Positive Command

- Work to promote the safety, welfare, and sanctity of life. Love others.

##### Matthew 5:23-24

<sup>23</sup> So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, <sup>24</sup> leave your gift there before the altar and go. First **be reconciled** to your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

##### Leviticus 19:18

<sup>18</sup> You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but **you shall love your neighbor as yourself**: I am the LORD.

##### Matthew 22:36-40

<sup>36</sup> "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" <sup>37</sup> And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. <sup>38</sup> This is the great and first commandment. <sup>39</sup> And a second is like it: **You shall love your neighbor as yourself.** <sup>40</sup> **On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.**"

### **Romans 13:9-10**

<sup>9</sup>The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are **summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."** <sup>10</sup>**Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.**

### **Matthew 5:43-44**

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' <sup>44</sup>**But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,**

### **Galatians 6:10**

<sup>10</sup>So then, as we have opportunity, **let us do good to everyone**, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

### **Romans 12:17-21**

<sup>17</sup>Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup>Beloved, **never avenge yourselves**, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." <sup>20</sup>To the contrary, "**if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.**" <sup>21</sup>**Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.**

## **5) Is it always wrong to be angry?**

### **Mark 3:1-5**

Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there with a withered hand. <sup>2</sup>And they watched Jesus, to see whether he would heal him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse him. <sup>3</sup>And he said to the man with the withered hand, "Come here." <sup>4</sup>And he said to them, "Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do harm, to save life or to kill?" But they were silent. <sup>5</sup>**And he looked around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart**, and said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was restored.

### **Romans 1:18**

For the **wrath** of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth.

### **Ephesians 4:26**

**Be angry and do not sin**; do not let the sun go down on your anger,

## **6) The law reveals our sins and shows us we cannot keep the law**

**Romans 7:9-11** <sup>9</sup>I was once alive apart from the law, **but when the commandment came, sin came alive and I died.** <sup>10</sup>The very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me. <sup>11</sup>For sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me.

## **7) Jesus loses his life in order to give us life!**

### **1 Peter 2:23-25**

When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. <sup>24</sup>**He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.** <sup>25</sup>For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.