



Gospel of Grace
FELLOWSHIP

The 6th Commandment

Genesis 20:13

by Bob DeWaay
January 22, 2017

Human Life Is Sacred

Genesis 1:26, 27 (NASB)
Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." **God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.**

- God's image in man & death penalty (Gen. 9:6)
- All humans are image bearers of God (James 3:9)
- Animals do not bear God's image, humans are to be stewards of the non-human creation
- Humans are uniquely moral and rational imagers of God

Gospel of Grace Fellowship ggf.church 2

God Ordained Various Nations

Deut. 32:8, 9 (ESV)
When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when he divided mankind, he fixed the borders of the peoples according to the number of the sons of God. But the LORD's portion is his people, Jacob his allotted heritage.

- The nations must give laws to protect life (Gen 9:6)
- Christians are told to submit to civil law (Rom. 13:3, 4)
- Blood represents life (Lev. 17:11)
- Manslaughter is not murder (Num. 35:14, 15)
- Civil justice must be righteous (Num. 35:30, 31)
- Nations punish each other when a Hitler arises

Gospel of Grace Fellowship ggf.church 3

Vengeance Often Causes Murder

Leviticus 19:16b-17 (NASB)

. . . you are not to act against the life of your neighbor; I am the LORD. You shall not hate your fellow countryman in your heart; you may surely reprove your neighbor, but shall not incur sin because of him. **You shall not take vengeance**, nor bear any grudge against the sons of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself; I am the LORD.

- The death penalty preserves life by stopping the cycle of revenge killings which multiply murder and death
- Many pagan societies are ruled by vengeance rather than godly, civil law (tribalism)
- Israel is unique in the Middle East in its civil law

Gospel of Grace Fellowship

ggf.church

4

Cain and Abel: The First Murder

Genesis 4:4, 5 (NASB)

Abel, on his part also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and for his offering; but for Cain and for his offering He had no regard. So Cain became very angry and his countenance fell

- God determines how we will come to Him
- When God blesses someone else, it costs us nothing
- Anger is directed against God’s sovereign right to rule
- Cain made no attempt to determine God’s will for him
- Envy is sinful and leads to a bad outcome

Gospel of Grace Fellowship

ggf.church

5

We Must Find a Way of Escape

Genesis 4:6, 7 (NASB)

Then the Lord said to Cain, “Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? **If you do well**, will not your countenance be lifted up? And if you do not do well, **sin is crouching at the door; and its desire is for you, but you must master it.**”

- God will give us a way out, (1Corin. 10:13)
- Bitterness and envy will lead to many bad things
- God has everything at His disposal to bless those who trust Him
- Cain murdered Abel and Abel’s blood cried out

Gospel of Grace Fellowship

ggf.church

6

Jacob and Esau

Genesis 27:41 (NASB)

So Esau bore a grudge against Jacob because of the blessing with which his father had blessed him; and Esau said to himself, "The days of mourning for my father are near; **then I will kill my brother Jacob.**"

Ezekiel 25:12, 13a (NASB)

Thus says the Lord God, "Because **Edom has acted against the house of Judah by taking vengeance**, and has incurred grievous guilt, and avenged themselves upon them," therefore thus says the Lord God, "I will also stretch out My hand against Edom"

Gospel of Grace Fellowship

ggf.church

7

Applications and Implications

We need to develop a Christian worldview which includes respect for human life.

- Abortion should be opposed
- Euthanasia should be opposed
- Humans bear God's image, animals do not
- God did not give animals "rights," He gave humans responsibility for stewardship
- God told humans to multiply on the earth; that they have is not a sin

Gospel of Grace Fellowship

ggf.church

8
