





There is a story about a schoolboy who was asked what he thought God was like. He replied that, as far as he could make out, God was 'the sort of person who is always snooping around to see if anyone is enjoying himself and then trying to stop it'. And I am afraid that is the sort of idea that the word Morality raises in a good many people's minds: something that interferes, something that stops you having a good time.

In reality, moral rules are directions for running the human machine. Every moral rule is there to prevent a breakdown, or a strain, or a friction, in the running of that machine. That is why these rules at first seem to be constantly interfering with our natural inclinations. When you are being taught how to use any machine, the instructor keeps on saying, 'No, don't do it like that,' because, of course, there are all sorts of things that look all right and seem to you the natural way of treating the machine, but do not really work.

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COMMANDMENTS #1-5

- 1. Have no other gods before Me
- 2. Have no graven images
- 3. Do not take God's name in vain
- 4. Remember the Sabbath
- 5. Honor your father and mother

You shall not murder.

Guard and cultivate your marriage

Honor, cherish and protect your deepest covenant relationships

Exodus 20

¹⁴ You shall not commit adultery.

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You must not commit adultery.

Never commit adultery.

²⁷ So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

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²⁴ Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

²⁵ And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

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²⁷ You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' 28 But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹ If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. ³⁰ And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

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"Good and evil both increase at compound interest. That is why the little decisions you and I make every day are of such infinite importance. The smallest good act today is the capture of a strategic point from which, a few months later, you may be able to go on to victories you never dreamed of. An apparently trivial indulgence in lust or anger today is the loss of a ridge or railway line or bridgehead from which the enemy may launch an attack otherwise impossible."

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Honor, cherish and protect your deepest covenant relationships

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Love your neighbor

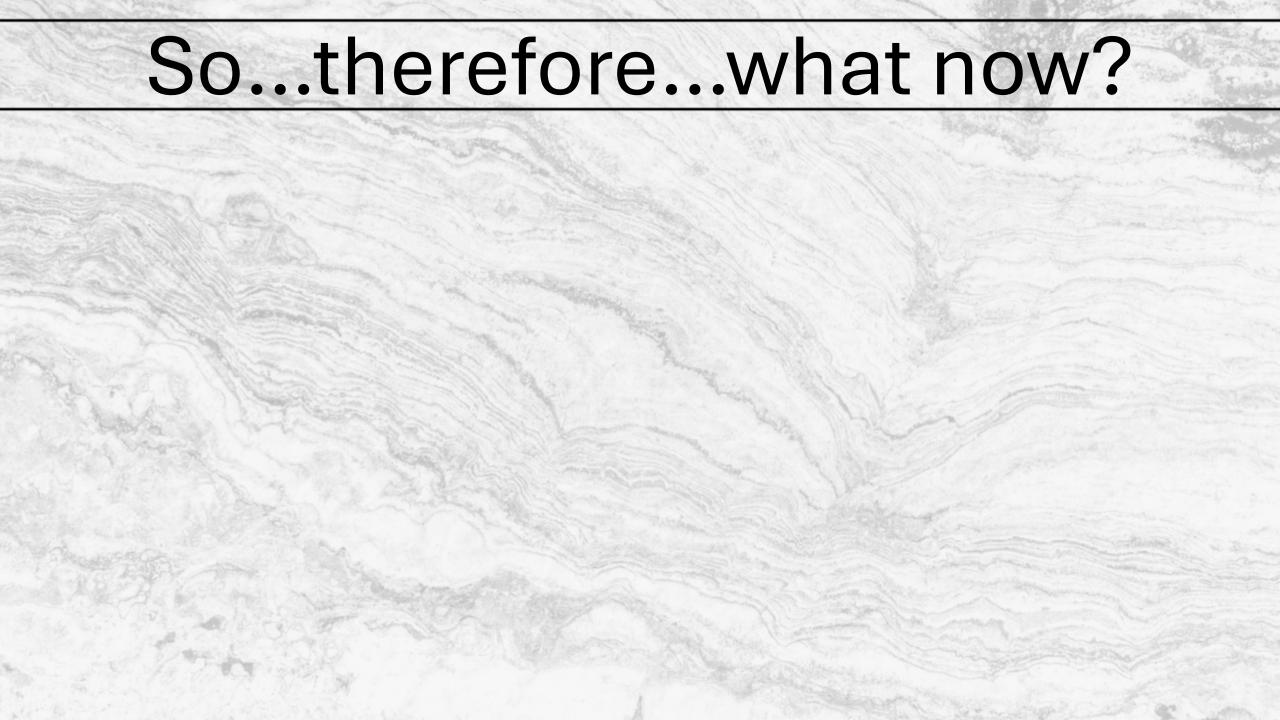
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¹¹ Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. 12 The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³ Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. 14 But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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Love your neighbor



Honor, cherish and protect your deepest covenant relationships

Honor, cherish and protect your deepest covenant relationship with God.

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Sin isn't breaking moral rules or arbitrary guidelines, it is a violation of adultery against God.

Honor, cherish and protect your deepest covenant relationship with God.

God is a wounded lover who longs for restored relationship with you.

Honor, cherish and protect your deep covenant relationship with your spouse.

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Protect and fight for your marriage

Hear God's warning and face any struggle with sin.

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Hebrews 13:4

"Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous."

Hear God's warning and face any struggle with <u>sexual</u> sin.

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"Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous."

