

Scripture:

Genesis 4

Singing:

304:1-3 – 330:1, 3 – 165:1-3 – 25:1-4 – 1:1-4

PROTECT ALL LIFE

I. Who gave this command? II. How are we to carry out this command?

Refresh: *Why do we preach through 10 Commandments?* (See HC 114-115)

1. to alert you that *God is charging us for each sin we commit*
a. Law preaching is to convince you that we face God's justice

b. Law preaching isn't as a call to repent **in order** to be saved

c. Law preaching is to convince you hopeless condition

d. Law preaching is to humble you before God

2. to sharpen God's reflecting image of *devotional love in His people*

I. Who gave this commandment and why did He give it?

A. The question seems unnecessary

1. Who is God: *He is the Creator of all Life*

a. means He has *ultimate authority over life/death issues*

b. also means He *values each life He created*

c. this makes all *human life sacred* (Gen. 9:6)

B. Why did God give 6th?

1. Because He isn't the only One that values life

2. Because He knows the secret of happiness is obedience

II. What are the details of 6th of protecting and nurturing all life?

A. God forbids the *deliberate and unlawful taking of any life*

1. The 6th doesn't forbid all *killing* but **all murder**

a. Gen 4-6 records God's responses on *murder (violence)*

b. Prov 24:11-12 calls us participants in *murder* when we don't act to protect the vulnerable, oppressed, infirm and aged

c. 1 Sam. 2:7 also forbids *self-murder*

B. God forbids *neglect of my body and health*

1. Giving priority to our soul doesn't mean we can neglect our body

2. Our body was designed to be *temple of Holy Spirit*

a. we need to *protect, maintain, preserve it*

b. neglect of health and body is *form of self-murder*

c. One application of the 6th is *Thou shalt sleep*

C. The three exceptions to *Thou shalt not kill*

1. Gen. 9:5-6: *capital punishment is God's will for murderers*

a. human life by virtue of being in God's image is *sacred*

b. God's will is the expression of His love for our life

c. such punishment is never a private matter (Rom. 12:19 – 13:4)

2. Numbers 35 ... *manslaughter (accidental killing)*

3. Justifiable War

a. OT examples and commands legitimize war (Gen. 14:13-16; Judges, David, both referred to in Hebrews 11)

b. NT: John Baptist direction (Luke 3:14) – Jesus commendation of centurion (Luke 7:9) – Peter's teaching of Cornelius (Acts 10:22) – Romans 13:4 – Rev. 19:11

● *All war is evil but not everyone's involvement in war is Evil.* (Augustine)

Question: Beside you, who also fights for your life – even more than you?