

SCRIPTURE: Romans 13 LD 40.105-107  
SINGING: 309:1-4 – 385:1-3 – 95:1-3 – 62:1-4

Intro: That God loves is half the truth!

A. "God is Love" is revealed in *Gospel & Law (John 13:34; Romans 13:8-10)*

1. to love our neighbors is a *universal debt we always owe all*
2. we aren't real Christians if we don't love (10a)

**PROTECT ALL LIFE I CREATED (1)**

I. Who gave this command? II. What are the specifics of this command?

**I. WHO GAVE THIS COMMAND TO PROTECT ALL CREATED LIFE**

A. God Who is the Creator and Sustainer of all life

1. Life is no *evolution – accidental occurrence – property we own*

a. God is the *Creator of all life: from one-celled to us!*

- Numbers 16:22; 27:16; Job 12:7; Jer. 27:4-5; Acts 17:24

b. God is the *ultimate owner* of all life: Ps. 24:1; 100:3; Prov. 16:4

2. Life is also existing because God sustains all life: Is. 42:5; Acts 17:25

a. He values and protects *each life He has created*

b. God also values your uniqueness among all creation

- Gen 1:26-27 (Gen. 9:6) ; Ex. 4:11; Ps. 139:14

3. These truths make all human life sacred: each act to hurt or harm human life He created and maintains is therefore sacrilegious

B. Why did God issue this command not *to murder*?

1. Because He is not the only One that values our life
2. Because He knows that protecting the quality of life brings joy

**II. What are the specific details of 6<sup>th</sup> commandment?**

A. God forbids the *deliberate & unlawful taking of life*

1. Our Creator of life forbids **all murder**: Gen. 4 – 6:11-13

2. God demands 'life for life': Gen. 9:5-6

3. God determines boundaries of our life on earth: 1 Sam. 2:7

B. God forbids the 'indirect taking of life'

1. Neglect of **my body and health** is a transgression of the 6<sup>th</sup>

a. giving priority to our soul doesn't mean body not important

b. since our body is part of God's wonderful creation, we have responsibility to do all to protect – maintain – preserve it

c. the 6<sup>th</sup> includes the command *Thou shalt sleep*

C. God specifies a number of exceptions

1. Gen. 9:5-6; Romans 13:4: capital punishment is not murder

a. God forbids personal revenge in Matt. 5:38-42

2. Numbers 35: *involuntary manslaughter*

3. Genesis 14; Judges; Luke 3:14: *just war*

**Closing Reflections:**

*Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do!*

*Verily I say unto thee, Today shalt thou be with me in Paradise.*

*Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities.*