



CARVED IN STONE

Some of God's Ways for All of God's People

CONTOURS of the Sixth Commandment

לא תרצח
לא תגנב
לא תענה
לא תחמד

אנכי ה'
זכור את
כבוד את

CONTOURS of the Sixth Commandment

- "kill" (KJV)
- "murder" (NIV, ESV)

CONTOURS of the Sixth Commandment

- "kill" (KJV)
- "murder" (NIV, ESV)

ratza = to take the life of another so as to cause a state of death.

CONTOURS of the Sixth Commandment

- ✓ accidental murder
- ✓ manslaughter
- ✓ premeditated murder
- ✓ judicial execution

COGNATES of the Sixth Commandment

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COGNATES of the Sixth Commandment

- Exodus 21:12-14

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- Numbers 35:16-24, 30-34

COGNATES of the Sixth Commandment

- Exodus 21:12-14
- Numbers 35:16-24, 30-34
- Deuteronomy 19:4-7, 11-13

COMMENTARY on the Sixth Commandment

אֲנֹכִי ה' אֱלֹהֵי
לֹא תרצח
לֹא תהרג
לֹא תגנוב
לֹא תענה
לֹא תחמד
זכור את
שם ה' אלהיך

COMMENTARY on the Sixth Commandment

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- Unintentional homicide is defined as murder in which the killer “did not do it intentionally” but “accidentally,” “without malice aforethought,” “without hostility.”

COMMENTARY on the Sixth Commandment

- The judges had to determine whether the murder was intentional or unintentional. No one could be convicted of intentional homicide without the testimony of several witnesses.

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- Accidental homicide: remain in one of the cities of refuge until the death of the high priest.

COMMENTARY on the Sixth Commandment

- No ransom is to be accepted as a substitute for the death penalty.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT and the Sixth Commandment

לֹא תרצח
לֹא תהרג
לֹא תגנב
לֹא תענה
לֹא תחמד

אֱנֹכִי ה'
לֹא יֵשׁוּב
לֹא יִשְׁכַּח
זְכוּר אֶת
כְּבוֹד אֱת

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT and the Sixth Commandment

- Numbers 35:33-34

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT and the Sixth Commandment

- Numbers 35:33-34
- Deuteronomy 19:13

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT and the Sixth Commandment

- Numbers 35:33-34
- Deuteronomy 19:13
- Genesis 9:6

COMPARISONS to the Sixth Commandment

אֱנֹכִי ה' אֵלֶיךָ
לֹא תִרְצֵחַ
לֹא תִשָּׂא
לֹא תִגְנוֹב
לֹא תִעֲנֶה
לֹא תִחַמְדַּךְ
זָכַר אֶת
עֲבֹד אֱת

COMPARISONS to the Sixth Commandment

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- Hittite Laws

COMPARISONS to the Sixth Commandment

- Middle Assyrian Laws

COMPARISONS to the Sixth Commandment


- Middle Assyrian Laws
- The Qur'an and Bedouin Laws

COMPARISONS to the Sixth Commandment

- Middle Assyrian Laws
- The Qur'an and Bedouin Laws
- It was absolutely forbidden in Israel to plan someone's death and then carry it out. To do so was to forfeit one's own life.

COMPARISONS to the Sixth Commandment

- The reason for the ultimate penalty in this case is that human beings are made in the image of God.



**CONCLUSIONS about God and His Ways
from the Sixth Commandment**

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- God may give qualified human beings the responsibility, in the cause of justice, to take the lives other human beings.

CONCLUSIONS about God and His Ways from the Sixth Commandment

- From God's perspective, the continuation of a person's life on earth is not an absolute good, to be safeguarded at all costs and in all circumstances.

CONCLUSIONS about God and His Ways from the Sixth Commandment

- From God's perspective, the continuation of a person's life on earth is not an absolute good, to be safeguarded at all costs and in all circumstances.
- God takes motives into account. Accidents happen—even accidental murder, and those cases receive much lesser penalties.

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לא תענה
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לא תשא
זכור את
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*God's people are to regard
human life as sacred.*

CONNECTIONS of the Sixth Commandment to Our Day

אֱנֹכִי ה' אֱלֹהֵי
לֹא תִרְצַח
לֹא תִגְנוֹב
לֹא תַעֲנֶה
לֹא תִחַמַּד
זְכוּר אֶת
כְּבוֹד אֶת

CONNECTIONS of the Sixth Commandment to Our Day

- Know that your value to God is inexpressibly high.

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CONNECTIONS of the Sixth Commandment to Our Day

- Know that your value to God is inexpressibly high.
- Think of yourself as a person of great worth to God.
- View every other human being that you encounter as having inestimable value.

CORRECTIONS to a Misunderstanding of the Sixth Commandment

אֱנֹכִי ה' אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל
לֹא תִרְצַח
לֹא תִגְנֹב
לֹא תִעֲשֶׂה
לֹא תִזְכֹּר אֶת
לֹא תִכַּד אֶת

CORRECTIONS to a Misunderstanding of the Sixth Commandment

- Matthew 5:21-22

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- Matthew 5:21-22
- The legalist's interpretation...
- Unjustified anger, says Jesus, is murder begun.
- What about the death penalty today?

CORRECTIONS to a Misunderstanding of the Sixth Commandment

- Moses, David, Saul (Paul)

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CORRECTIONS to a Misunderstanding of the Sixth Commandment

- There *is* one payment in this world that's enough to compensate for a lost human life—the blood of Jesus Christ shed for us on the cross.

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- There *is* one payment in this world that's enough to compensate for a lost human life—the blood of Jesus Christ shed for us on the cross.
- Jesus is our City of Refuge. Upon his death, the guilty are released



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