

**The Ten Commandments**

**6. ‘Do Not Murder.’**

*‘You shall not murder.’* Exodus 20:13 NIV

* **Murder is the intentional and unlawful taking of a human life.**
* **The Bible differentiates between murder and other types of ‘life-taking’.**

*God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.* Genesis 1:27 NIV

**What does it mean to be ‘made in God’s image’?**

* We have a God-created spirit that will live forever and enables us to relate to God.
* God has created you and I to be his counterparts on earth – God has created us to have a relationship with him.
* Man is not identical, but similar to God and represents God.
* There a variety of human characteristics that animals either don’t have or we possess far more than any animal – and they show our likeness to God.
* We have a knowledge of morality – of what is right and wrong – a conscience.
* We have an ability to reason and think logically and to learn.
* We can enter into profound relationships – marriage, the community, and the church.
* We have physical aspects that reflect God – an ability to see, to hear, and to speak.
* We have an ability to grow more like God in character and behaviour, i.e. holiness and righteousness.
* Only when we enter into a relationship with God through Jesus, does his glory & image begin to properly be seen in us.
* **Every human being is made in – this enables**

**us to God and have a with him.**

* **Life is God-given and taking it unlawfully (murder) is sinful.**

*You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.*

 John 8:44 NIV

*The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.* John 10:11 NIV

* **The origin & source of murder is Satan.**
* **God is life-giving, Satan is life-taking.**

*9With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God’s likeness. 10Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be.* James 3:9-10 NIV

*For out of the heart come evil thoughts – murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.* Matthew 15:19 NIV

***21****‘You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, “You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.”****22****But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment.*  Matthew 5:21-22 NIV

*11For this is the message you heard from the beginning: we should love one another. 12Do not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and murdered his brother……. 15Anyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life in him.* 1 John 3:11-15 NIV

**Q. Is there someone that has sinned against you and you harbour hatred and bitterness towards them?**

**Abortion**

*5Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. 6 Yet you desired faithfulness even in the womb; you taught me wisdom in that secret place.*

 Psalm 51:5 NIV

***13****For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb.* ***14****I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.* ***15****My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth.* ***16****Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.* Psalm 139:13-16 NIV

*41 When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.….. “As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy….”* Luke 1:41-45 NIV

**Some facts & statistics:**

* In GB in 2019 there were **220,967** abortions. (ONS&PHS)
* Nearly 1 in 4 babies in GB were ‘aborted’.
* **98%** of these were for social reasons. (ONS)
* **181** abortions in England & Wales were performed in 2019 due to risk to mother’s life or risk of permanent injury to the mother. (ONS)
* Over **9 million** babies ‘aborted’ in GB since 1968.
* **98%** of abortions in GB are paid for by the taxpayer.
* c.a. 120,000 Covid 19 deaths in the UK to date.
* **73 million** abortions worldwide every year. (WHO)
* Covid 19 – 1.8 million deaths in 2020. (WHO)
* Medical staff in the UK can currently refuse to take part in abortions because of ‘conscientious objection’. (Section 4 Abortion Act 1967).

*This man was handed over to you by God’s deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross.*

Acts 2:23 NIV

*‘He himself bore our sins’ in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; ‘by his wounds you have been healed.’* 1 Peter 2:24 NIV

**Helpful websites:**

Both Lives Matter: bothlivesmatter.org

Society for the Protection of Unborn Children: spuc.org.uk

Right to Life: righttolife.org.uk

Christian Institute: christian.org.uk

Tyneside Pregnancy Advice Centre: tyneside-pregnancy.org.uk

**Recommended Books:**

*When does human life begin?*

Christian Institute Salt & Light series.

*Abortion, Euthanasia, And End of Life Medical Decisions.*

Wayne Grudem – Crossway.

*Why Pro-Life? Caring for the unborn and their mothers.*

Randy Alcorn – Authentic.

*Perfectly Human: Nine Months with Cerian*

Sarah Williams – Plough Publishing House.

*Forbidden Grief: The unspoken pain of abortion.*

Theresa Burke & David C. Reardon – Acorn Books.