

## Commandments ignored

**Obeying God is what matters!** - 1 Cor 7:19 Circumcision is nothing and uncircumcision is nothing. Keeping God's commands is what counts.

**To say we love God is meaningless if we don't live it** - 2 John 6 And **this is love: that we walk in obedience to his commands.** As you have heard from the beginning, his command is that you walk in love.

**God's Word is what sets us apart for His Purpose** - John 17:16-17 - 16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. 17 Sanctify them by the truth; **YOUR WORD IS TRUTH.**

**Obeying God's Word is what purifies us** - 1 Peter 1:22-23 - 22 Now that you have purified yourselves BY OBEYING THE TRUTH so that you have sincere love for your brothers, love one another deeply, from the heart. 23 For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God.

**All this means we must use the Bible ONLY** - 1 Cor 4:6 Now, brothers, I have applied these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, so that you may learn from us the meaning of the saying, "**DO NOT GO BEYOND WHAT IS WRITTEN.**" Then you will not take pride in one man over against another.

**Now that we have a basic understanding of obedience, let's reviewing some commands that are constantly ignored**

**Not being Angry at your brother and not calling someone a fool or idiot** - Matt 5:22 But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to his brother, 'Raca,' is answerable to the Sanhedrin. But anyone who says, 'You fool!' will be in danger of the fire of hell.

**Not Making vows** - Matt 5:33-37 - 33 "Again, you have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'Do not break your oath, but keep the oaths you have made to the Lord.' 34 But I tell you, **DO NOT SWEAR AT ALL:** either by heaven, for it is God's throne; 35 or by the earth, for it is his footstool; or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the Great King. 36 And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make even one hair white or black. 37 Simply let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No': anything beyond this comes from the evil one.

**Giving in through love instead of retaliating –**

Matt 5:38-42 - 38 "You have heard that it was said, 'Eye for eye, and tooth for tooth.' 39 But I tell you, **DO NOT RESIST AN EVIL PERSON.** If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. 40 And if someone wants to sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. 41 If someone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. 42 Give to the one who asks you, and do not turn away from the one who wants to borrow from you.

Rom 12:17-19 - 17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. 18 If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. 19 **Do not take revenge,** my friends, but **leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "IT IS MINE TO AVENGE; I will repay," says the Lord.**

**Loving and praying for enemies** - Matt 5:43-48 - 43 "You have heard that it was said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' 44 But I tell you: **Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,** 45 that you may be sons of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. 46 If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that? 47 And if you greet only your brothers, what are you doing more than others? Do not even pagans do that? 48 Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

**Doing good deeds without the purpose of being seen** - Matt 6:1 - "Be careful **not to do your 'acts of righteousness' before men, TO BE SEEN BY THEM.** If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven.

**Do not pray for show and don't Jabber when praying** - Matt 6:5-8 - 5 "And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners TO BE SEEN BY MEN. I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. 6 But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. 7 And when you pray, **DO NOT KEEP ON BABBLING LIKE PAGANS,** for they think they will be heard because of their many words. 8 **Do not be like them,** for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

**Fasting is to stay between you and God** - Matt 6:16-18 - 16 "**When you fast, do not look somber** as the hypocrites do, for they disfigure their faces **TO SHOW MEN THEY ARE FASTING.** I tell you the truth, they have received their reward in full. 17 But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, 18 so that **it will not be obvious to men** that you are fasting, but only to your Father, who is unseen; and your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

**Not portraying your future plans as a sure thing** - James 4:13-17 - 13 Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." 14 Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. 15 **INSTEAD, YOU OUGHT TO SAY, "IF IT IS THE LORD'S WILL, WE WILL LIVE AND DO THIS OR THAT."** 16 As it is, you boast and brag. All such boasting is evil. 17 Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins.

**Not showing favoritism** - James 2:1-13 - My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favoritism. 2 Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in shabby clothes also comes in. 3 If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," 4 **have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?** 5 Listen, my dear brothers: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? 6 But you have insulted the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? 7 Are they not the ones who are slandering the noble name of him to whom you belong? 8 **If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right.** 9 But **IF YOU SHOW FAVORITISM, YOU SIN** and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. 10 For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. 11 For he who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker. 12 Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, 13 because **judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful.** Mercy triumphs over judgment!

**\* This does not include taking special care of the poor and oppressed because that is mandated by God**

**Men's and women's roles and position displayed by hair length** - 1 Cor 11:3-16 - 3 Now **I WANT YOU TO REALIZE** that the head of every man is Christ, and the head of the woman is man, and the head of Christ is God. 4 Every man who prays or prophesies with his head covered dishonors his head. 5 And every woman who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head — it is just as though her head were shaved. 6 If a woman does not cover her head, she should have her hair cut off; and if **it is a disgrace for a woman to have her hair cut or shaved off**, she should cover her head. 7 A man ought not to cover his head, since he is the image and glory of God; but the woman is the glory of man. 8 For man did not come from woman, but woman from man; 9 neither was man created for woman, but woman for man. 10 For this reason, and because of the angels, the woman ought to have a sign of authority on her head. 11 In the Lord, however, woman is not independent of man, nor is man independent of woman. 12 For as woman came from man, so also man is born of woman. But everything comes from God. 13 Judge for yourselves: Is it proper for a woman to pray to God with her head uncovered? 14 Does not the very nature of things teach you that **if a man has long hair, it is a disgrace to him**, 15 but that if a **woman has long hair, it is her glory?** For **LONG HAIR IS GIVEN TO HER AS A COVERING**. 16 If anyone wants to be contentious about this, we have no other practice — nor do the churches of God.

**A woman not leading or teaching a man in Church** - 1 Tim 2:11-15 - 11 A woman should learn in quietness and full submission. 12 **I do not permit a woman TO TEACH or to HAVE AUTHORITY over a man**; she must be silent. 13 For Adam was formed first, then Eve. 14 And Adam was not the one deceived; it was the woman who was deceived and became a sinner. 15 But women will be saved through childbearing — if they continue in faith, love and holiness with propriety.

**Sacredness of Marriage** - Matt 19:4-12 - 4 "Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,' 5 and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the TWO will become one flesh'? 6 So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate." 7 "Why then," they asked, "did Moses command that a man give his wife a certificate of divorce and send her away?" 8 Jesus replied, "Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning. 9 I tell you that **anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, and marries another woman commits adultery.**" 10 The disciples said to him, "If this is the situation between a husband and wife, it is better not to marry." 11 Jesus replied, "Not everyone can accept this word, but only those to whom it has been given. 12 For some are eunuchs because they were born that way; others were made that way by men; and others have renounced marriage because of the kingdom of heaven. The one who can accept this should accept it."

**Maintaining the only true religion** - James 1:26-27 - 26 If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he **deceives himself and his religion is worthless**. 27 **RELIGION THAT GOD OUR FATHER ACCEPTS AS PURE AND FAULTLESS IS THIS:** to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

**Dealing with openly sinning Christians in the body** - 1 Cor 5:9-13 - 9 I have written you in my letter not to associate with sexually immoral people— 10 **NOT AT ALL MEANING THE PEOPLE OF THIS WORLD** who are immoral, or the greedy and swindlers, or idolaters. In that case you would have to leave this world. →

→11 But now I am writing you that **you must not associate with anyone who calls himself a brother but is sexually immoral or greedy, an idolater or a slanderer, a drunkard or a swindler.** WITH SUCH A MAN DO NOT EVEN EAT. 12 What business is it of mine to judge those outside the church? Are you not to judge those inside? 13 God will judge those outside. "Expel the wicked man from among you."

**True leaders are servants** - Matt 20:25-28 - 25 Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. 26 **NOT SO WITH YOU.** Instead, whoever wants to become great among you **must be your servant**, 27 and whoever wants to be first **must be your slave**— 28 just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

**Truly Rely on God and stop worrying** - Matt 6:31-34 - 31 So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For **the pagans run after all these things**, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. 33 But **SEEK FIRST HIS KINGDOM AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS**, and all these things will be given to you as well. 34 Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

**Grace Giving** - 2 Cor 9:6-9 - 6 Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. 7 Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 8 And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.

**Our relationship with others** - 2 Cor 6:14-16 - 14 **DO NOT** be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? 15 What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? **What does a believer have in common with an unbeliever?** 16 **What agreement is there between the temple of God and idols?** For **we are the temple of the living God.** As God has said: "I will live with them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they will be my people."

**Not allowing freedom and knowledge to cause others to fall** - Rom 14:19-21 - 19 Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification. 20 Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of food. All food is clean, but **it is wrong for a man to eat anything that causes someone else to stumble.** 21 **IT IS BETTER NOT TO EAT MEAT OR DRINK WINE OR TO DO ANYTHING ELSE THAT WILL CAUSE YOUR BROTHER TO FALL.**

#### **Our relationship with the world**

**Not loving the world** - 1 John 2:15-17 - 15 **DO NOT LOVE THE WORLD OR ANYTHING IN THE WORLD.** If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father IS NOT in him. 16 For **EVERYTHING IN THE WORLD** — the cravings of sinful man, the lust of his eyes and the boasting of what he has and does — comes not from the Father but from the world. 17 The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.

**Not befriending the world** - James 4:4 You **adulterous people**, don't you know that **FRIENDSHIP WITH THE WORLD IS HATRED TOWARD GOD?** Anyone who **chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God.**

**Our family or life is never to come before God** - Matt 10:37-39 - 37 "Anyone who loves his father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; 38 and anyone who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. 39 Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

#### **We are never to allow our customs and traditions to trump God**

Mark 7:9 And he said to them: "You have a fine way of setting aside the commands of God in order to observe your own traditions!

Mark 7:13 Thus **you nullify the word of God by your tradition** that you have handed down. And you do many things like that."

**Never allowing man to trump what God says** - Acts 5:29 Peter and the other apostles replied: "**WE MUST OBEY GOD RATHER THAN MEN!**