

The “Thou Shalt Nots”

<p>The 1st Commandment: You shall have no other gods before me.</p> <p><i>The Truth: God is the only cause and creator</i></p>	<p>The Jews were coming out of Egypt—a land of many Gods. When you have many Gods—whether you see them as many creative forces or many personalities each representing different aspects of the one God, you introduce disorder into the spiritual Principle. By insisting on a single, creative cause, Christianity brings simplicity, unity, order and Principle to spirituality. It is essential for us to hold to the one presence and one power.</p> <p>Everything begins with God. We weren’t around before He showed up. There are no prior existent conditions, or ruling forces running the show before God gets involved. We are His creation from the very beginning, and start off fresh. God is not being brought into our lives at the 11th hour to try and correct a bad situation or to redeem us. God alone is the creative power—there are none others. God is not redeeming a faulty material creation. God is all-in-All and everything in reality comes from Him and expresses Him.</p>
<p>The 2nd Commandment: You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them</p> <p><i>The Truth: There are no other powers</i></p>	<p>What is an idol? An image you worship and obey. There are three sources mentioned for idols—the heaven above, the earth beneath and the waters below. That means the intellect, manifested form, and our emotions. When we worship our own opinions, become a slave to our fears or lusts, or become impressed by the princes and powers of this world, we’re worshipping an idol.</p> <p>God is omnipotent, all power, and nothing mortal mind can imagine or believe in can usurp God’s power whether that image is one of lack, disease, material condition, economic downturn, political atmosphere or person. We should recognize God alone and any other image claiming to be a power is a lie, a deception and a fraud. It’s an idol. God alone rules our lives and all of life.</p>
<p>The 3rd Commandment: You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.</p> <p><i>The Truth: God’s power is supreme</i></p>	<p>This is the commandment that the King James Bible translates as “Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.” Ex 20:7 (KJV) The word vain comes from the Latin, <i>vanus</i>, meaning empty or futile. When God becomes a mere social and cultural convenience or identity, when God loses a place of power in our consciousness, we are breaking this spiritual law.</p> <p>We must recognize that God’s power is real and that there is no situation, condition or circumstance which can resist it. The power of Spirit is always decisive and Truth always has the final say. Let us always recognize God’s omnipotence and government as supreme over every circumstance, condition and problem in our lives. Let us never think of God as not being able to help us and never reduce Him in our consciousness to an empty and</p>

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<p>The 4th Commandment: Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy... For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.</p> <p><i>The Truth: Creation is done and it is complete and perfect</i></p>	<p>impotent concept.</p> <p>This commandment lays out the spiritual Principle that creation is done and God has rested from His work. God’s creation is complete. His perfect creation is finished. It is intact and forever. We must see God’s creation as being complete, finished, everything done and done well. If we are trying to use our mental effort to complete God’s creation we’re trying to do the unnecessary. It already exists in its fullness and perfection. We don’t need to use our mental, human willpower to try to make things right or to create any good for ourselves. Everything already exists. We only need to realize it. God kingdom has already been created, and we need to mentally move into and live from it.</p>
<p>The 5th Commandment: Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.</p> <p><i>The Truth: God is our only parent</i></p>	<p>We put a lot of emphasis upon parentage. Our parents give us our DNA; they raise and socialize us; they shape our personalities and expectations of life; they care for us; they give us our inheritance whether that means physical strengths and weaknesses, our religion, and our social and political attitudes.</p> <p>That’s why it’s so important to see God is our divine parent. Since God is the one cause and creator, in reality, we inherit only from Him. Spirituality teaches us that we must change our identification from having material and human parentage to an identification with God. Jesus said to “And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven.” Matt 23:9 (KJV)</p> <p>God created all that is and He never created evil, disease or discord. To find her healing, Myrtle Fillmore worked from the Truth that, “I am a child of God therefore I do not inherit sickness.” Let us hold to the Truth that God has established who and what we are, and that is what our experience of life is unfolding.</p>
<p>The 6th Commandment: You shall not murder.</p> <p><i>The Truth: Our life is eternal</i></p>	<p>God is our Life and our life is God, and because God is our life, it is divine and eternal. That means disease cannot kill; bullets cannot kill; drugs cannot kill; old age does not kill. There can be no death because God is Life without end and we, His children, are living a life that goes on forever. Jesus proved that for us by his final demonstration over death. No death means we can never be separated from God’s Life (our life), God’s good, God’s purpose and plan for our lives either suddenly or gradually. Though we may seem to “die”, we are only moving on to a new experience—a new consciousness of life.</p>

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<p>The 7th Commandment: You shall not commit adultery.</p> <p><i>The Truth: Our life is purely spiritual</i></p>	<p>Webster’s defines adulterate as, “to corrupt, debase, or make impure by the addition of a foreign or inferior substance or element.” This spiritual law tells us we are not partly spiritual and partly material. We reflect Spirit alone. Spirit does not need the approval or cooperation of matter in order to govern the kingdom of God. God’s creation is not a mix of good and evil—of Spirit and matter. It is all good, and we are not a victim of evil, or a victim of material diseased activity. We are wholly and purely spiritual.</p>
<p>The 8th Commandment: You shall not steal.</p> <p><i>The Truth: Our good is spiritual and cannot be taken from us</i></p>	<p>Nothing given to us from God can be taken away. Our good can never be lost. God’s gift to us is Life, intelligence, health, vitality, Love, Truth, happiness and peace—all His qualities and attributes and these qualities manifest in our world as everything we need. They cannot be taken from us, nor can we steal God’s gifts from anyone else.</p>
<p>The 9th Commandment: You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.</p> <p><i>The Truth: Everyone is God’s child</i></p>	<p>Some of us are not more spiritual than others. Each one of us is 100% spiritual. This is important for us to get. Every one of us is a child of God. We need to know this for one another—especially for those who don’t know it yet!</p> <p>Let us look at all men and women as God’s children. Let’s not harbor resentment or pass judgment on anyone. God’s children are free from the claims and accusations of mortal mind. Let’s lay aside our human judgments of others and see one another as reflecting only God’s qualities. Man can neither afflict, nor can be a victim to another. We are safe around God’s children. Let’s insist on this spiritual Truth and demonstrate it in our lives.</p>
<p>The 10th Commandment: You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.</p> <p><i>The Truth: We have to harvest our own crop</i></p>	<p>Covet means to “desire something that belongs to another.” But we each have our own life’s path. We each have my own work that’s for us to do. God has given us all our own unique gifts. Nobody else’s blessings can bless us. We each have our own blessings. The way forward for us is to live our own lives; do the work God has given us to do; to develop our own special gifts; and to take responsibility for the seeds we plant and accept the crops we reap as our due.</p>