

## THE DECALOGUE AND JESUS CHRIST'S CONFIRMATION OF IT

By Nell Truesdell

I am appalled when adults in my classes do not know where to look for a book or a passage in the Bible. Few can repeat the Ten Commandments in order, and fewer know that Jesus Christ confirmed them. Hence I feel obligated to set forth the Commandments and their confirmation by our Lord.

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First Commandment: "Thou shalt have no other gods before Me." (Ex.20:3; Deu.5:7)

Jesus said (quoting Deu.6:5): "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength. This is the First Commandment." (Mt.22:37-38; Mk.12:30)

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Second Commandment: "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in the heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: thou shalt not bow down thyself unto them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God, am a jealous God. (Ex.20:4; Deu.5:8-9a)

Jesus said: "Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship. . . . The true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship Him. God is Spirit." (Jn. 4:22-24)

{The Apostle Paul on Mars' Hill, said to the men of Athens: "We ought not to think that the God-head is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device." (Acts 17:29)}

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Third Commandment: "Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain: for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh His Name in vain." (Ex.20:7; Deu.5:11)

Jesus said: "This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth Me with their lips: but their heart is far from Me. But in vain do they worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." (Mt.15:8-9; Mk.7:6-7) "Not every one that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the Will of My Father which is in heaven. Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy Name? and in Thy Name done many wonderful works? And then I will profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from Me, ye that work iniquity." (Mt.7:21-23)

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Fourth Commandment: "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy." (Ex.20:8)

"Keep the sabbath day to sanctify it, as the Lord thy God hath commanded thee." (Deu.5:4)

Jesus said: "The sabbath was made for man, and not man for the sabbath." (Mk.2:27)

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Fifth Commandment: "Honour thy father and thy mother; that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." (Ex.20:12; Deu.5:16)

Jesus said: "Thou knowest the commandments, . . . Honour thy father and thy mother." (Lk.18:20b) But He said also: "He that loveth father or mother more than Me, is not worthy of Me." (Mt.10:37a)

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Sixth Commandment: "Thou shalt not kill." (Ex.20:13; Deu.5:17)

Jesus said: "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill: and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: but I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother, shall be in danger of the Judgment." (Mt.5:21-22a)

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Seventh Commandment: "Thou shalt not commit adultery." (Ex.20:14; Deu.5:18)

Jesus said: "Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery: but I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart." (Mt.5:27-28)

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Eighth Commandment: "Thou shalt not steal." (Ex.20:15; Deu.5:19)

Jesus said: "If thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee. . . . If thy right hand offend thee, cut it off, and cast it from thee." (Mt.5:29a-30a)

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Ninth Commandment: "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor." (Ex.20:16; Deu.5:20)

Jesus said: "Out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, . . . false witness, blasphemies: these are the things which defile a man." (Mt.15:19-20; Mk.7:21-23)

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Tenth Commandment: "Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbour's." (Ex.20:17; Deu.5:21)

Jesus said: "Ye cannot serve God and mammon. That which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God." (Lk.16:13b-15b)

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#### Explanation

First Commandment: To love God with all the heart and soul and mind and strength means that we must expel from consciousness all that would supplant God. Jesus said, "From within, out of the heart of men proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, an evil eye, blasphemy, foolishness: all these evil things come from within, and defile the man." (Mk.7:21-23; Mt.15:19-20a)

The natural man plays at being wise, so does not realize that his foolish heart is darkened; he hates God, changes Truth into a lie, worships the creature more than his Creator, seeks to experience everything to gain knowledge of the world to the detriment of his soul. Though he hears the Law he refuses to do what the Law commands. This doing demands sacrifice of the world and of the flesh so that love for God becomes the prime interest.

Second Commandment: Graven images seem to be the order of the day. Everywhere we see likenesses of persons, animals, and things, which people endow with supernatural powers as bringers of good luck. God is jealous in that He will not tolerate rivals. God demands all man's adoration, service, and love. Anything other than God that you rely on for comfort, support, protection, or help is a "graven image."

Third Commandment: In times past the Name of God was held so sacred that it was never uttered, but was held deep in the heart, secure against interference or violation.

Fourth Commandment: The Sabbath of the Jews is the seventh day of the week. This day is strictly observed by orthodox Jews. The first day of the week is called the Lord's Day by Christians, for Jesus Christ was resurrected on a Sunday. The best practice for both Jew and Christian is to observe his holy day by reverently remembering God.

(It is good to have one day of the week dedicated to remembrance of God. "The sabbath was made for man," Jesus said; so we should give thanks for it and use it. But He warned against making external observance an end in itself. He said, "My Father worketh hitherto {is still working on the sabbath}, and I work." In Truth, the "sabbath" is any period of silence; we keep it holy by dedicating it to God and rejecting any thoughts of self.)

Fifth Commandment: Our parents were the means of our coming forth in a body of flesh, to take up again a short period of existence in the world. During this period we may, if we will, learn to turn our attention inward and perceive the Immaculate Conception that our bodies shroud. Wise love for parents frees from bondage to them.

At one time when Jesus was speaking to a crowd, "His mother and His brethren stood without, desiring to speak with Him. Then one said to Him, Behold, thy mother and thy brethren stand without, desiring to speak with thee. But He answered and said unto them that told Him, Who is My mother? and who are My brethren? And He stretched forth His hand toward His disciples, and said, Behold My mother, and My brethren! For whosoever shall do the Will of My Father in heaven, the same is My brother, and sister, and mother." (Mt.12:46-50; Mk.4:31-35; Lk.8:19-21)

In the time of Moses, the reason for honoring one's father and mother was that they were the ones who taught the child about God. In Truth, this function is filled by dedicated teachers. Those who cause a person to be "born again" are more truly his "father" and "mother" than his earthly parents. This is what Jesus is saying in the passage just quoted. Therefore give your parents the honor due them. But above all, honor those who teach you the Truth of God. They are your "father" and "mother."

The Apostle Paul wrote to Timothy: "Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine." (I Tim.5:17)

Sixth Commandment: We may not only kill the body of a living thing, but we may also be guilty of killing hopes, spiritual aspirations, ideas, talents, or lofty purposes, and so lose the rewards God has in store for us. "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him." (I Cor.2:9)

Seventh Commandment: Men and women today do not distinguish between self-indulgence and continence. "The carnal mind is enmity against God," Paul said. (Rom.8:7) Any desire for self-gratification devitalizes the body and damages the soul. But we are told: "He that overcometh shall not be hurt of the second death." (Rev.2:11)

Eighth Commandment: We can steal by a look or a word as well as with our hands. We steal in many ways: by taking ideas, credit, employment, material goods, etc., from another. Jesus did not tolerate religious, moral, social, or ethical delinquents. He said: "Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, . . . And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from Me, ye that work iniquity." (Mt.7:22-23)

Ninth Commandment: Old Testament Law said: "If a false witness rise up against any man; . . . then shall ye do unto him, as he had thought to have done unto his brother." (Deu.19:16a-19a) And Jesus said: "With what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again." (Mt.7:2)

To "witness" is to give testimony. Not only may we bear false witness against man, but we can also bear false witness against God. Jesus said: "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. . . . There shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders (such as some mental practitioners do today); insomuch that if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect." (Mt.7:15-16; 24:24)

As Christians we are to bear true witness to the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Tenth Commandment: A rich young man wanted eternal life but was not willing to pay the price. Jesus told him to give up his possessions to attain eternal life, but he could not. No one can get into heaven with baggage; nor can any one flatter God to get passage to His Realm. "The Spirit of God hates deception, and dwells not in a body subject to sins." (Wisdom of Solomon 1:4-5)

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SPIRITICITY, June 1967

IS SCRIPTURE OBSOLETE?

By Robert Applegate

ALL the major problems today - international war, labor, strife, delinquency, overpopulation, lack of integrity in business and in personal relations - are problems in human nature. To date no words put on paper have had power to change human nature as have the words of our Scripture. But quite a few people feel that while the Scripture has much to offer, it is no longer a sufficient guide for life. It was enough, they say, for a simpler and more credulous age. Today with the knowledge of psychology, cybernetics, and all the other discoveries of modern science, they think they need to supplement the Scripture by the knowledge derived from all these other fields.

But modern men do not begin to know what Jesus Christ and His followers knew. If they did, they would be doing the works of Jesus Christ. "By their fruits ye shall know them." (Mt.7:20) Not only did Jesus Christ meet all the

problems that any man has to face - including death - and overcome them; but also all who have truly followed Him have done the same. Further the discoveries of modern psychology and even of medicine - when they have been true - have time and again been found to be simply rediscoveries of what was stated in Scripture and not taken seriously.

Jesus was brought up on the Old Testament, and He completed it. The whole Scripture explains Him. You can find in the Scripture anything you want. If you want confirmation of your own ideas and prejudices, you can find it. If you want to know the way to God, you can find it. If you want new courage, new hope, new joy, a new direction to life, it is there. Everyone who has honestly gone to the Scripture to find the answers to life reports that he has found what he was seeking.

The Scripture itself warns us against a literal, mechanical interpretation of it. Of those who approached the Bible in this way Paul said: "Whenever Scripture is read, a veil lies over their minds; but if anyone turns to the Lord the veil is removed." (2 Cor.3:15) So the best way to approach the Scripture is to read it and to keep asking the Lord what it means. No person ever knows the Scripture, for there is always more to it. It provides a field for endless discovery.

The commentaries come and go; the Scripture itself endures. It is as vital today as two thousand years ago. It will be vital two thousand years from now, for the Truth does not change. So become familiar with the Scripture. The more you do, the more you will fall in love with it. As you fall in love with it, you will find Paul was right when he said: "All Scripture is divinely inspired, and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for setting straight, for training in right living, so that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work." (2 Tim.3:16)

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SPIRITICITY, June 1967  
ORIGINALITY  
By Alden Truesdell

IF YOU would be original, move in a direction different from the majority. Come to yourself; find your origin and the purpose for your being. Little respect is paid to imitators.

As a child in school I memorized a quotation for every letter of the alphabet. One went like this:

"Errors, like straws, upon the surface blow;  
He who would seek for pearls must dive below."

The conventions, manners, and habits of the race are imitations of the actions of persons who dared to be original, who dived below the surface of convention and public opinion, who dared to be themselves.

Back of all the opinions and attitudes of men exists Mind in Its purity. Everything in It is designed for the service of man. Thoughts about the nature of this Mind have been formulated into systems of philosophy and ethics.

Whoever dives into the Mind Itself, below the systems, will bring up pearls, which if he has the audacity to wear them, will make him an outstanding

character, a marked man. But he will have to break through conventions which have lost their meaning. In doing so, he may rediscover their lost meaning.

Jesus Christ said: "The Kingdom of Heaven is like unto a pearl of great price. . . . The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand." Anyone who claims an interest in the Kingdom of Heaven, who is sincere in believing man's destiny to be an abiding in perfect right relation with God, should greatly rejoice that the Kingdom is at hand. But he must be willing to repent, to sell all else, to change his mind about many things. He must continue to ask, to seek, to knock.

When anyone declares his own sonship to God, he is a sinner who has repented. He has tired of feeding on the husks and desires to partake of the Heavenly Nature. It is necessary for him to change all his basic ideas. He must withdraw all the power he has given to anything less than Christ and give this power to Him who said, "All power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth."

He must withdraw all power from men; he must withdraw all power from institutions; he must withdraw all power from many masters and give it to the One Master. All ambition must be turned into aspiration. Then he will find his own pearl and sing his own song.

Another quotation I learned as a child was:

"Dare to be true; nothing needs a lie.

A fault that needs it most grows two thereby."

Be true to Truth and you will be always new. Jesus Christ said: "What seek ye? . . . I that speak unto thee am He."

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SPIRITICITY, June 1967

HEALING PRACTICE

By H. B. Jeffery

(Notes taken at a public lecture by Nell Truesdell - continued from last month.)

FAITH is essential in healing; without it we would not do healing. "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." We must have a reason for having faith, and we find that reason in the constitution of the universe: God is All, and beside Him there is none else - God is Spirit.

The materialistic theory is that matter is the only reality, that spirit is the product of matter or is an ethereal form of matter. There are times when this theory pushes itself forward.

The spiritual view accepts "God is Spirit." Behind all so-called matter, underlying it, sustaining it, and animating it, is Spirit; that Spirit is a reality. All things have life (stones, trees, animals, men); and that life is Spirit. This is the One Principle that underlies all things. Everything is alive.

Spirit is the Essence of life, and is life; it is a living Substance. We ought to think of Spiritual Substance in terms of matter that it is just a

refined form of matter and this is why we do not demonstrate. Substance is a principle; it is purely spiritual; it is not a refined form of matter.

As mathematics is supported by a principle so is life in the outer manifestation supported by the Spiritual Principle. When we know this, we understand "God is Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth." They that worship should do so in principle. One does not become a musician until he sees the principle of music; so one does not become a healer until he sees the Principle of Life. When you see with the heart, you begin to know and understand. You begin to tune the mind to the spiritual Principle underlying all life.

This One Universal, Vital Principle is in all forms. It inheres in man and was put in man by the Divine. It is the constant influx of the Principle into the consciousness that gives life to any man. Sickness is evidence of a partial disjuncture of the soul from the Principle; a whole severing results in what is called death. Healing is restoring the influx of the Principle.

Acquaint yourself with the Principle. The healer must walk in the consciousness of It. Being conscious of It, he sees how It moves, how It works; he finds his relation to It. If he comes into full consciousness of It, peace steals into his mind. The Principle is unchanging, invariable; because of this, It is reliable. It is always right there; It is very willing to give Itself. As you recognize It, It arouses in you a confidence, which will enlarge into a stable faith.

(To be continued)

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Alphabet of  
DAILY MEDITATIONS  
For Every Day of the Month

JUNE, 1967

1. My Word . . . shall ACCOMPLISH that which I please.
2. I Am He that BLOTTETH out thy transgressions.
3. CONSIDER the Work of God.  
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5. DECLARE His Glory.
6. I have ESTEEMED the words of His mouth.
7. The Lord make His FACE shine upon thee.
8. GUIDE our feet into the Way of Peace.
9. Make me to HEAR joy and gladness.
10. The INTEGRITY of the upright shall guide them.  
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12. JUDGE ye not what is right?
13. KNOCK, and it shall be opened unto you.
14. LIGHT shall shine upon thy ways.
15. MY soul doth MAGNIFY the Lord.
16. Behold, I will do a NEW thing.
17. Instruction shall be an ORNAMENT of grace unto thy head.  
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19. Be PARTAKERS of the Divine Nature.
20. QUICKEN us, and we will call upon Thy Name.
21. RECEIVE the blessing from the Lord.
22. SEEK and ye SHALL find.
23. I shall TEACH THEE wisdom.
24. The Lord UPHOLDETH all.  
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26. My VOICE shalt Thou hear in the morning, O Lord.
27. Thy testimonies are WONDERFUL.
28. If ye know these things, happy are ye if you do them.
29. O God, Thou hast taught me from my YOUTH.
30. Let the children of ZION (peace) be glad.

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"When thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly."

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As electricity is the working power of the electrical principle,  
So Spiriticity is the working Power of the Spiritual Principle.

CHRIST TRUTH LEAGUE, 2400 Canton Drive, Fort Worth, Texas, 76112