

Attempting to keep homosexuals from getting married accomplishes nothing except for building their resentment towards Christianity and God. No one should attempt to force his or her views on anyone else. God gives each of us free will. We are free to follow God or lead a life of sin. This nation, including Christians, has little regard for the commandments of God. Perhaps if Christians did a better job of following God's commandments, then non-believers would see something in us worth emulating rather than something to despise. Many Christians do not even know the 10 commandments and, as a result, do not do a very good job of obeying them. Here are the 10 commandments of God along with something to consider concerning each one:

1. *Exo 20:3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me.* Consider: Many self-described Christians use horoscopes, fortune tellers, palm readers, Ouija boards, and engage in rituals associated with other gods like yoga, Christmas, Easter and Halloween among others.

2. *Exo 20:4 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Exo 20:5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; Exo 20:6 And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.* Consider: Many self-described Christians venerate the cross, pray the rosary and pray to the Virgin Mary and also to so-called images of Christ.

3. *Exo 20:7 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.* Consider: How often do we hear the name of God taken in vain. How often do we hear self-described Christians use the word "holy" followed by any number of things that are

certainly not holy.

4. *Exo 20:8 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Exo 20:9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: Exo 20:10 But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: Exo 20:11 For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.* Consider: Anyone can look at a calendar and figure out that the seventh day of the week is Saturday. However, most Christians choose to reject the Lord's Sabbath and choose to keep Sunday as their man-made Sabbath. Even then, they fail to apply the principles of this commandment to that day.

5. *Exo 20:12 Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.* Consider: Many Christian children today have little respect for their parents because their parents have not taught them based upon Biblical principles.

6. *Exo 20:13 Thou shalt not kill.* Consider the words of Christ: *Mat 5:21 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: Mat 5:22 But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.*

7. *Exo 20:14 Thou shalt not commit adultery.* Consider: Christians often do not have a Biblical understanding of marriage; therefore, they do not even realize when they have committed adultery. Christians often have sexual partners before having a legal marriage. Each of those sexual partners is a Biblical marriage. Each additional sexual partner is then

an act of adultery. Furthermore, the words of Christ tell us that lustful thoughts are also adultery. (Mat 5:27-28) Christ also tells us that divorce is often the cause of adultery. (Mat 5:31-32) However, divorce is rarely even taught against in many churches today.

8. *Exo 20:15 Thou shalt not steal.* Consider: Usury is a form of theft. How many Christians have interest bearing accounts or commit theft while still remaining within the bounds of man-made laws?

9. *Exo 20:16 Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.* Consider: How many of us have never told a lie?

10. *Exo 20:17 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 any thing that is thy neighbour's.* Consider: Covetousness often leads to a need to "keep up with the Joneses", and also often leads people into debt.

As Christians, we must focus on ensuring that we are following the commandments of God. We must forget about trying to force others to stop sinning. We have enough trouble keeping ourselves from sin. We must encourage one another, and do what we can to remove temptations for others by living simply and by dressing ourselves and our children modestly. We must promote truth and reject lies and deceit. We must stop Christian children from being taught lies such as evolution which will lead them away from God. We must educate ourselves in sound science which supports the Biblical creation account. Then we can counter the onslaught of anti-Biblical teaching that permeates our society. We must learn to ignore the weekly issues designed to inflame the public. We must not allow ourselves to be carried away by every wind of doctrine. We must study our Bibles so that we understand Biblical principles such as marriage. Finally, we must endeavor to embody the example that Christ left for us to follow. Judgment begins at the house of God. (1Pe 4:17-18)

By the Power Vested in Me By ...

Many Christians are upset that homosexual marriages are now legal. Perhaps they are upset because they do not understand the Biblical principle of marriage. Adam and Eve did not go down to the local court house and get a marriage license and then seek out a pastor to marry them. That is not a Biblical marriage but is a legal marriage. Man requires witnesses, licenses, and officiators, God does not. In short, a Biblical marriage takes place at consummation. This is when two people are joined in a way that can never be undone. A signed marriage license can be ripped up and tossed out. However, when two people lay with each other, they truly become one. Anyone with an incurable, sexually transmitted disease can attest that sexual intimacy truly joins people together forever in a way that a piece of paper never can. God does not require a license nor does He recognize it. Jesus Christ stated "*Mar 10:9 What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.*" Traditional marriage ceremonies are not performed under the authority of God, but of the state. This is confirmed when the officiator of a wedding says something along the lines of "By the power vested in me by the state of _____, I pronounce you husband and wife." The power to officiate these weddings comes from the state and not from God. There is no script in the Bible for officiating weddings, and God has not given man the authority to declare whether two people are married or not. Keeping a homosexual couple from obtaining a marriage license and becoming legally married, will not keep them from becoming married in the eyes of God or from committing sin. The fact that the Biblical definition of marriage is the same for both heterosexual and homosexual marriages is what makes the homosexual marriage a sin. Two people of the same sex obtaining a marriage license and taking part in a ceremony is not a sin. The sin comes when they engage in sexual intimacy.

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Homosexual Marriage



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pamphlet examines
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