



# Choose Life!

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**“You shall not murder.”**  
**(Exodus 20:13)**



*No previous age has equaled our horror of killing;  
but then, no previous age ever killed so much.*

*(R. Kent Hughes)*



## What This Command is NOT About

### 1) It is *not* prohibiting killing animals

“Everything that lives and moves will be food for you. Just as I gave you the green plants, I now give you everything.”  
(Genesis 9:3, NIV)

### 2) It is *not* prohibiting capital punishment

“If anyone takes the life of a human being, he must be put to death... life for life.” (Leviticus 24:17-18, NIV)

“The authorities are sent by God to help you... The authorities are established by God... to punish those who do wrong.”  
(Romans 13:4, NLT)



## What This Command is NOT About

3) It is *not* prohibiting going to war

“There is... a time for war...” (Ecclesiastes 3:8, NIV)



## How This Command Applies

### 1) God says NO to suicide

“...we are not our own masters when we live or when we die.”  
(Romans 14:7, NLT)

“You have decided the length of our lives. You know how many months we live, and we are not given a minute longer.”  
(Job 14:5, NLT)

### 2) God says NO to mercy killing

“For the life of every living thing is in his hand, and the breath of all humanity.” (Job 12:10, NLT)



## How This Command Applies

### 3) God says **NO** to abortion

**“You made all the delicate inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother’s womb. Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous – how well I know it. You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.” (Psalm 139:13-16, NLT)**



## How This Command Applies

### 3) God says NO to hate

“You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.’ 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.” (Matthew 5:21-22, NIV)

“Anyone who hates another Christian is really a murderer at heart. And you know that murderers don’t have eternal life within them.” (1 John 3:15, NLT)



**“Today I have given you the choice between life and death, between blessings and curses. I call on heaven and earth to witness the choice you make. Oh, that you would choose life, that you and your children might live! Choose to love the LORD your God and to obey him and commit yourself to him, for he is your life...”**  
**(Deuteronomy 30:19-20, NLT, NIV)**



