



# Christianity is SIMPLE

Matthew 22:37-40

Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbour as yourself. All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

The Jewish rabbi developed a religious system with 613 laws (mitzvot) (from Pentateuch or first five books of Old Testament)

**248** affirmative commands (Thou shall...)

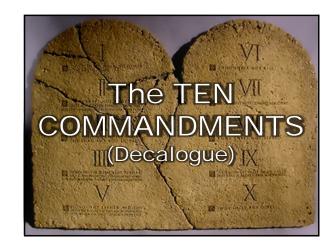
**365** negative commands (Thou shall not...)

Matthew 5:17

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them."

# Romans 13:9,10

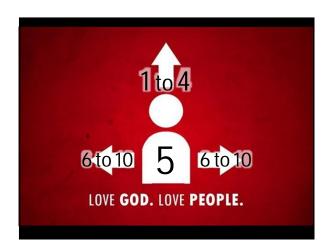
The commandments, "Do not commit adultery," "Do not murder," "Do not steal," "Do not covet," and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this one rule: "Love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no harm to its neighbour. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.



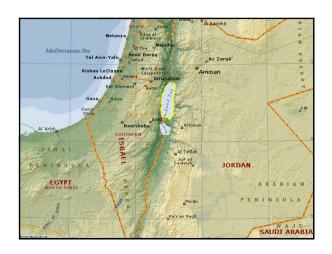
- 1. I am the LORD your God...You shall have no other gods before me.
- 2. You shall not make for yourself an image...You shall not bow down to them or worship them
- 3. You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.
- 4. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

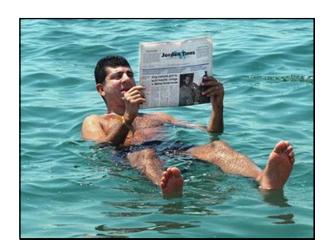
5. Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

- 6. You shall not murder.
- 7. You shall not commit adultery.
- 8. You shall not steal.
- 9. You shall not give false testimony against your neighbour.
- 10. You shall not covet your neighbour's house, neighbour's wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor."









Dead sea is not a sea but a saltwater lake (33% salt content)

No marine life can live in Dead Sea but has rich mineral deposits (i.e. calcium, iodine, saline, potassium, and bromide)

Water flows into the Dead Sea from streams and rivers, but does not flow out.





### Luke 10:30-37

Jesus answered, "There was once a man who was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho when robbers attacked him, stripped him, and beat him up, leaving him half dead. It so happened that a priest was going down that road; but when he saw the man, he walked on by on the other side.

In the same way a Levite also came there, went over and looked at the man, and then walked on by on the other side. But a Samaritan who was traveling that way came upon the man, and when he saw him, his heart was filled with pity.

He went over to him, poured oil and wine on his wounds and bandaged them; then he put the man on his own animal and took him to an inn, where he took care of him. The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Take care of him,' he told the innkeeper, 'and when I come back this way, I will pay you whatever else you spend on him.'

"And Jesus concluded, "In your opinion, which one of these three acted like a neighbor toward the man attacked by the robbers?" The teacher of the Law answered, "The one who was kind to him." Jesus replied, "You go, then, and do the same."

My neighbor was hurt and wounded by the enemy My neighbor are those who cannot help themselves and unable to ask for help

Proverbs 31:8,9

<u>Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute.</u>

<u>Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.</u>

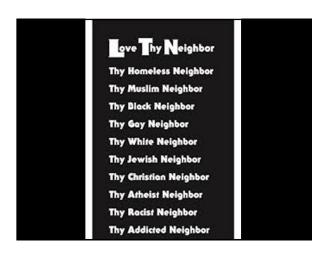
My neighbor is visible and I see everyday







My neighbor is of different socio-cultural political, religious background



My neighbor are those who have been passed by

"We can admire and worship
Jesus without doing what he did.
We can applaud what he preached
and stood for without caring about
the same things. We can adore his
cross without taking up ours. I had
come to see that the great tragedy
of the church is not that rich
Christians do not care about the
poor but that rich Christians do not
know the poor." (Shaine Claiborne)



#### Poor are the most charitable Those in the lowest U.S. income group give the largest percentage of their incomes to charity. Figures for 2007: Income Lowest Second Third Fourth groups Average \$10,531 \$27,674 \$46,213 \$73,460 \$158,888 \$63,091 income Income \$19,301 \$36,070 \$57,944 \$91,297 N.A. N.A. group limit Giving as 4.3% percent of 2.7% 2.2% 2.0% 2.1% income Graphic: Judy Treible urce: McClatchy analysis of U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics data

My neighbor is someone I am able to help

# Matthew 25:35-40

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?

When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'

My neighbor needs my attention, love and care

My neighbor is someone who might cost me time and money

My neighbor is someone who I should help as long as he needs it

"On the one hand we are called to play the good Samaritan on life's roadside; but that will be only an initial act. One day we must come to see that the whole <u>Jericho road must be transformed</u> so that men and women will not be constantly beaten and robbed as they make their journey on life's highway. True compassion is more than flinging a coin to a beggar; it is not haphazard and superficial. It comes to see that an edifice which produces beggars needs restructuring." -Martin Luther King, Jr.



