

Disobeying the Ten Commandments Can Never Condemn Anyone to Hell

Of course Scripture calls us to obey the Ten Commandments, but that is not a prerequisite, or in any way a condition of salvation. No one will ever come before the judgment seat and hear Jesus say, “depart from me for I never knew you,” (Matthew 7:23) simply because he or she has sinned through any or all of the Ten Commandments once, or a thousand times. The fact is that everyone who ever lived has disobeyed these commandments.

There is but ONE sin that will send anyone to hell, and all who commit it do surely go to eternal hell. That is the sin of unbelief, the sin of not acknowledging that Christ Jesus alone is our Lord and Savior. It is the sin of not repenting and trusting Him to having, through His blood, totally cleansed us of our sins, and to have thereby opened for us the door to heaven. Having professed a genuine faith, that is, a saving faith, all past, present and future sins have been forgiven and can never be used against us in the spiritual realm. Nevertheless, one must hasten to realize and assert that the by-product of that redemption is a changed life, one dedicated to the Lord’s will which is revealed only by the Holy Spirit and from the study of His Word. The 10 Commandments amplified by the Sermon on the Mount will then become the guiding light of one’s life. This message is called the beatitudes. Just as the word indicates, those are the *be-attitudes*. They summarize the attitudes that must be in us. It is our attitude, the substance of our inner beings, more than our actions, which are involved.

Failure to accept His gift of salvation through faith (Ephesians 2:8, 9) totally negates any and all attributes or good works, which one may live by, no matter how impressive and wonderful they appear from a worldly perspective. Scripture calls them but hay and stubble which will be burned and be of no value at that moment of judgment which everyone must face one day.

There are but two ways to heaven. The one described above, and the other, through a life of absolute righteousness, that is, never to have sinned, even once. For there are

absolutely no sins allowed in heaven. The fate of the unbeliever is as a person suspended over hell by a 10-link chain, each link representing one of the Ten Commandments as embellished by Jesus. This person hangs there his or her entire life until the chain breaks that is until one sin is committed. How many links must break before the descent begins? Only one, and only once! There is no repair kit available, so that descent begins once that very first sin is committed, and continues on into hell at life's end, unless a rescue is affected. There is but one Rescuer for the falling soul, and He responds only to the cry of true repentance, which generates true faith, which in turn brings about the blessed grace of salvation. This halts the fall forever and immediately cleanses the sinner, guaranteeing him or her a place in heaven, which has already been prepared.

Where are you in this process? Are you sure? There is nothing more critical, more vital or of more monumental importance in this life than establishing, while you can, what your eternal destiny will be. This is not a place for ignorance, complacency, assumption, presumption or guesswork. It's not an issue which can be settled with absolute assurance, except through a genuine understanding of what Scripture says, not by what some pastor, preacher, or teacher says. For that is second hand information. It dare not be relied on, but must be confirmed as did the Bereans in Acts 17:11. The issue of salvation is too important to place any reliance on fallible man, no matter who he is. There are too many false prophets and false teachers, those telling only half-truths, and also many who mean well but don't know what they are talking about. Satan the great counterfeiter and liar, clouds the minds and intentions of well-meaning but poorly informed souls into believing they are doing God's work when in fact they have been manipulated to his perverted purpose, which is to keep one from a saving faith. His greatest triumph is when he can create a belief in people's hearts that they are saved when, in fact, they are not.

Search the Scripture! For that is the only reliable source of truth! Then dedicate your life to that truth!

Scripture makes it very clear that God doesn't judge you on how wicked or evil you have been, or how much damage you have caused. Total forgiveness of all sins occurs when

there is, in your heart, a genuine acknowledgement of your hopelessly sinful nature, after which you confess all sins, and resolve to repent into an absolute belief, that only through the blood of Jesus are your sins forgiven, and that He is now your eternal Lord and Savior.

The assurance of your salvation can be well evidenced by a changed life a life, of gratitude, motivated service and your ever-growing likeness to Jesus.