



The Commands Of God

An Age-Old Debate

Are God's commands right **because**
He commanded them...

...or did He command them **because**
they are right?

1 Co.14:37 – don't debate; obey

I. Two Kinds Of Commandments

1. Moral Commands

Focus on relationship to one another

Gn.9

Ro.7:13

Nu.15

All sin is serious

Moral Law Is No Test Of Faith

Some say it is the only test

“Live by sermon on mount,
keep ten commandments”

Moral infidel? ...Muslim?

Scales salvation

Some Are Moral Because . . .

1. it is respectable or expedient ('best policy')
2. of punishment (pain hurts)
3. of parental training

If saved by moral law...

1. We may boast (Ep.2:8-9)
2. We do not need blood of Christ, gospel, forgiveness. Ac.10

2. Faith Commands

Right only because God gave them

Three kinds –

- 1) No relation between command and result
- 2) Command opposes human reason. Ezk.24. Mt.1.
- 3) Sinful w/o God's command

Faith Commands Illustrated

1) No relation between command and result

* Nu.4, 7 . . . 2 Sm.6 –

- 3: cart
- 5: mercy
- 6: hands

* Nu.21:8

* 2 K.5

1) No relation between command and result

2) Command opposes human reasoning

2 K.5

Naaman opposed it; preachers...

Jn.9

Resembles Jewish disrespect of Jesus

1) No relation between command and result

2) Command opposes human reasoning

2 K.5

Naaman opposed it; preachers...

Jn.9

3) Sinful without divine command

Gn.22

Gn.34 – Josh.6



I. Two Kinds Of Commandments

II. Application

□ Salvation

1. **Believe** on Lord, Jn.8:21, 24

Jews failed to see Jesus in
written revelation (Jn.5:39)

Gentiles failed to see God in
creation & conscience (Ro.1-2)

□ Salvation

1. Believe on Lord, Jn.8:21, 24
2. **Repent** of sins, Ac.17:30-31
2 Co.7; 12:21
3. **Confess** Lord, Ro.10:10
Jn.12:42-43 . . . Rv.2:13
4. **Baptized** into Lord, Lk.7:29-30
Lk.3:3, purpose. Mt.26:28; Ac.2
'Couldn't God save w/o it?'
[Naaman? Blind man?]

□ Salvation

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Jn.12:42-43 . . . v.2:13
4. **Baptized** into Lord, Lk.7:29-30

**“If baptism is essential to salvation,
God is the biggest fool who ever
lived!”** – Denominational preacher

□ Lord's Supper

Ac.20:7

If we abandon their example:

- *We do not walk by faith

- *Confusion reigns...

Augustine

“The sacrament of the unity of our Lord’s body is, in some places, provided daily, and in others at certain intervals, at the Lord’s table...” (Tract 26)

Augustine

“Some communicate daily in the body and blood of the Lord; others receive it on certain days; in some places, not a day intervenes on which it is not offered; in others, it is offered only on the Sabbath and the Lord’s day; in others, on the Lord’s day only” (1st Epistle to Januarius)

Calvin [Acts 2:42]

“Thus we ought always to provide that no meeting of the Church is held without the word, prayer, the dispensation of the Supper, and alms”

Proof: Ancient canons (Council of Antioch, etc.)

It should be served “each week, at least” (*Institutes*, 601-602)