

- So - The Duties Of The Second Tablet:
 - Toward Others - Should Naturally Flow From:
 - The Duties Of The First Tablet:
 - Toward God!
 - And - This Is Why Jesus Refers To:
 - The Commandments Of The First Tablet:
 - As - The “First And Greatest Commandment!”
3. Well - Tonight - As We Return To Our Series Through:
- The Ten Commandments:
 - We Come To The Beginning Of:
 - That Second Tablet:
 - In Exodus 20:13 - Where We Are Told In The Simplest And Clearest Language Possible!
 - “Thou Shalt Not Kill!”
- Now - As Simple & As Clear:
- As This Command Is:
 - There **Is** More To It:
 - As You Consider Other Parts Of Scripture!
 - And That Is Why:
 - In Other Translations:
 - You Will Find The Commandment As:
 - “Thou Shalt Not Murder!”
 - Whereas The Word:
 - “Kill” Emphasizes:
 - The **Act** - The Word:
 - “Murder” Emphasizes:
 - The **Intent!**
 - So This Commandment:
 - Is Given More Clarity:
 - As We Look In The Pages Of Scripture:
 - Which We Will Do Next Week!
4. But - For Tonight:
- I Want Us To Consider:
 - The “Why” Of This Commandment!
 - **Why** Does God Say:
 - “Thou Shalt Not Kill”?
 - Well - Whether You Look At:
 - The **Act** Forbidden By God:
 - Or The **Intent**:
 - The Reason Is Pretty Clear!
 - It Is Because:
 - To God - Life Is Special - And:
 - Life Is Significant!
 - After All - It Was God:
 - Who Gave Man Life:
 - To Begin With!
5. If You Go Back In Your Bibles:
- To Genesis 2 - We Find God’s Creation:
 - Of The Very First Man - Adam:
 - When - After Everything Else Was Made:
 - We Find In 2:7 - These Words:
 - “And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul!”
 - So - Before Adam Was Given Life:
 - He Was Nothing More Than:
 - An Accumulation Of:
 - “The Dust Of The Ground!”

- Until God Did A Secondary Work:
 - And “Breathed Into His Nostrils The Breath Of Life!”
 - That Is - The Breath Of:
 - God’s Own Life - So That:
 - Then & Only Then, “Man Became A Living Soul!”
 - Without God:
 - There Would Be No Human Life:
 - Because God Possesses Life:
 - As Part Of His Own Nature!
6. If You Go Over In Your Bibles:
- To Genesis 6 - We Find God’s Judgment:
 - On His Creation - Through The Flood!
 - And - In 6:17 - He Tells Noah:
 - “And, behold, I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh, wherein is the breath of life, from under heaven; and every thing that is in the earth shall die!”
 - Of Course - God Intended To Destroy All **Human** Life:
 - Except For Those Who Were In The Ark!
 - But - As We See From:
 - 7:15 & 7:22 - **Animal** Life:
 - Is Also Described As Having:
 - “The Breath Of Life!”
 - In 7:15 - We Are Told:
 - “And they went in unto Noah into the ark, two and two of all flesh, wherein is the breath of life!”
 - And Then:
 - In 7:22 - We Are Told:
 - “All in whose nostrils was the breath of life, of all that was in the dry land, died!”
 - Though Adam Was Created:
 - Differently Than The Animals:
 - They Both Were Given Life:
 - Through “The Breath Of Life!”
 - And That Is Why:
 - Without God:
 - There Would Be No Animal Life Either:
 - Because God Possess Life:
 - As Part Of His Own Nature!

7. And This Is What We Find:

 - In John 5:26 - Where Jesus Himself:
 - Says This About God The Father:
 - “For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself!”
 - So - The Reason Why:
 - Life Is So Special & Significant:
 - To God - Is Because:
 - God Himself Is Life!
 - He Is Life!
 - He Is The Source:
 - Of All Life! And:
 - He Is The Sustainer:
 - Of All Life!
 - And So - To Guard:
 - What Is Both Personal & Precious To Him:
 - He Commands In The Sixth Commandment:
 - “Thou Shalt Not Kill!” (20:13)

8. So - Tonight - We Are Going To Explore:

 - The Doctrine That Is The Bedrock:
 - Of This Commandment:
 - That **God Is Life!**

- And - To Help Us Do So:
 - I Am Going To Borrow The 3 Points About This Doctrine:
 - Provided By John Gill - Who Was A British Pastor Of A Baptist Church In London During The 18th Century!
- He Explains That:
 - God Is Life:
 - Essentially!
 - Eternally!
 - And - Efficiently!
 - So - The First Thing We See Is That:

1. **God Is Life – Essentially!**

- That Is - God Is Life:
 - In His Own Nature!
 - As Jesus Says In John 5:26 - “The Father Hath Life In Himself!”
 - And - As Is True With All Of The Other Attributes And Characteristics Of God:
 - John Gill Explains That “His Life Is Infinite, Eternal, And Immutable, As Also, Most Perfect!”
 - For God’s Life:
 - To Be **Infinite** Means:
 - That All Other Life:
 - Is Bound Up In His Life!
 - So - For Anything Else To Be Alive - Including You - It Means That:
 - You “Live Not So Much As Your **Own** Life As **Another’s**” – Since You Have Your “Life From God In Every Sense, And Are Supported In It By Him!” (Gill)
 - God’s Life Is An **Infinite** Life!
 - For God’s Life:
 - To Be **Eternal** Means:
 - That His Life **Has Always Been:**
 - And His Life **Will Always Be!**
 - And That He Provides The Very Definition Of Life To Everything Else!
 - God’s Life Is An **Eternal** Life!
 - For God’s Life:
 - To Be **Immutable** Means:
 - That His Life Will Never:
 - Ebb Or Flow - As Our Lives Often Do!
 - The Vitality Of God:
 - Never Changes!
- And That Is Why:
 - In Many Places Throughout Scripture:
 - He Is Identified As:
 - **The “Living God!”**
 - In Deuteronomy 5:26:
 - The Children Of Israel Cried Out - “For who is there of all flesh, that hath heard the voice of **the living God** speaking out of the midst of the fire, as we have, and lived?”
 - In 1 Samuel 17:26:
 - Before David Slew Goliath - He “Spake to the men that stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel? for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of **the living God?**”
 - In Psalm 42:1-2:
 - We Hear Ring Of This Familiar Refrain - “As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God. / My soul thirsteth for God, for **the living God:** when shall I come and appear before God?”
 - And - In Acts 14:15:
 - The Apostle Paul And Barnabas Made Their Appeal To The People Of Lystra, They Said - “Sirs, why do ye these things? We also are men of like passions with you, and preach unto you that ye should turn from these vanities unto **the living God,** which made heaven, and earth, and the sea,

and all things that are therein!”

- God Is The Living God:

- Because God Is Life:

- In His Very Nature & Essence!

- And - This Is True:

- For Each Person Of The Trinity!

- God The Father:

- Is The Father Of Life!

- As We Find In John 5:26 - “The Father Hath Life In Himself!”

- God The Son:

- Is The Son Of Life!

- As We Discover In John 1:1-4 - “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. / The same was in the beginning with God. / All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. / In him was life; and the life was the light of men!”

- God The Spirit:

- Is The Spirit Of Life!

- As We Are Told From 2 Corinthians 3:3 - “Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart!”

- God Is Life!

- But - Even More:

- This God Who Is Life:

- Is The God Who Is Your Life!

- In Deuteronomy 30:20 - In Some Of The Last Words Of Moses To The Children Of Israel - He Calls On Them & Us:

- To “Love the LORD thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him!” - Why?

- “**For he is thy life**, and the length of thy days!”

- God Is Life – Essentially!

- And - Second:

2. God Is Life – Eternally!

- That Is - God Is Life:

- Because He Alone Is:

- “Without Beginning, Succession, Or End!” (Gill)

- We Find This Truth In:

- Jeremiah 10:10 - Which Says - “But the LORD is the true God, he is the living God, and an everlasting king!”

- Since God Is Life – Eternally:

- It Also Means That His Life:

- Is Different Than:

- The Life We Possess!

- The Life Of God:

- Is Completely Incomparable:

- To The Life That He Provides!

- In 1 Timothy 1:17 - Paul Offers This Statement Of Praise To The Lord:

- “Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen!”

- Now - For Us:

- Life Is Bound Up:

- With Our Physical And Material Nature!

- God Designed Your Life:

- To Be Sustained By A Brain That Is Active, A Heart That Beats, And Lungs That Breathe!

- If You Take Away Your Body:

- Or Many Parts Of Your Body:

- You Will Die! Your Physical And Natural Life:

- Will Be Over!
- But - This Is Not The Case With God!
 - He Is “Immortal” Even Though:
 - He Is - At The Same Time:
 - “Invisible!”
- The Eternal Life Of God:
 - Is Incomparable!
 - But Also:
- The Life Of God:
 - Is Completely Independent!
 - This Means - There Is Absolutely Nothing:
 - He Needs To Sustain His Own Life!
 - But - The Life That We Were Given:
 - By God - Is Very Different:
 - And - By Design - Is:
 - A Very Dependent Life!
- Even As Jesus Tells Is In Those Familiar Verses Over In Matthew 6:25-33:
 - “Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? / Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? / Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? / And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: / And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. / Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? / Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? / (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things. / But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you!”
- The Eternal Life Of God:
 - Is Incomparable & Independent!
 - But This Does *Not* Mean That:
- The Life Of God:
 - Is Completely Indifferent!
 - Because It Is Not! **He** Is Not!
 - God Cares For The Life:
 - He Provides - Because:
 - Of The Eternal Life:
 - He Possesses!
 - This Is Why:
 - God Tells Us In:
 - Ezekiel 33:11 - With His Own Voice:
 - “As I live, saith the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?”
 - God Cares For:
 - The Life He Gives!
 - This Is Also Why:
 - Jesus Tells Us He Came:
 - In John 10:10 - “The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly!”
 - God Cares For:
 - The Life He Gives!
- And So - God Is Life!
 - God Is Life – First – Essentially!
 - God Is Life – Second – Eternally!
 - And Third:

3. **God Is Life – Efficiently!**

- That Is - God Himself:
 - Is The Efficient Cause & Source And Spring:
 - Of All Life!
 - Even As We Are Told In:
 - Psalm 36:9 - “For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light!”
 - God Is The True Author:
 - Of Any & All Forms Of Life:
 - “From The Lowest To The Highest Degree!” (Gill)
 - We Already Saw That:
- God Is The Source:
 - Of All Human Life!
 - By Breathing Into Us:
 - His “Breath Of Life!”
 - But:
- God Is Also The Source:
 - Of All Plant Life!
 - In Genesis 1:11 - We Are Told That On The Third Day Of Creation:
 - “God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so!”
- God Is Also The Source:
 - Of All Animal Life!
 - Not Only During The Early Days Of Creation:
 - But - Even Now - The Life Of God:
 - Is What Sustains The Life:
 - Of All The Animals In This World!
 - In Psalm 104:27-30 - We Read:
 - “These wait all upon thee; that thou mayest give them their meat in due season. / That thou givest them they gather: thou openest thine hand, they are filled with good. / Thou hidest thy face, they are troubled: thou takest away their breath, they die, and return to their dust. / Thou sendest forth thy spirit, they are created: and thou renewest the face of the earth!”
- God Is Also The Source:
 - Of All Spiritual Life!
 - Which Is Why Jesus Came Into This World!
 - And - Spiritual Life Is Eternal Life!
 - Even As Jesus Said:
 - In John 10:27-28:
 - “My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: / And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand!”
- And So - God Is Life!
 - God Is Life – First – Essentially!
 - God Is Life – Second – Eternally!
 - And - God Is Life – Third – Efficiently!

Conclusion:

1. And This Is Why Life:
 - Is So Special & So Significant:
 - To God!
2. But - Can You Say The Same Thing Tonight?
 - Is Life As Special:
 - To You - As It Is:
 - To God?
3. It Will Only Be This Way:
 - When You Experience:
 - The Life Of God:

- In All Of Its Fulness!

- When You Can Say With The Apostle Paul - From Galatians 2:20:

- "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me!"

4. To Be Truly & Fully Alive:

- You Need To Possess:

- The Spiritual Life:

- That Comes Through The Gospel:

- Of Jesus Christ!

- And Then:

- You Will Come To Understand:

- Just How Precious:

- Life Is!

5. Because - As Jesus Said:

- To Martha - In John 11:25:

- "I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live!"

* Do You Recognize God As The Source Of All Life?

* Have You Received The Spiritual & Eternal Life That Comes Through Jesus?

* Is Life Special To You As It Is To God?

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