

Caught in the Act (Pt. 1)

Romans 7:7-13

- I. God's Moral Law Doesn't Cause Your Sin (7-12).
 - A. The Objection (7a) – Paul's teaching leads to the conclusion that God's law is evil and the cause of sin.
 - B. Paul's Answer (7b-12) – our inherent sinfulness causes our sin.
 - 1. The Real Purpose of the Law for Unbelievers (7b-8a)
 - a. To identify the thoughts, attitudes, words, and actions that God says are sin (7b).
 - b. To prove that I am a sinner (8b-11).

The Point of the Ten Commandments

1. We are to know and acknowledge YHWH to be the only true God and our God.
2. God is to be worshipped but only in the way He has prescribed.
3. We are to fear God and we to treat Him and everything associated with Him with the greatest possible reverence and respect.
4. God is Lord of our time and demands that we devote most of our time to working and that we set aside the time He has prescribed to worship Him.
5. God has put others in positions of authority over us and we must honor them.

The Point of the Ten Commandments

6. God is the giver of life, and we must respect it and take all reasonable steps to preserve our own lives and that of others.
7. God has given the gift of sexuality and demands it only be enjoyed in marriage as He designed.
8. God has distributed material wealth according to His own sovereign purposes and demands we respect the property of others and be wise stewards of our own.
9. God demands that we maintain and promote truth in all our communication, as He does.
10. God demands that we be content with and grateful for our condition, circumstances, and estate.

The Principles of Interpretation

1. Eight of the ten are stated in a negative form, showing that God forbids all the sinful actions in each category.
2. Two of the ten are stated in a positive form, showing that God commands all the corresponding righteous actions in each category.
3. The 10th explicitly forbids certain thoughts, showing that in the other nine commandments God forbids all sinful thinking of that kind and demands the corresponding righteous thoughts.