

When You Hate...

Description

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Exodus 20:1-17

Some rules seem to go without saying: wash your hands before returning to work, do not text and drive, always extinguish your campfire, do not murder. Despite the basic concept, God still had to make it clear that we are not to murder. If you read the news, you understand that God's commandment was not given in vain: we really do need to be told.

Jesus took this commandment a step further: "You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, 'You shall not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.' But I tell you that anyone who is angry with a brother or sister will be subject to judgment" (Matthew 5:21-22). The gloves have come off! We do not have to use a weapon against another to be considered sinner. Even when we hate another, we have failed to live as God created us to live. Murder charges are serious. Jesus points to those of us with hatred in our lives and plainly says we have murder in our hearts. He leaves no wiggle-room for us to protest, "yes, but."

Allow God to examine and root out any hatred in your heart today.

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