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THE TEN COMMANDMENT LOOPHOLES

Relative Morality for Moral Absolutists

adapted from the *Holy Bible, Authorized King James version* (1611) by Meg A. Pixel (a.k.a. Tom Ersin) 1/1/08 [fiction]

Introduction. Let us preface this piece by being perfectly clear. Are we clear? Crystal? We are **not** satirizing the Word of God. We are satirizing the **Hypocritical Christians (HCs)** who surreptitiously corrupt it while publicly soaking in it. **HCs** are not to be confused with liberal, moderate, and conservative Christians who are good and principled people. **HCs** give Christianity a bad name through their hypocrisy and their self-serving selective adherence to its principles. When it suits them, they obey His Word and are self-righteous. And when it suits them, they disobey His Word and are self-righteous. Note that this is not simply a “falling short of perfection”; this is the consistent, intentional, and selective corruption of His Word.

Lo, (s)he of two faces: ***thou faithfully weareth the cloak of thy Lord thy God on thy sleeve, for all the village to behold, and are swathed in the airs of righteousness.***

I. Thou shalt have no other gods before me. **Duke Ellington and Miles Davis, though god-like, are merely mortals who can swing like no one else. However, I understand thy confusion. We giggeth every Tuesday night at the Wages of Sin Inn. Note: this week it's not our regular drummer.**

II. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; And showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

III. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain: for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain. **However, if thy finger gets slammed in thy car door, and thou faithfully weareth the cloak of thy Lord thy God on thy sleeve, for all the village to behold, and are swathed in the airs of righteousness, I will pretendeth not to hear.**

IV. Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work: But the seventh day *is* the sabbath of the Lord thy God: *in it* thou shalt not do any work, **unless thy lawn needeth mowing, or thy deck needeth construction, or thy horseless chariot needeth repair, or thy house needeth cleaning; then if thou faithfully weareth the cloak of thy Lord thy God on thy sleeve, for all the village to behold, and are swathed in the airs of righteousness, I will looketh the other way.** . . . thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that *is* within thy gates: For *in* six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them *is*, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.

V. Honor thy father and thy mother that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee. **As always, if thou faithfully weareth the cloak of thy Lord thy God on thy sleeve, for all the village to behold, and are swathed in the airs of righteousness (TFWTCOTLTGOTS, FATVTB, AASITAOR), I shall letteth any dishonor slide. Otherwise honor thy earthly creators, especially when in need of loans and gifts.**

VI. Thou shalt not kill **unless the leader of a foreign land shall attempt to smite thine earthly father. Then it is acceptable, nigh commendable, to smite tens of thousands of that land's innocent subjects. And in the process, several thousand of thine own compatriots and brave warriors will be smited. But God forbid, don't proclaim thy true motive. Also, this task shall normally only be carried out if said enemy nation doth attack thee first. But if TFWTCOTLTGOTS, FATVTB, AASITAOR*, I will cutteth thee thy slack thou desireth. (My children, I know it is an unwieldy acronym, but imagineth writing this out in full every time. It would have required three stone tablets! And don't ask me to pronounce it—I wouldn't have a prayer.)**

VII. Thou shalt not commit adultery **unless TFWTCOTLTGOTS, FATVTB, AASITAOR*, yada, yada, yada.**

VIII. Thou shalt not steal—but if **TFWTCOTLTGOTS, FATVTB, AASITAOR***, a little “*borrowing*” never hurt any of my children, especially if thee is mired in great personal debt. Manipulate the emotional infirmity of thy neighbors or thy kin who art invertebrate, and *borrow* away. Rinse and repeat. Thou must maintain thy *holier than thou* attitude of entitlement in order to staveth off the tremendous guilt that would normally be associated with and well deserved by this act. Hereth is thy plan. Thou may sayeth I commanded it.

IX. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor nor thy kin unless . . . (see *5th and 8th Commandments*). I proclaim this principle in more detail in my latest book *False Witness: And The False Witness Bearing Bearers Of False Witness Who Bear It* [Lord's House Publishing]. (*I can't rest solely on my Bible laurels for all eternity—or can I? My apologies to Al Franken, one of my chosen people.*

Thou shall earneth a free Get-out-of-Slavery card and an extra pass on Commandment #3.)

X. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, **nor his maidservant's ass**, nor any thing that *is* thy neighbor's.

XI. These go to 11. Thou shalt not speak ill of another Republican.

PS: Please taketh down those sickeningly cutesy signs in front of my house (e.g., "*Sign guy on vacation—come inside for message,*" or "*Let's all meet at my house before the big game on Sunday*"). Satan thinketh I am a wimp. Remember to love thy neighbor as thyself but not necessarily in the Biblical sense. Continue to speak to me in thy prayers. But for my children that are longeth of wind: *I don't need the whole Bible—just giveth me a few chapters.*

[* . . . thou faithfully weareth the cloak of thy Lord thy God on thy sleeve, for all the village to behold, and are swathed in the airs of righteousness.]

Epilogue to the Ten Commandment Loopholes

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