

COMMANDS ARE EQUAL

Someone has wisely said, *"Commands are to be obeyed and promises are to be received."* One command is not superior to another command: **all** commands are to be obeyed! No one has the right to evaluate one command as being more important than other commands. I do not remember reading of one command being more important than other commands - **all commands are to be obeyed**. Look at Eve, observe Cain, note the people in the days of Noah, consider Nadab and Abihu, acknowledge the sinners in I Cor. 10. God has designated in the Old Testament events, that God's commands must be obeyed. **No man has the right to choose which commands he wants to obey and which he wants to cast aside.**

There are those who think they can pick and choose the commands that, to them, are important and do what they want to do and leave the other commands **undone**. This is what they have done with the subject of **baptism**. When this happens the Lord called it, *"The doctrines and precepts of men,"* Matt. 15:8-9. One does not have the right to make such a judgment – he/she is not a law giver, this is the work of God and not of man. What if someone were to choose **FAITH** to be nonessential? Would this make him right? You see, to eliminate faith, would be equal to eliminating baptism. Jesus said, *"16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved,"* Mk. 16:16. Too be able to eliminate baptism and be justified; would be equal to one eliminating faith; and yet, being justified. If not why not? **Commands are to be obeyed**. We have no right to eliminate a command.

There is a command in the New Testament that Christians should **not eat blood!** When an appeal was made to the Elders, Apostles, Jerusalem church and the Holy Spirit, the requirements to be placed upon the Gentiles were: *"20 but that we write unto them, that they abstain from the pollutions of idols, and from fornication, and from what is strangled, and from blood,"* Acts 15:20. Among this list is the **"abstaining from blood!"** This is the only time, in the New Testament, we are required to abstain from blood; but, one time is enough! God has designated such and it is a command – **it is law!** Should one decide he wanted to eat blood and obey all the other commands, would he be justified – no he would not!

The New Testament commands us to *"flee fornication,"* I Cor. 6:18. Should one be disposed to keep all of the commands of the Lord; but, wanted to be a **"fornicator,"** Could he go to heaven being a *"fornicator?"* Look at Rev. 21:8, *"8 But for the fearful, and unbelieving, and abominable, and murders, and fornicators, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, their part shall be in the lake that burneth with fire and brimstone; which is the second death."* According to this passage one who is a "fornicator" will be lost in spite of all the good he may do! **One cannot be disobedient to the commands of God and expect to go to heaven!**

"8 But we know that the law is good, if a man use it lawfully, 9 as knowing this, that law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and unruly, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers, 10 for fornicators, for abusers of themselves with men, for menstealers for liars for false swearers, and if there be any other thing contrary to the sound doctrine; 11 according to the gospel of the glory of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust," I Tim. 1:8-11. All commands are to be obeyed. Unforgiven sins will cause one to be lost in eternal hell, Rev. 21:8.

I have no right to think I can flaunt any sin and think I shall not be held accountable.

Caa

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