



## Ireland and the Ten Commandments - Bible Study - Exodus 20:3-17.

**How do I and my fellow countrymen respond to God's Ten Commandments?**

What do we see as the response to each individual commandment -

Personally / Socially / Nationally (what are any observed general trends .)

### **1. "You shall have no other gods before Me.**

- **Personally** I will acknowledge no other god except the One True Triune God
- **Socially** Generally I see it is socially acceptable to treat many others as gods! – saints; Mary; Pope; Allah; etc.
- **Nationally** The government shows no respect for God's authority and readily legislates contrary to the Word of God!

### **2 "You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments**

- **Personally** I will not resort to having or using physical representations in my worship of God. [1 Cor 11:23f Remembrance]
- **Socially** Generally it is considered acceptable to worship using the "host", statues, pictures, relics, medallions etc.....!!!
- **Nationally** When swayed by ungodly influence the people show they are given to idolatry. (1 Sam 15:23. Col 3:5.)

### **3 "You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses His name.**

- **Personally** I will be careful not to violate the name of my God by my speech or by my life as His child.
- **Socially** Generally it is acceptable to profane the name of God and of Jesus Christ by irreverent use of the name!!!
- **Nationally** The country would be recognised as a "Christian" country yet flaunts ungodly standards and morality!!!

### **4 "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates. For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but He rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.**

[P.S. NOTE There is no saving merit in observing special days (Colossians 2:16-17.) but to observe the work/rest ethic your Creator God established for mankind indicates respect for God and trust in His Word. (Romans 14:5-6.)]

- **Personally** Having respect for my Creator God, I will acknowledge and promote His declared work/rest ethic.
- **Socially** The Creator's regulation for work/rest is rejected and opposed by blatant defiance of God's principle!
- **Nationally** There is not only the denial of God's work/rest ethic but also of the Creator God. Evolution is promoted!!!

**Continued overleaf**

## Ireland and the Ten Commandments (continued)

### **5 "Honour your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.**

- **Personally** I will promote and preserve the structure of the God ordained **family** unit - Father/mother/child(ren)
- **Socially** Total breakdown of the **family** unit is perverting our society – adultery; same sex “marriage”/ “parents”!!; etc.
- **Nationally** God’s father/mother/child pattern is despised by legalizing unnatural same-sex marriage/adoption, etc.!!

### **6 "You shall not murder.**

- **Personally** I respect & protect human life as God requires of us. – (“Accounting” for the taking of life! Gen 9:5-6.)
- **Socially** Taking of life is considered cheap as portrayed in abortion, murders, computer “games”, novels, TV drama etc..
- **Nationally** The wilful “murder” of innocent babies in the mother’s womb for convenience is legalized!! (Euthanasia next?!!)

### **7 "You shall not commit adultery.**

[P.S. NOTE - Matt 19:3-9. & 1 Cor 7:10-16.]

- **Personally** I will not break the marriage contract with my spouse “till death us part”. (Rom 7:2. Ecc 5:4-6.) [see NOTE]
- **Socially** Becoming more acceptable to have extra-marital relationships or/and to be “liberated” from a marriage!!
- **Nationally** Promiscuity promoted by legalising/teaching adultery, same-sex “marriage”, sex identity etc.(1 Cor 6:9-10.)

### **8 "You shall not steal.**

- **Personally** I will endeavour not to deprive anyone of their rightful money, possessions, time or rights etc..
- **Socially** Many endeavour to deprive employers, government, neighbours etc of legitimate taxes or time or belongings.
- **Nationally** Nations lusting to extend their borders or claim greater resources resort to all kinds of evil. (Jas 4:1-4.)

### **9 "You shall not give false testimony against your neighbour.**

- **Personally** I will not resort to falsehood and dishonesty.
- **Socially** Lying, cheating, dishonesty, unfaithfulness, deceit, etc form much of the fabric of everyday life around us!
- **Nationally** Politicians often spin fantastic facts and claims that they know cannot materialize! (See Psalm 146:3-4.)

### **10 "You shall not covet your neighbour’s house. You shall not covet your neighbour’s wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour."**

- **Personally** I will learn the blessedness of godliness with contentment - not give place to covetousness. (1 Tim 6:6-11.)
- **Socially** The spirit of our age promotes a covetous lust and a greedy desire for instant success and riches!
- **Nationally** National ambitions should be based on truth and righteousness, not greed and coveteousness. (Prov 14:34.)

## **CONCLUSION**

**Read Romans 1:18-32.**

- NOTE verse 24:- “Therefore God gave them over to the sinful desires of their hearts .....
- Verse 26:- “Because of this God gave them over to shameful lusts.....”
- Verse 28:- “Furthermore ..God..gave them over to a depraved mind.....”

**BUT THERE IS GREAT NEWS IN ROMANS 3:20-26 FOR ALL WHO WILL BELIEVE IT! Check it out for yourself!**