

## 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 God's work/rest ethic.
- **Socially** The Creator's regulation for work/rest is rejected and opposed by blatant defiance of God's principle!
- **Nationally** Generally the authorities deny the **Creator** God's ethic as they teach and promot Evolution!!!

**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 endeavour to promote the structure and the importance of the God ordained **family** unit.
- **Socially** The total breakdown of the **family** unit is perverting our society – adultery; same sex marriage; etc.
- **Nationally** The God given pattern of father/mother/child is despised by legalizing same sex marriage as "parents"!

**6** "You shall not murder.

- **Personally** I will respect and protect human life as God has shown – ("Accounting" for the taking of life! Gen 9:5-6.)
- **Socially** Killing of another is considered cheap as is portrayed in abortion, 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** Generally it is acceptable to end a marriage relationship or/and to have extra-marital relationships!!
- **Nationally** The government tolerates adultery, and promotes sexual liberty in same-sex relationships! (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** Greed can often be seen as the motivation for a country to extend its territory or its control over people.

**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 the age in which we live promotes a covetous lust and a desire for instant success and riches!
- **Nationally** National ambitions should be based on truth and righteousness, not greed and covetousness. (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!**