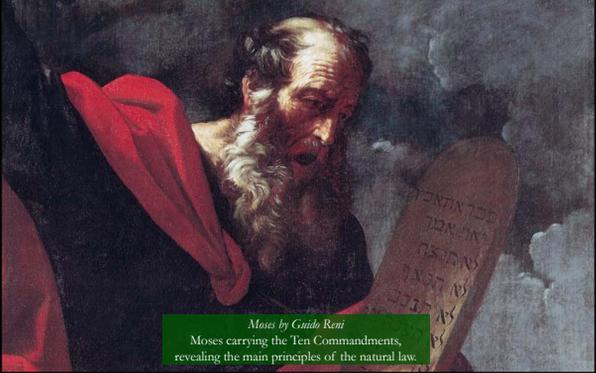




Beatitude and God's Law

Presenter | Deacon Martin Kulak

The Natural Law



Moses by Guido Reni
Moses carrying the Ten Commandments, revealing the main principles of the natural law.

The Giving of the Ten Commandments

eVANGELIUM



The Baptism of Christ by Piero della Francesca

Jesus Christ said that he had not come to abolish the law, but to fulfil it (Mt 5:17).
In particular, he confirmed the necessity of the Ten Commandments.

*Someone came to him and said, "Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?"
And he said to him ... "If you wish to enter into life, keep the commandments."*

Mt 19:16-17

The natural law and the law of grace



The Transfiguration by Fra Angelico
Jesus Christ is revealed in glory alongside Moses on his right. This shows his upholding of the natural law but that the law of grace also surpasses it.

The Ten Commandments

eVANGELIUM



The Ten Commandments are the ten universal laws given directly by God to Moses on Mount Sinai.

KEY DEFINITION

Commandments regarding God





THIRD COMMANDMENT
Remember to keep holy the Lord's day.

EXPLANATION

God wants us to dedicate specific time to him since worship is of the greatest importance.

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES

The failure to keep the Sabbath in the time of the prophets (Jer 17:19-27).

MODERN EXAMPLES

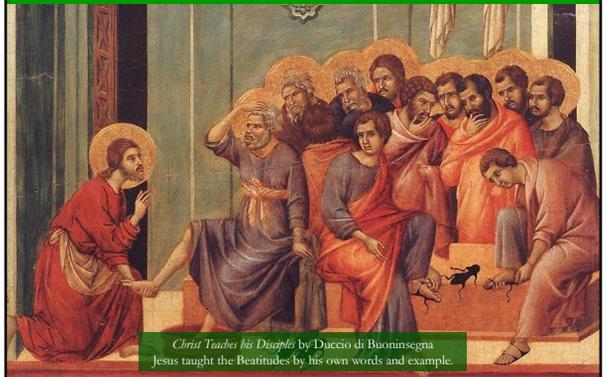
Missing Mass on Sunday or a holy day; doing unnecessary business or work on this day.



- The Ten Commandments are the ten universal laws given directly by God to Moses on Mount Sinai.
- The Ten Commandments are divided into commandments regarding God, commandments regarding others and commandments regarding desires.

[Activities Menu](#)

[Concluding Prayer](#)



Christ Teaches his Disciples by Duccio di Buoninsegna
 Jesus taught the Beatitudes by his own words and example.



The Beatitudes are eight states of blessedness proclaimed by Christ in the Sermon on the Mount (Mt 5:3-11).

These states manifest the life of heaven on earth, bringing a foretaste and promise of joy even amid earthly suffering.

KEY DEFINITION





Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

EXPLANATION

Poverty of spirit enables us not only to use the goods of this world (such as riches and honours) in moderation, but to be willing to surrender all of them joyfully for the sake of the kingdom of heaven.

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES

Jesus said to him, "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." Mt 19:21



Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

EXPLANATION

Mourning might not seem like a state of blessedness because earthly joys are not bad in themselves, although they can still come to dominate our lives. By grace, however, we set our hearts on heaven and are dissatisfied with anything less.

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES

"Truly, truly, I say to you, you will weep and lament, but the world will rejoice; you will be sorrowful, but your sorrow will turn into joy." Jn 16:20

Beatitudes of holy action and desire



Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

EXPLANATION

Meekness refuses even a proportionate and just response to evil. Jesus showed us the meaning of meekness when he submitted to being scourged, mocked and crucified without striking back.

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES

"To him who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from him who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt." Lk 6:29



Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

EXPLANATION

Hunger and thirst for righteousness goes beyond doing our duties to our neighbour. It is an *eager desire*, like a bodily appetite when we hunger and thirst, to do works of mercy, so that those around us and ourselves grow in holiness.

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES

"Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things shall be yours as well." Mt 6:31-33



Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

EXPLANATION

Mercy exceeds natural benevolence and natural pardon for wrongdoing. It is a lavish bestowing of our time and goods on those who cannot repay us. It is also the gift of forgiving even outrageous wrongs against us.

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES

"When you give a feast, invite the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you." Lk 14:13-14
"Love your enemies." Mt 5:43-44

Beatitudes of heavenly living



Beatitudes of heavenly living



**Blessed are the pure
in heart, for they
shall see God.**

EXPLANATION

Purity of heart is far more than preserving oneself from the stain of sin. It is the gift of a God-like heart, to love God for his own sake with a single minded clarity and passion, and to love others as God loves them.

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; even as I have loved you, that you also love one another."

Jn 13:34-35

Beatitudes of heavenly living



**Blessed are the
peacemakers,
for they shall be called
sons of God.**

EXPLANATION

Peacemaking goes beyond mere tranquil good order in earthly relationships. It is the gift of establishing unity with others in a friendship founded on the desire for their supernatural good, that is, to reach our final home with God in heaven.

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

Jn 14:27

The Beatitude of persecution for Christ



The Beatitude of persecution for Christ



**Blessed are those who are
persecuted for righteousness'
sake ... be glad, for your reward
is great in heaven.**

EXPLANATION

Persecution refers specifically to the trials that Christians face for preaching and living the Gospel. It blesses us in that it conforms us to Christ crucified, and holds the promise of great reward in heaven.

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES

"I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!"

Jn 16:33

Summary



- The Beatitudes are eight states of blessedness proclaimed by Christ in the Sermon on the Mount (Mt 5:3-11).
- These states manifest the life of heaven on earth, bringing a foretaste and promise of joy even amid earthly suffering.
- The Beatitudes cover holy detachment, holy action and desire, heavenly living and persecution for Christ.

Liturgy of the Hours



Christian Prayer
Divine Office
Breviary
Psalter
Work of God
iBreviary /Universalis...

The word Liturgy literally means work of the people. It is used to describe all the public acts of worship that take place, as it draws the people into the work of God.

Liturgical prayer is prayer for the salvation of the world. It can be distinguished from Devotional prayer, which is intended to unite the individual with God through Christ.

Christian origin: "Seven times a day I praise you". The Apostles observed the Jewish custom of praying at the third, sixth, and ninth hours, and at midnight (Acts 10:3, 9; 16:25; etc.)

After the Second Vatican Council, Prime was suppressed and the Liturgy of the Hours rearranged, the structure of the offices, the distribution of psalms, and the prayers were updated. The distinctions were expressed in the 1960 Code of Rubrics.

Liturgy of the Hours



Officium lectionis, or Office of Readings

(formerly Matins or Vigil; originally 2 a.m.)

Lauds or Morning Prayer (5 a.m., adjust to summer/winter; most important)

[Prime or Early Morning Prayer (6 a.m.)]

Terce or Mid-Morning Prayer (9 a.m.)

Sext or Midday Prayer (12 noon)

None or Mid-Afternoon Prayer (3 p.m.)

Vespers or Evening Prayer (6 p.m.; "at lamp lighting")

Compline or Night Prayer (before retiring, about 7 p.m.)

Final Prayer



A Prayer and Act of Charity

O my God, I love you above all things with my whole heart and soul because you are all good and worthy of all my love. I love my neighbour as myself for the love of you. I forgive all who have injured me and ask pardon of all whom I have injured.

Amen.