

MORAL OPPOSITES OF THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

Our first objective is to explicitly demonstrate how the Decalogue can be separated into moral opposites in four steps.

1. List all Ten Commandments. (Ex 20, Deut 5)
2. **Create a list with two columns.** In the first column , list the commands that are **negative** (ie God said not to do). In the second column, list the commands that are **positive** (Things God said to do) .
3. **Add** to your list in the row where a negative or positive commands occurs, **the opposite action that is implied by the command.** For example, we are to obey our parents; we are not to rebel against them (Eph 6:1-2). We are to not to steal. Instead, we are to work with our hands (be diligent), Eph 4:28; We are not to lie to one another , instead we are to speak the truth . Eph 4:25
4. **Write a one word summary** of the moral opposites. For example, do not steal is summarized as theft; working with hands is summarized as diligence.

Later, we will show how to find an amplified description of the commandments in Deuteronomy. Finally, we will show how John’s Gospel compares these moral laws to the physical laws of the first seven days.

Step 1: List all Ten Commandments (Ex 20, Deut 5)

Ten Commandments
1. Serve only the Lord.
2. Do not make idols
3. Do not take God’s name in vain
4. Remember Sabbath
5. Honor your Parents
6. Do not murder
7. Do not commit adultery.
8. Do not steal.
9. Do not lie.
10. Do not covet.

Step 2: Create a list with two columns.

In the first column , list the commands that are **negative** (ie God said not to do). In the second column, list the commands that are **positive** (i.e. Things God said to do) .

Negative Decalogue Commands (Vices)	Positive Decalogue Commands (Virtues)
	1. Serve only the Lord
2. Do not make idols	
3. Do not take God’s name in vain	
	4. Remember the Sabbath
	5. Honor your parents.
6. Do not murder	
7. Do not commit adultery	
8. Do not steal	
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Step 3: Add to each column the *moral opposite action implied by the command (in italics).*

Negative Decalogue Commands (Vices)	Positive Decalogue Commands (Virtues)
2. Do not make idols	1. Serve only the Lord
3. Do not take God's name in vain	4. Remember the Sabbath
<i>Do not rebel</i>	5. Honor your parents.
6. Do not murder	<i>Be kind, and merciful, Eph 4:31,32</i>
7. Do not commit adultery	<i>Be pure in heart (Jas 4:4)</i>
8. Do not steal	<i>Be diligent (Eph 4:28)</i>
9. Do not lie	<i>Speak the truth (Eph 4:25)</i>
10. Do not covet.	<i>Be content, grateful (2Tim6:5,6)</i>

Step 4: Use one word to summarize each command or implied Command in *Bold capitalized font.*

Negative Decalogue Commands (Vices)	Positive Decalogue Commands (Virtues)
2. Do not make idols (PRIDE,)	1. Serve only the Lord (HUMILITY)
3. Do not take God's name in vain (PRIDE)	4. Remember the Sabbath (HUMILITY)
<i>Do not rebel (REBELLION)</i>	5. Honor your parents. (OBEDIENCE)
6. Do not murder (BITTERNESS)	<i>Be kind, and merciful, Eph 4:31,32(FORGIVENESS)</i>
7. Do not commit adultery (DEFILEMENT)	<i>Be pure in heart (Jas 4:4) (PURITY)</i>
8. Do not steal (THEFT)	<i>Be diligent (Eph 4:28) (DILIGENCE)</i>
9. Do not lie (DECEIT)	<i>Speak the truth (Eph 4:25) (HONESTY)</i>
10. Do not covet. (COVETOUSNESS)	<i>Be content, grateful (2Tim6:5,6) (GRATEFULNESS)</i>

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Summary of Steps 1 through 4:

Ten Commandment Opposites

