

THE BIBLE

LEGALISTIC COMMANDS IN THE N.T.



SUMMARY: There is a general understanding that the Old Testament is a book of rules and the New Testament is a book of love. On average, there are more rules per page of the New Testament than there are rules per page of the Old Testament. It is reasonable to say that the Old Testament is characterized by rules and the New Testament is characterized by love, but the Old Testament shows the love of God and the New Testament has rules we must follow.

The following is a personal study of the New Testament in which the New Testament was read with a highlighter in hand, marking anything which seemed like a command.

DO, POSITIVE, MEASURABLE: 53 COMMANDS

- * Go teach all nations, Matt. 28:19-20, Mark 16:15-16
- * Repent and be baptized, Acts 2:38
- * Confess your sins one to another, James 5:16
- * Examine the Word daily, Acts 17:11
- * Teach, Romans 12:2, I Tim. 4:13-16
- * Be subject to civil government, Romans 13:1, Titus 3:1, I Peter 2:13-15

DO, POSITIVE, NOT MEASURABLE: 93 COMMANDS

- * Do good to all men, Gal. 6:10
- * Lay up treasures in Heaven, Matt. 6:19-21
- * Be ready for Christ's return, Luke 12:35-40
- * Rejoice always, I Thes. 5:16
- * Be anxious in nothing, Phil. 4:6
- * Keep unstained by the world, James 1:27

NEGATIVE, ABSTAIN, MEASURABLE: 61 COMMANDS

- * Gossip, Rom. 1:29, II Cor. 12:20
- * Swear, James 5:12, Matt. 5:33-37
- * Take your brother to court, I Cor. 6:1-2
- * Observe days, seasons, months, years, Gal. 4:10
- * Feed those unwilling to work, II Thes. 3:10-12
- * Add to or take away from book, Rev. 22:18-19

NEGATIVE, ABSTAIN, NOT MEASURABLE: 62 COMMANDS

- * Judge your brother, Rom. 14:3, Rom. 14:10, Matt. 7:1-5

- * Do not let the sun go down on your anger, Eph 4:26
- * Unmerciful, Romans 1:30
- * Greed, Romans 1:29, Ephesians 5:3
- * Envy, Romans 1:29, Galatians 5:21, Galatians 5:26
- * Unloving, Romans 1:30

These commands are not listed to help impose a form of legalism on the church, but rather to demonstrate that there are relatively few commands in the New Testament which you would not automatically associate with “good Christian living”.

Recognizing this we should be able to see the practicality of submitting to the commands which are given and then going on with our life as a Christian.

The following pages will give the complete listing of the commands in the New Testament found in the personal study.

DO, POSITIVE, MEASURABLE:

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| 1. Examine the word daily Acts 17:11 | Gal 6:1 |
| 2. Exercise gifts* Rom 12:6 | 14. Bear one another's burdens |
| 3. Preach II Tim 4:2 | Gal 6:2, Col 3:12 |
| 4. Teach Rom 12:2, I Tim 4:13, I Tim 4:16 | 15. Bear your own load Gal 6:5 |
| 5. Be subject to civil gov.
Rom 13:1, Tit 3:1, I Pet 2:13-15 | 16. Do all things without grumbling or
disputing Phil 2:14 |
| 6. Pay tax Rom 13:7, Matt 22:21 | 17. Speech seasoned with grace Col 4:6 |
| 7. Render custom Rom 13:7 | 18. Obey your leaders Heb 13:17 |
| 8. Owe nothing Rom 13:8 | 19. Ask for wisdom James 1:5-6 |
| 9. Greet with a holy kiss* Rom 16:16, II
Cor 13:12, I Thes 5:26 | 20. Lead a quiet life and work with your
hands I Thes 4:11 |
| 10. Avoid dissensions contrary to
scriptures Rom 16:17 | 21. Behave properly toward outsiders
and not be in need I Thes 4:12 |
| 11. Pay preacher I Cor 9:11 & 14,
II Cor 11:8, Gal 6:6 | 22. Be sober I Thes 5:8 |
| 12. Women keep silent in church
Rom 14: 34-35 | 23. Encourage one another I Thes 5:11,
Heb 3:13 |
| 13. Restore one caught in a trespass | 24. Admonish the unruly I Thes 5:14 |
| | 25. Encourage the fainthearted I Thes
5:14 |
| | 26. Help the weak I Thes 5:14 |

27. Abstain from evil I Thes 5:22
28. Be an example in your youth I Tim 4:13
29. Read scripture in public I Tim 4:13
30. Provide for your own household I Tim 5:8
31. Instruct rich not to put hope in riches James 1:27
32. Visit orphans and widows James 1:27
33. Say if the Lord wills James 4:15
34. Sick to call the elders to pray and anoint with oil* James 5:14
35. Confess your sins one to another James 5:16
36. Turn back those who stray James 5:19
37. Keep behavior excellent I Pet 2:12
38. Be ready to give an answer I Pet 3:15
39. Test every spirit*, I John 4:1-3
40. Be reconciled with your brother Matt 5:23-24
41. Make friends with your opponents Matt 5:25-26, Luke 12: 58-59
42. Turn the other cheek, Matt 5:38-48
43. Fast Matt 6:16-18, Acts 13:2-3, Acts 14:23
44. Don't fast, Matt 9:14
45. Golden rule, Matt 7:12
46. Sell possessions and give to the poor Matt 19:21
47. Great commission Matt 28:19-20, Mark 16:15-16
48. Be a good Samaritan, Luke 20:37
49. Wash one another's feet John 13: 14-15
50. Honor widows indeed, I Tim 5:3
51. Care for grandparents, I Tim 5:4
52. Repent, Acts 2:38
53. Be baptized, Acts 2:38

DO, POSITIVE, NOT MEASURABLE:

1. Tender hearted Gal 4:32
2. Forgiving Gal 4:32, Matt 6:14-15
3. Regard others more important than yourself Phil 2:3
4. Look out for the interests of others Phil 2:4
5. Work out your salvation with fear and trembling Phil 2:12
6. Rejoice in the Lord Phil 3:1, Phil 4:4
7. Beware of the dogs, evil workers, and false circumcision Phil 3:2
8. Keep living by the standard we have attained Phil 3:16
9. Let your forbearing spirit be known to all men Phil 4:5
10. Be anxious in nothing Phil 4:6
11. Let your mind dwell on good things and practice these things Phil 4:8-9
12. Set your mind on things above Col 3:2
13. Conduct yourself with wisdom toward outsiders Col 4:5

14. Let man in humble circumstances glory James 1:9
15. Let the rich have humility James 1:10
16. Esteem those in charge I Thes 5:12-13
17. Rejoice always I Thes 5:16
18. Give thanks I Thes 5:18
19. Examine everything I Thes 5:21
20. Temperate Titus 2:2
21. Dignified Titus 2:2
22. Sensible Titus 2:2
23. Sound Titus 2:2
24. Reverent Titus 2:3
25. Take care Heb 3:12
26. Fear Heb 4:11
27. Press on toward maturity Heb 6:1-2
28. Hold fast the confession Heb 10:23
29. Lay aside encumbrances Heb 12:1
30. Remember prisoners Heb 13:3
31. Be free of the love of money Heb 13:5
32. Be content with what you have Heb 13:5
33. Be doers of the word James 1:2
34. Bridle your tongue James 1:26
35. Keep unstained by world James 1:27
36. Perseverance Rom 5:4
37. Character Rom 5:4
38. Hope Rom 5:4
39. Service Rom 12:7
40. Exhort Rom 12:8, I Tim 4:13, II Tim 4:2
41. Lead Rom 12:8
42. Show mercy Rom 12:8, Matt 5:7
43. Be devoted to one another Rom 12:10
44. Hospitality Rom 12:13, Heb 13:2
45. Bless your persecutors Rom 12:14
46. Be at peace with all men Mark 9:50
47. Behave properly Rom 13:13
48. Accept the weak Rom 14:1
49. Bear the weak Rom 15:1
50. Please your neighbor Rom 15:2
51. Sober minded I Cor 15:34
52. Pursue love I Cor 14:1
53. Sober in all things II Tim 4:5
54. Forgive II Cor 2:7, Col 3:12
55. Comfort II Cor 2:7
56. Test yourself II Cor 13:5
57. Love your neighbor Gal 5:14
58. Perseverance I Tim 6:11
59. Righteousness I Tim 6:11
60. Joy Gal 5:22
61. Peace Gal 5:22
62. Patience Gal 5:22, II Tim 4:2, Col 3:12, I Thes 5:14
63. Kindness Gal 5:22, Col 3:12
64. Goodness Gal 5:22
65. Faithfulness Gal 5:22, I Tim 6:11
66. Gentleness Gal 5:23
67. Self control Gal 5:23
68. Humility Eph 5:23
69. Do good to all men Gal 6:10
70. Forbearance Eph 4:2
71. Diligent Eph 4:3, II Peter 3:14
72. Speak the truth Gal 4:25
73. Compassion Col 3:12, I Tim 6:11
74. Love Col 3:14, I Tim 6:11

- 75. Godliness I Tim 6:11
- 76. Be miserable & mourn & weep
James 4:9
- 77. All the right things James 4:17
- 78. Knowledge II Peter 1:5
- 79. Spotless II Peter 3:14
- 80. Blameless II Peter 3:14
- 81. Follow Christ Matt 4:19
- 82. Poor in spirit Matt 5:3
- 83. Mourn Matt 5:4
- 84. Desire righteousness Matt 5:6
- 85. Pure in heart Matt 5:8
- 86. Peacemakers Matt 5:9
- 87. Lay up treasures in heaven Matt 6:19-21
- 88. Beware of false prophets Matt 7:15-23
- 89. Allow the dead to bury the dead Matt 8:22
- 90. Take Jesus' yoke Matt 11:28-30
- 91. Reprove your brother Matt 18:15
- 92. Be ready for Christ's return Luke 12:35-40
- 93. Do good without expecting return Luke 14:12-15

NEGATIVE, ABSTAIN, MEASURABLE:

- 1. Fornication, Acts 15:20 & 29, Acts 21:25, I Cor 6:9, Heb. 13:4
- 2. Exchanging the natural for the unnatural, Rom 1:26
- 3. Homosexuality, Rom 1:27, I Cor 6:9
- 4. Incest, I Cor 5:1-2
- 5. Sexual Promiscuity Rom 13:13
- 6. Sensuality Rom 13:13, II Cor 12:21, Gal 5:19
- 7. Adultery I Cor 6:9, Heb 13:4, Matt 19:18
- 8. Effeminate I Cor 6:9
- 9. Immorality II Cor 12:21, Gal 5:19, Eph 5:3, I Thes 4:3
- 10. Uncleanliness or impurity II Cor 12:21, Gal 5:19, Eph 5:3
- 11. Carousals I Peter 4:3, Gal 5:21, Rom 13:13
- 12. Drinking Parties I Pet 4:3
- 13. Do not drink water only but drink a little wine for your stomach's sake I Tim 5:22-23
- 14. Drunkard I Cor 5:11, I Cor 6:19, Gal 5:21, Eph 5:18
- 15. Things contaminated by idols Acts 15:20 & 29, Acts 21:25
- 16. Things strangled Acts 15:20 & 29, Acts 21:25
- 17. Blood Acts 15:20 & 29, Acts 21: :25
- 18. Murder Rom 1:29, James 4:2
- 19. Strife Rom 1:29, Rom 13:13, II Cor 12:20, Gal 5:20
- 20. Gossip Rom 1:29, II Cor 12:20
- 21. Abusive speech Col 3:8

22. Slander II Cor 12:20, Eph 4:31 Col 3:8, Rom 1:20
23. Boastful Rom 1:30, I Cor 3:21, Gal 5:26
24. Unwholesome word Eph 4:29
25. Silly Talk Gal 5:4
26. Coarse Jestng Gal 5:4
27. Lie Col 3:9
28. Swear James 5:12, Matt 5:33-37
30. Call someone fool Matt 5:22
31. Take your own revenge Rom 12:19
32. Cause your brother to stumble Rom 14:21, I Cor 8:9 & 13
33. Allow divisions I Cor 1:10
34. Swindler I Cor 5:10, I Cor 6:9
35. Idolator I Cor 5:10, I Cor 6:9, I Cor 10:14, Gal 5:19
36. Do not eat with immoral, covetous, idolater, reviler, drunkard, or swindler brother I Cor 5:11, II Thes 3:6, II Thes 3:14-15
37. Sue your brother I Cor 6:1-2
38. Be a thief I Cor 6:9, Eph 4:28, Matt 19:8, I Peter 4:15
39. Men pray with head covered
40. Women pray without head covered I Cor 11:5-15
41. Eat a meal in church service I Cor 11:20-22
42. Be deceived I Cor 15:33, II Thes 2:3
43. Listen to contrary gospel Gal 1:8
44. Observe days, months, seasons, years Gal 4:10
45. Sorcery Gal 5:19
46. Let no one judge you with respect to food, drink, festival, new moon, or Sabbath day Col 2:16
47. Let no one defraud you of your prize by delighting in self abasement & worship of angels Col 2:18
48. Do not submit to do not handle, do not taste, and do not touch, Col 2:20-23
49. Repay evil for evil I Thes 5:15
50. Feed those unwilling to work II Thes 3:10-12
51. Rebuke an older man I Tim 5:1
52. Be carried away by strange teachings Heb 13:9
53. Troublesome meddler I Pet 4:15
54. If anyone comes with another teaching, do not receive in your house or greet II John 10-11
55. Add to or take away from book Rev 22:18-19
56. Practice righteousness to be noticed by men Matt 6:1-4
57. Give what is holy to dogs Matt 7:6
58. Blaspheme Matt 12:31 (i.e. cursing God)
59. Blaspheme the Holy Spirit Matt 12:32
60. Bear false witness Matt 19:18
61. Be called Rabbi, father or leader Matt 23:8-12

NEGATIVE, ABSTAIN, NOT MEASURABLE:

1. Unrighteousness Rom 1:29
2. Wickedness Rom 1:29, II Tim 2:19
3. Greed Rom 1:29, Eph 5:3
4. Malice Rom 1:29, Eph 4:31
5. Envy Rom 1:29, Gal 5:21, Gal 5:26
6. Deceit Rom 1:29
7. Disturbances II Cor 12:20
8. Haters of God Rom 1:29
9. Insolent Rom 1:29
10. Arrogant Rom 1:30, Rom 11:18 II Cor 12:20
11. Inventors of evil Rom 1:30
12. Without understanding Rom 1:30
13. Untrustworthy Rom 1:30
14. Unloving Rom 1:30
15. Unmerciful Rom 1:30
16. Selfishly ambitious Rom 2:8
17. Let sin reign in your body Rom 6:12
18. Conformed to the world Rom 12: 1-2
19. Haughty Rom 12:6
20. Think yourselves wise Rom 12:1
21. Repay evil for evil Rom 12:17
22. Jealousy Rom 13:13, Gal 5:20
23. Judge your brother Rom 14:3, Rom 14:10, Matt 7:1-5
24. Act against conscience Rom 14 23
25. Challenge one another Gal 5:26
26. Covetous I Cor 5:10
27. Contentious I Cor 11:16
28. Seek to be justified by the law Gal 5:4
29. Enmity Gal 5:20
30. Anger Gal 5:20, Eph 4:31, Col 3:8
31. Wrath Eph 4:31, Col: 8
32. Disputes Gal 5:20
33. Clamor Eph 4:31
34. Dissention Gal 5:20
35. Factions Gal 5:20
36. Do not let the sun go down on your anger Eph 4:26
37. Grieve the Holy Spirit Eph 4:30
38. Bitter Eph 4:31
39. Filthiness Gal 5:4
40. Selfish Ph 2:3
41. Conceit Ph 2:3
42. Fall captive to philosophy Col 2:8
43. Transgress your brother I Thes 4:6
44. Defraud your brother I Thes 4:6
45. Grow weary of well doing II Thes 3:13
46. Quench the spirit I Thes 5:19
48. Despise prophetic utterances I Thes 5:20
49. Have nothing to do with old wives tales I Tim 4:7
50. Worldly and empty chatter II Tim 2:16
51. Say I am tempted of God James 1:13-16
52. Hold faith in personal favoritism James 2:1
53. Make distinctions among yourselves with evil motives James 1:4-9
54. Lust James 4:2, Matt 5:28

55. Speak against one another James
4:11

56. Complain James 5:9

57. Malice I Peter 2:1

58. Guile I Peter 2:1

59. Love the world I John 2:15

60. Hate your brother I John 3:15

61. Is anxious Matt 6:25-34

62. Cause little ones to stumble Mark
9:42.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMANDS

WITHDRAWING

1. Not to associate with immoral,
covetous, idolater, reviler, drunkard, or
swindler brother, remove and do not
even eat with I Cor 5:1-13

2. Forgive repentant II Cor 2:1-11

3. Let unrepentant sinner be as a Gentile
and a tax-gatherer Matt 18:15-18

4. Turn away from those who cause
dissentions contrary to the teachings
Romans 16:17

5. Keep aloof from unruly brother II Thes
3:6

6. Blasphemers delivered to Satan I Tim
1:20

CHILDREN

1. Matt 19:19

2. Romans 1:30

3. Eph 6:1-4

4. Col 3:20-21

SLAVES/MASTERS

1. Col 3:22-23

2. Eph 6:5-9

3. I Peter 2:18

4. Col 4:1

5. I Tim 6:1-2

6. Titus 2:9

WOMEN'S DRESS

1. I Tim 2:9-16

2. I Peter 3:3

WIDOWS

1. I Tim 5:3-16

MARRIAGE & DIVORCE

1. Matt 5:31-31

2. Matt 19:1-9

3. Mark 10:6-12

4. Luke 16:18

5. 1 Cor 7:1-28

6. 1 Cor 8:39

7. Eph 5:22-33

8. Col 3:18-19

9. Titus 2:4

10. Hebrews 13:4

11. I Peter 3:1-7