

Who is the origin of Christianity?

Christianity originated in Roman occupied Jerusalem, a predominantly but not entirely **Jewish** society, with traditional philosophies distinct from the Classical Greek thought which was dominant in the greater Roman Empire at the time.

Beliefs and Practices

Belief in God the Father, Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and the Holy Spirit.

The death, descent into hell, resurrection and ascension of Christ.

The holiness of the Church and the communion of saints.

Christ's second coming, the Day of Judgement and salvation of the faithful.

Effects:

The ten commandments, in order, are:

1. "I am the Lord thy God, thou shalt not have any strange gods before Me."

This commandment forbids *idolatry*, the worship of false gods and goddesses, and it excludes *polytheism*, the belief in many gods, insisting instead on *monotheism*, the belief in one God. This commandment forbids making golden calves, building temples to Isis, and worshipping statues of Caesar, for example.

2. "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain."

The faithful are required to honor the name of God. It makes sense that if you're to love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength, then you're naturally to respect the name of God with equal passion and vigor.

3. "Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day."

The Jewish celebration of Sabbath (*Shabbat*) begins at sundown on Friday evening and lasts until sundown on Saturday. Catholic, Protestant, and Orthodox

Christians go to church on Sunday, treating it as the Lord's Day instead of Saturday to honor the day Christ rose from the dead.

4. "Honor thy father and mother."

This commandment obliges the faithful to show respect for their parents — as children *and* adults. Children must obey their parents, and adults must respect and see to the care of their parents, when they become old and infirm.

5. "Thou shalt not kill."

The better translation from the Hebrew would be "Thou shalt not murder" — a subtle distinction but an important one to the Church. Killing an innocent person is considered murder. Killing an unjust aggressor to preserve your own life is still killing, but it isn't considered murder or immoral.

6. "Thou shalt not commit adultery."

The sixth and ninth commandments honor human sexuality. This commandment forbids the actual, physical act of having immoral sexual activity, specifically adultery, which is sex with someone else's spouse or a spouse cheating on their partner.

7. "Thou shalt not steal."

The seventh and tenth commandments focus on respecting and honoring the possessions of others. This commandment forbids the act of taking someone else's property. The Catholic Church believes that this commandment also denounces cheating people of their money or property, depriving workers of their just wage, or not giving employers a full day's work for a full day's pay.

8. "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor."

The Eighth Commandment condemns lying. Because God is regarded as the author of all truth, the Church believes that humans are obligated to honor the truth. The most obvious way to fulfill this commandment is not to *lie* — intentionally deceive another by speaking a falsehood. So a good Catholic is who you want to buy a used car from.

9. “Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor’s wife.”

The Ninth Commandment forbids the intentional desire and longing for immoral sexuality. To sin in the heart, Jesus says, is to lust after a woman or a man in your heart with the desire and will to have immoral sex with them. Just as human life is a gift from God and needs to be respected, defended, and protected, so, too, is human sexuality. Catholicism regards human sexuality as a divine gift, so it’s considered sacred in the proper context — marriage.

10. “Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor’s goods.”

The Tenth Commandment forbids the wanting to or taking someone else’s property. Along with the Seventh Commandment, this commandment condemns theft and the feelings of envy, greed, and jealousy in reaction to what other people have.

Impact: How people lead good lives if following and living by the ten commandments.