

At a scholars' meet in Boston five days ago (22Mar85) I heard Mary Daly opt for PURE LUST (the title of her latest book) over against media-manipulated "plastic passions" and religion-and-law-indoctrinated "potted passions." A God-and-man(male)-hating ex-nun, she locates the holy in free-flowing female energy, around which she's built her sanctional system (promises/rewards// threats/punishments as +/- incentives to faithfulness to this particular holy, which is to be submitted to and served also despite the consequences). She's highpriestess to the most developed religion to develop out of feminism. From the underlinings, you can see here one of my definitions of religion....This thinksheet continues #1941's footnotes, so review those before studying this. Further, #233 (a Biblically-derived analytic for perceiving the ultimate and the consequence sanctions of the West) is background for the present thinksheet. ...Now for an extreme simplification (for ease of discussion with clarity) I'm putting this question "in front of" the Decalog texts, without much getting into what's "in back of" them (the life out of which they came--by a process I describe in #27, and which is splendidly worked out on pp.192-9 of N.Gottwald, THE BIBLE AND LIBERATION: POLITICAL AND SOCIAL HERMENEUTICS, Orbis/83/84):

**Why obey the Ten Commandments?**

1. Because God, and only God, is god, "the sole high god....powerful, just, and merciful." With Durkheim (and Gottwald), I affirm the inextricable interrelation of life and idea: we are anchored in history, and efforts to extract our ideas from our history have pernicious effects. And with Otto (and Eliade), I affirm a reality-correspondence to the human reach-aspiration-longing for the Beyond, the More Than: "Religion is an element in the structure of consciousness, not a stage in the history of consciousness" (Eliade)....The first two Commandments affirm this (H.Rich. Niebuhr) "radical monotheism" or (Gottwald) "mono-Yahwism."

2. The present form of the Decalog is prohibitions + editorializings, the latter from both covenant tradition (mainly what I call "ultimate sanctions") and wisdom tradition (mainly what I call "sanctions of consequences"). Note the paradox: prohibition frees, positive command binds. (EXAMPLE: Before WWII I was on Hitler's great ship "Bremen" and was free to wander everywhere except for wherever I encountered a "Verboten" sign.)....Another note on form: the model is political, the covenant-treaty imposed by a sovereign on a vassal (Mendenhall); but summaries take many forms, for use in the annual covenant-renewal ritual (Exodus?), in education (Deuteronomy?), as a visual (carved in stone in Solomon's temple: 1K.8.9)--and not always "10 words" (Ex.34.28; Deut.4.13 & 10.4): in 2 in Jesus (Deut.6.5 + Lev.19.18, quoted in Mt.22.37-39 and parallels), love being the ultimate sanction vertically (in relation to God) and horizontally (in relation to neighbor)....Our clue to the multi-use of the Decalog is in the variety both of the prohibitions and of the editorializings (especially of the latter) in and beyond the Bible (e.g., Qumran).

3. Grace,\* not law, has the priority in Ex. and Deut. Decalogs, which begin not with God's commanding but with divine liberation from oppression--implying the sanction of gratitude and the prescription of covenant-loyalty (continuous with God's nature as leal-love, *chesedh*). Violation of this is the essence of sin: amnesia about this is the essence of wandering (as K. Menninger, WHATEVER BECAME OF SIN?--on the moral rootlessness of America today). The second Commandment engenders leal-love positively, but also negatively: God punishes sinners (the retributive sanction, +/-). Our society has very largely substituted the autonomous sanction: you are your own best friend/enemy. (The third Commandment is the only other using punishment.)...The only other stated use of a sanction is in the fifth Commandment: the positive side of the retributive sanction: you'll live long and (Deut. adds) well if you treat your parents right....Amazingly sparse are sanctions in the present texts of the Decalog--but all the rest of Scripture is midrash, ex-foliation and reinforcement.

Also, Deut.5.4.

9-12  
first time  
Candlish?  
Lampson  
Lampson  
Peters  
David

Command for Technology. imperative (if it can be done, it must...)  
DECALOG (in add. to think sheets on)  
727.773, value (intensive individual)  
Show 1st of 3 vols. of INTERLINEAR!  
Huck-L.-T., p.130+  
give an order or assign. (task)

B.P. Attached  
#1945

Outcroppings of legal materials otherwise submerged in the Bibl. narratives.  
20 variants, most of them small, bet. Ex. & Deut.  
GRACE in intro. sentence (both texts) & in 4th Deut. ("Remember you were slaves  
bed: born of gratitude and praise!  
3rd--against (1) unnec. oaths and (2) magic: G is free, and (bec. Decalog neg.)  
so are we!

This and next

4th--the only positive Commandments--except if, as is the case, the force is "No  
work on the Sabbath"...Authorizes both work and rest.

5th (parents)--The ONLY CERTAINLY pos. Commandment! Since "heavy" (727),  
the opp. of "treat lightly." DEFERENCE (high respect), veneration, reverence:  
4 levels. Peer gp. = collapse of higher 3 into horiz., so all are "+"...  
The B. way makes for a cohesive-conservative-stable community and tradition (as  
Gn.12: the B. is the story of Ab.'s family). (At the ch. dinner in this rm. Sun.,  
L. & I sat with Kellys, who have 8 chn., 28 grandchn., & 16 greatgrandchn.!)...  
The "cardinal" ("swing") Commandment: duties to God/humanity... ~~Murder esp.~~

5th  
6th  
7th  
8th  
9th  
10th  
Horiz.  
romance  
seduction  
rape  
includes  
rd. 9th  
Lander  
To a mistress  
last weeks  
Larkin like  
Is too a good  
to young  
What do you  
have in  
your  
our  
to?

6th (kill)-- here mainly community-disrupting killing, viz., murder (no B.  
instances of abortion or infanticide-by-exposure). The life-life ? for us: in  
matters of life and death, what actions are community-supportive/disruptive (in  
view of all relationships, incl. with the BIOSPHERE!)...All forms of murder, but  
esp. blood vengeance (vendetta).  
to G: Gn.9.5f--and then not by an ind.!

7th (adultery)--gen. principle: no sex. violence (rape of phys. body or of the  
fund. soc. body, viz., the family). Only G is holy, but both wombs are sacred  
(i.e., inviolate: 2 "mono"-s! So, tendency toward (1) monogamy and (2) virginal  
marriage (as L. & I) (premarital sex. continence being a disciplinary prep. for  
marital faithfulness).  
No painless sex trips, and no excuse for self-r....Tolstoy's ANNA KARENINA (3  
hrs. on TV tonight!) couldn't "hold" herself "in" ("con-tinence") and lost her  
husband, children, phys. health (drugs), mental health (paranoia), and life (suicide):  
story, not commandment, is the basic carrier of morals, morality, ethos....Phys.  
love is to be servant of (1) heart, (2) family, (3) community-tribe-nation-world,  
(4) G; when it becomes lord, it's the sweet-sour lord of destruction (the "soaps").  
("Dallas" and "Dynasty" are cases of wandering genitals, moral chn. running around  
in mature skinbags--boring as hell; I've never watched either.)...Child-abuse  
ed. now speaks of "good/bad touch": it ought to be reinstated for sex ed. (+  
the purity s.: clean/dirty--only 2 dirty girls in Kenmore HS). DEGENERATE Puri-  
tanism taught sex dirty, NOT Puritanism, w. taught sex ~~200~~...5th & 7th on family  
maintenance: G.'s promise to Ab.!

8th (steal)--violates persons, whose possessions are extensions of them (inc.  
kidnapping!). Gambling (I never, but not a virtue: a tradition!).

9th (false witness)--My father's court-B.!, ~~AVU~~, emptiness; Deut., ~~100~~.

10th (covet; orig., don't "seize"; later, psychic seizing, so my "don't feed desire").  
Deut., a few cs. later than Ex., reverses, so "wife" comes before "house."...  
PROVERBS: "Envy & covetousness are never satisfied"; "Envy eats nothing but its  
own heart"; "Envy never enriches anyone"...8th & 10th are close: Piro case (\$5,000  
FBI scam--jury consultant Jas. Burgunt, Cotuit, weeds out religious as pot.jurors  
bec. "just-world syndrome...basically insecure people who need to believe that  
society" operates justly and so would favor Piro's original sentence (CCT, p.1,24?Mar).