

Intro:

4th rule of 8 to understand ML. READ WLC Q&A 99:4. Opposites are implied, negatively and positively.

Main Point of Text: People who approach God's holy righteousness and are blessed are those who purely seek His face.

Sermon Point: *Purely seek God's smiling face.*

Move 1: God's positive commands imply and require what you may not do.

LC: “where a duty is commanded, the contrary sin is forbidden”:

- 4th Commandment implies negative: READ Isaiah 58:13.
- *Thou shalt fear the LORD thy God, and serve him, and shalt swear by his name.* (Deut. 6:13). Jesus quotes and applies in Matthew 4:9-10. Obeys implications, and Commandments 1 and 3.

Move 2: God's negative commands imply and require what you must do.

LC: “where a sin is forbidden, the contrary duty is commanded”:

- READ Matthew 5:21-25. Commandments 6 and 9 imply opposites.
- *Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.* (Ephesians 4:28).

Move 3: God's promises of reward imply His discipline when you disobey Him.

LC: “where a promise is annexed, the contrary threatening is included”:

- Exodus 20:12. 5th commandment's promise implies punishment. Not just an opt out of blessing.
- *The eye that mocketh at his father, and despiseth to obey his mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it.* (Prov. 30:17).

Move 4: God's warnings of punishment imply His blessings when you obey Him.

LC: “where a threatening is annexed, the contrary promise is included”:

- READ Jeremiah 18:7-8. Personification, but point is there. Change and get mercy.
- Exodus 20:7. 3rd Commandment implies the blessing of obedience and reverence:
 - READ Psalm 15:1, 4-5. And Psalm 24:3-6:
 - Vs. 3: Who can approach God? Implied not just anyone: vss. 1-2.
 - Vs. 4: A certain kind of man/generation: those with “empty” (Hebrews) hands, heart, soul. Void of evil. Will not swear “treacherously”. Worship with clear behavior, thoughts, words.
 - Vs. 5: Reward: God's blessing, righteousness, and salvation. Reflection of it.
 - Vs. 6: particularly this man/generation seeks God's face. Real, personal, fellowship.

Conclusion:

Purely seek God's smiling face.