

Commanded to Love

Based on *Heidelberg Catechism*, Lord's Day 40, Q. 105–107

1. In thoughts or words or ges - tures, Much less in acts or deeds,
2. Who - ev - er sheds man's blood shall By man his blood be shed;
3. We al - so are com - mand - ed To love as Christ would do:

I may not kill my neigh - bour Nor hate him spite - ful - ly;
The gov - ern - ment bears sword to Keep jus - tice, peace in - stead.
With pa - tience, peace, and meek - ness, With mer - cy, kind - ness true;

I may not wound, dis - hon - our, Or cause-less an - gry be;
Ac - count - ing these as mur - der—All en - vy, hate, though hid;
Pre - vent our neigh - bour's hurt and Do good e - ven un - to

I may not hurt my - self nor En - dan - ger will - ing - ly.
The Lord ab - hors such sins, and Re - venge He does for - bid.
Our en - e - my who hun - gers—Heaped coals of love sub - due.

Music: John B. Herbert (1852–1927)
Text: Paul Wagenaar, 2025 © 2025, Paul Wagenaar

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