

Religious LAWS (rules) - - Islam - Jewish - - Catholic - - Christian

If people are to obey God, please God, live the way He intended...

The boundaries have to be explained, rules have to be documented.

They must come from a sacred holy standard, moral compass, or divine scriptural authority.

Non Religious universal law – **secular humanism** (*see footnotes at bottom*)

Sharia law – Quran given verbally to Muhammad and written by his scribes

Sharia includes harsh rules. These include legal systems allowing amputation for theft, public lashing, male guardianship over women, and, in some interpretations, death penalties for crimes like blasphemy or homosexuality.

1. Obligatory – 5 pillars
 2. Recommended
 3. Permitted
 4. Discouraged
 5. Forbidden - strictly forbidden (haram) and are believed to bring severe punishment in this life and the hereafter.
- **Shirk:** Associating partners with Allah (polytheism).
 - **Witchcraft/Sorcery:** Engaging in magic.
 - **Murder:** Taking a life unjustly.
 - **Riba:** Consuming or dealing with interest/usury.
 - **Orphan's Wealth:** Misappropriating the property of an orphan.
 - **Fleeing the Battlefield:** Desertion during a legitimate battle.
 - **Slandering Chaste Women:** Making false accusations of immorality.
 - **Dietary Laws:** Pork, blood, alcohol, and animals not slaughtered in the name of Allah.
 - **Sexual Misconduct:** Homosexuality, adultery, fornication, and cross-dressing.
 - **Financial & Social Misdeeds:** Stealing, bribery, gambling, fraud, backbiting, and lying.
 - **Religious Obligations:** Abandoning prayers (Salah) without a valid reason

The Five Pillars of Islam are the core duties for Muslims: **Shahada** (declaration of faith), **Salah** (five daily prayers), **Zakat** (charity), **Sawm** (fasting during Ramadan), and **Hajj** (pilgrimage to Mecca)

Judaism - Torah

Jewish 613 mitzvahs (laws) / 10 major commandments

moral, ceremonial, and civil (judicial)

mitzvot, govern daily life, worship, and social order.

7 laws of Noah - prohibitions against idolatry, blasphemy, murder, sexual immorality, theft, and eating from a living animal, and to: Establish Courts of Justice:

Meant for all people, not just Jews - Given to Adam and Noah, repeated at Mount Sinai,

Mosaic law – given directly to Moses on mt Sinai

Include Shabbat, temple procedure, and kosher laws.

Abrahamic covenant – it is required of every Jewish male to be circumcised 8 days after birth. It is the obedience and witness of God's covenant made evident. If this mitzvot (commandment) is not practiced, Judaism proclaims the extinction of the soul and denial of a share in the world to come.

Bar mitzvah requires a 13 year old male to learn and be accountable for following 613 Jewish laws, learn Hebrew, lead prayers, and public reading of the Torah.

Catholic - Bible (including apocrypha) and church traditions

7 cardinal sins

[Seven Deadly Sins](#) (Pride, Greed, Wrath, Envy, Lust, Gluttony, Sloth).

Mortal (grave, severing grace) or Venial (less serious, damaging grace). Other distinctions include [Original Sin](#) (inherited) versus [Actual Sin](#) (committed), sins of action versus omission, and the roots of sin

Mortal sins include abortion, contraceptives, masturbation, pornography, sex outside marriage, immodesty, worldly provocative fashion, Denying your workers a fair wage, Getting Drunk or High, using Gods name in vain, tarot cards or Ouija boards, not welcoming or including illegal aliens, Skipping Friday Penance, failure to catechize your kids, heresy, blasphemy, suicide, sodomy, prostitution, just to name a few .

Omission of 7 sacraments – Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Penance (confession / Reconciliation), Anointing of the Sick, [Holy Orders](#) (Priesthood), and [Matrimony](#) (Marriage)

In other words, **if you miss church on Sunday it is a mortal sin** because you cannot partake in eucharist or confession from the priest.

Catholic priests are allowed to drink alcohol and smoke, as these activities are not inherently sinful according to the catholic church. Many protestants would list these as sin.

Catholics are required to submit to definitive teachings (dogma) and the Pope's authority, they are not required to follow non-binding, prudential, or fallible personal opinions. Openly rejecting the Pope's authority or his role, such as declaring him a heretic to justify disobedience, is considered schism and requires excommunication.

7Virtues

Virtue	Description
Humility	Recognizing reliance on God.
Generosity	Giving to others.
Chastity	Purity of soul and body.
Kindness	Wishing for the good of others.
Temperance	Moderation in food and drink.
Patience	Controlling resentment.
Diligence	Persistence in duties.

Christan (protestant) - 66 books of Bible - fulfilled in the new testament

Gods law (boundaries) come from the inerrant sacred moral compass of the Bible. Our all sufficient rule of faith. The Old test reveals law while the new test reveals grace where we have transgressed the law.

The Bible gives examples of blessings for those who obey Gods law and consequences for those who reject it. Many characters throughout scripture both godly and ungodly did good and bad things. The danger is for those who pervert Gods standard and say good is evil and evil is good. Isa 5:20

In Matthew 5:17-18, Jesus stated, "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them". This means He did not invalidate or destroy the Old Testament, but rather completed its purpose, met its requirements, and fulfilled its prophecies.

Paul explains the Old Testament Law (Torah) in the New Testament as a temporary, "holy and good" custodian that identified sin and pointed toward Christ, rather than a means of salvation. He argues that believers are freed from the Mosaic law, with its ritualistic requirements, and are justified by faith in Jesus, who is the culmination and fulfillment of the Law.

Key aspects of Paul's explanation of the Law:

- **A "Tutor" or Custodian:** Paul describes the Law in Galatians 3:24–25 as a *paidagogos* (custodian/tutor) designed to lead people to Christ. Now that faith has come, believers are no longer under this tutor.
- **Purpose - Revealing Sin:** The Law was added to define and increase the awareness of sin ("added because of transgressions"). It serves as a, "mirror," highlighting human inadequacy and the need for grace.
- **"Dead" to the Law:** Christians have died to the Law, freeing them from the "yoke of slavery" (the Mosaic Law), enabling them to serve in the newness of the Spirit.
- **Not Abolished, but Established:** While Christians are not under the Law of Moses, Paul still considers the Old Testament Scriptures to be authoritative, profitable, and, "holy and just and good," when understood through the lens of faith in Jesus.

“Committing” a sin and living in a “lifestyle” of sin can be two different things, revealing the condition of the heart.

We must differentiate the letter of the law vs the spirit of the law.

Some **apostacies** might include, blasphemy, heresy, idolatry, unwilling to repent of pride, rejecting the gospel, holding on to religious works, praying to saints, staying in a cult, permanently rejecting the fellowship of any church (body of believers), permanently abandoning prayer and reading the word.

A universal humanistic popular moral law refers to core ethical principles found across cultures (universal) that promote human well-being (humanistic) and are widely recognized (popular), like the Golden Rule, avoiding harm, fairness, and valuing life, forming a basis for shared global ethics beyond specific religions, emphasizing shared human dignity and interconnectedness. Key concepts include the innate wrongness of murder, theft, and exploitation, alongside duties to family, group, and fairness, suggesting an inherent moral compass. 

Core Universal Principles

- **The Golden Rule:** "Treat others as you would want to be treated," a foundation for kindness and empathy.
- **Non-Harm:** A fundamental rule against killing, harming, or exploiting others, protecting life and dignity.
- **Fairness & Reciprocity:** Returning favors, sharing resources, and treating people equitably.
- **Group Cohesion:** Helping family and community, showing loyalty, and respecting roles within groups.
- **Respect for Property:** Not taking what doesn't belong to you. 

Humanistic & Philosophical Perspectives

- **Humanism:** Focuses on human reason, ethics, and justice, asserting that morality can exist without divine command, promoting dignity and flourishing for all beings.
- **Kant's Categorical Imperative:** A philosophical idea suggesting we should act only on rules we could universalize, essentially testing if a law applies to everyone without contradiction.
- **Natural Law:** Concepts like John Locke's idea that "no one ought to harm another in his life, health, liberty, or possessions". 

Popular Recognition

- **Cross-Cultural Evidence:** Studies show these principles appear in nearly all cultures, highlighting their deep roots in human experience.
- **Shared Convictions:** Despite cultural variations in application, the core ideas of right and wrong are remarkably consistent, forming a shared moral language. 

In essence, a universal humanistic moral law is a framework of widely accepted, human-centered ethics that guides behavior for the common good, emphasizing shared values like compassion, justice, and respect. 

Seven moral rules found all around the world

SOCIETY

RESEARCH

SCIENCE

Anthropologists at the University of Oxford have discovered what they believe to be seven universal moral rules.

The rules: help your family, help your group, return favours, be brave, defer to superiors, divide resources fairly, and respect others' property, were found in a survey of 60 cultures from all around the world.

Previous studies have looked at some of these rules in some places – but none has looked at all of them in a large representative sample of societies. The present study, published in *Current Anthropology*, is the largest and most comprehensive cross-cultural survey of morals ever conducted.

