

Thou Shalt Not Covet

Greed: Longings for more – Money & things

Exodus 20:17 *Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbor's.*

Luke 12:15 *And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth .*

Colossians 3:5 *Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: 6 For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:*

Preface:

We come to the 10th Commandment. It is comes last but it reiterates some of those that have gone before.

What is character? Character is not what others judge you to be or have, but what you are when no one else is looking. It is what you are essentially on the inside. That is why in each of these moral commands Jesus always went to the core of the problem, not the superficial.

Introduction:

Coveting: As with so many of the moral commands we all can fairly easily, and smugly say, “*I don’t covet. I’m not greedy. Therefore that does not apply to me.*”

How easy it is to disqualify ourselves from any of these sins.

God’s Moral Laws

6. Shall not kill (murder) hatred, vengeance, or anger
7. Shall not commit adultery, or practice sexual immorality (lust eye-mind, heart, body)
8. Shall not steal (earn your own way) work, own, tithe
9. Shall not lie (be honest, don’t cheat, don’t fib, don’t deceive, or cover up)
10. Shall not covet (which is - which is idolatry Col. 3:5) love money, success, fame, fortune

The Command:

“*Thou shalt not covet!*” – set your heart on getting more and more.

- You shall not live for pleasure
- You shall not love money
- You shall not long after fame
- You shall not lust after fortune - lottery
- You shall not live to accumulate more and more
- You shall not live for self indulgence

Qualification for Leadership

Exodus 18:21 Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place *such* over them, *to be* rulers of thousands, *and* rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens:

I. What Is Covetousness? (Attitude toward stuff)

(ie) Begins in childhood - bound up in the heart

Synonyms - greed, avarice, lust, desire, aspire for, evil eye, aspiring for more,

(word study - hot desire,/ pine away for/ over-desire/ obsessed with, unhappy w/o)

Covetous is idolatry - making something else Lord, bowing down, worshiping it

Ephesians 5:5 For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor **covetous man**, **who is an idolater**, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

Getting Wealth (Attitude toward wealth)

Deuteronomy 8:17 And thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of *mine* hand hath gotten me this **wealth**. 18 But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for *it is* he that giveth thee power to get **wealth**, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as *it is* this day.

I. Love of Money (Root of all evil)

I Tim 6: 6-12 (9-10)

6 But **godliness with contentment is great gain**. 7 For we brought nothing into *this* world, *and it is* certain we can carry nothing out. 8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. 9 But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and *into many foolish and hurtful lusts*, which drown men in destruction and perdition. 10 For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. 11 But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. 12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

Wesley - *whether, philargyri, the love of money, which is too frequently "the root of all evil;" or pleonexia, literally, a desire of having more, or increasing in substance.*

5365 fil arguria phil-arguria *fil-ar-goo-ree'-ah* (*Friend of Silver*)

from 5366; ;n f (5366 fil argurov philarguros *fil-ar'-goo-ros* from 5384 and 696; ;adj =AV-covetous 2; 2 1) loving money, avarice, getting) AV-love of money 1; 1 1) love of money, avarice

II. Love of Things (Choke the Word)

Mark 4:19 And the cares of this world, and **the deceitfulness of riches**, and the **lusts** of **other things** entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.

III. Love of Getting More (Never Satisfied)

Luke 12:15 And he said unto them, Take heed, and **beware of covetousness**: for a man's life consisteth not in the **abundance of** the things which he possesseth.

Hebrews 13:5 *Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have:* for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

Treasure in Heaven - Matthew 6:19-21 / Matt 6:25-34 Take no thought

More focused on treasure on earth, than treasure in heaven

“Sell what you have, give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven.”

Luke 12:33/ Luke 18:22

II. What Is Contentment? (Attitude toward stuff)

- Philippians 4:11 Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, *therewith* to be content.
- 1 Timothy 6:6 But godliness with contentment is great gain.
- 1 Timothy 6:8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith _____.
- *Let your conversation* without covetousness; *and be* content with such things as have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.

1. Whatever Situation

_____ - Philippians 4:11-13 (ie) Job's stuff
therewith _____
content. 12 I know both how to _____, and I know how to abound
instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need
through Christ which strengtheneth me.

_____ autarkhv autarkes - Philippians 4:11 (self- possessed)
846 714 adj AV-content 1; 1

2) independent of external circumstances 3) contented with one's lot, with one's means

Interior Happiness

- 1 Timothy 6:6 But godliness with _____ is great gain.
- 1 Timothy 6:8 And having food and raiment let us be therewith _____.

Satisfied with getting God - Matthew 6:25-34/ Matthew 6:19-21 treasure in heaven
ie) The
Psalms 16:5 The LORD the _____ of mine inheritance and of my cup: thou

3. _____
- *Let your* _____ *be* covetousness *and be* content _____ ye
hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.
Luke 3:14 And the soldiers likewise demanded of him, saying, And what shall we do? And he said
_____ any content

Content - 714 _____ arkeo ar-keh'-o
apparently a primary word [but probably akin to 142 _____ **raising a barrier**];

1) to be possessed of unfailing strength 1a) to be strong, to suffice, to be enough 1a1) to defend, ward off
1b) to be satisfied, to be contented

_____ 1939 _____ epithumia _____
_____ concupiscence.
_____ was dead.

inordinate affection, evil concupiscence
1 Thessalonians 4:5 Not in the lust of _____, even as the Gentiles which know not God:

Conclusion

What is in your heart?

What is your heart...

...Holding on to?

...Aspiring after

...wishing for?