

Discipleship:  
An  
Introduction to  
Systematic Theology and  
Apologetics

The Doctrines of Redemption: The Law

The Heights Church April 30, 2017

## The Law – The Ten Commandments # 8

**You shall not steal.** (Exodus 20:15)

- **Property is placed below life and marriage in God's values.**
- **Besides literal robbery, we should extend our understanding to include things such as:**
  - 1. Not making payments on time.**
  - 2. Not working as hard as we should.**
  - 3. Choosing not to work.**
  - 4. Unauthorized personal use of our employers "stuff."**
  - 5. Overspending with respect to our income.**

## The Law – The Ten Commandments # 9

**You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.** (Exodus 20:16)

- **Perjury in a legal proceeding is literally in mind, but it would also include:**
  1. **Speaking falsely in any matter, lying, equivocating, and any way devising and designing to deceive our neighbor.**
  2. **Speaking unjustly against our neighbor, to the prejudice of his reputation;**
  3. **Slandering, backbiting, tale - bearing, aggravating what is done amiss, and any way endeavoring to raise our own reputation upon the ruin of our neighbor's.**
- **The primary focus of the ninth commandment is not merely “factual untruthfulness” but rather the deceit or ruin of another person.**
- **Notice the 9<sup>th</sup> commandment assumes there is truth as opposed to the Postmodern concept of no absolute truth. Namely, what is true for me need not be true for you and vice versa.**

## The Law – The Ten Commandments # 9

- **Who is our neighbor?**

But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance (*sugkuria in Greek*) a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, ‘Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.’ Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?” He said, “**The one who showed him mercy.**” And Jesus said to him, “You go, and do likewise.” (Luke 10:29-37)

## The Law – The Ten Commandments # 9

- **How should we treat our neighbor?**

Teacher, which is the great commandment in the **Law?**” And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: **You shall love your neighbor as yourself.** (Matthew 22:36-39)

## The Law – The Ten Commandments # 10

**You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's. (Exodus 20:17)**

- **21<sup>st</sup> century marketing and culture is in direct opposition to the tenth commandment. We are continually exhorted in various media to believe there are unlimited numbers of products available that we must have if we are to be happy and successful.**
- **Coveting leads to breaking other commandments: Not honoring God, adultery, theft, murder .....**
- **The essence of this commandment is that God grants to each person everything they have. We are to be satisfied with what we have been given and not envy what someone else has or suppose that we would be content if only we had our neighbor's wife, "stuff" or gifts/abilities or .....**

## The Law – The Ten Commandments # 10

**For who sees anything different in you? What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it? Already you have all you want! Already you have become rich! Without us you have become kings! And would that you did reign, so that we might share the rule with you! (1 Corinthians 4:7-8)**

**If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, yet one body. (1 Corinthians 12:17-20)**

**Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. (Philippians 4:11-12)**

## The Law – The Ten Commandments (summary)

**Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, “I will never leave you nor forsake you.” So we can confidently say, “The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?” (Hebrews 13:5-6)**

**Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. For the **commandments**, "You shall not commit **adultery**, You shall not **murder**, You shall not **steal**, You shall not **covet**," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.  
(Romans 13:8-10)**

## The Law – The Law vs. the gospel (Ephesians 4:25 – 5:4)

- Therefore, having put away falsehood, **let** each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.
- Be angry and do not sin; **do** not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil.
- Let the thief no longer steal, **but** rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.
- Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, **but** only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

## The Law – The Law vs. the gospel (continued) Ephesians 4:25 – 5:4

- And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. **Be** kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.
- But sexual immorality and all impurity or covetousness must not even be named among you, as is proper among saints. **Let** there be no filthiness nor foolish talk nor crude joking, which are out of place, but instead let there be thanksgiving.