

## **The 10<sup>th</sup> Commandment – You Shall Not Covet**

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Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

Exodus 20:17; Lk 12:15

Pastor Mark W. Turner

**Covet** : well defined by WLC Q 147&148 (modern English version)

- Q. 147. What does the tenth commandment require? A. The tenth commandment requires that we be so completely satisfied with our own status in life and have such a proper, loving attitude toward others that we are naturally inclined to wish the best for them and all their possessions.
- Q. 148. What particular sins does the tenth commandment forbid? A. The tenth commandment forbids any dissatisfaction with what belongs to us, envy and grief at the success of others, and all improper desire for anything that belongs to someone else.

### **God created us with desires**

- desire for food reminds us to eat...
- desire to do something useful motivates us to work (image Deo)
- desire for relationship draws us into community...
- Since the Fall - our desires are corrupted by Sin!
- "Sin is when a good desire is elevated to a demand"
- The world often shows us things not as they are to fuel unhealthy desires – sitcoms; social media; magazines; only show us the good stuff not reality

### **The 10<sup>th</sup> Command: Deals with the Heart**

- 1<sup>st</sup> 9 commands deal with primarily outward actions - 10<sup>th</sup> heart issue
- Rabbi - sin=actually committing it; Bible - sin=not trusting God our Creator
- Paul: might have had confidence in flesh 3:4; But law Rm 7:7-8
- Our "if only's" are usually coveting and sinful. Ex 16:3; Ec 5:10
- Do you cry out like Paul? Rm 7:24 Oh wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

### **The Gospel Answer Rom 7:25**

- God's mercy: Rom 5:8
- God is all we need: Ps 73:25
- Too often we accept a counterfeit gospel - Jesus is a better way to get what we want or we can get what we want by legalism

### **An Attitude of Thanksgiving Makes Us Holy**

- Remember God's Story
  - Who is God? Creator, Holy, created us to be in fellowship with Him
  - Our rebellion - Adam chose to rebel against God's authority; we also
  - God's provision: In His great love sent Jesus - salvation is of the Lord!
  - Redemption for all who believe: Rm 7:24-25; Rm 8:31-32

### **Our Response to the Gospel is Thanksgiving (Doxology)**

- God saves us to fellowship with Him in Thanksgiving by living as we were meant to be: Rom 12:1-2

## **Four Great Questions to Live for God's Glory**

- 1 - Who is God?
- 2 - What has He Done?
- 3 - Who am I in light of that truth?
- 4 - How do I live in light of that truth?

### **Think & Discuss:**

- **Do you ever covet? Things; position; situations; etc.**
- **How easy is it to hide coveting? From others? From God?**
- **Discuss how God-given desires can be and are good. What is the difference between a good desire and a sinful demand? At what point does it become coveting?**
- **Read the 10 commands Ex 20:1-17. How do the 1<sup>st</sup> 9 deal primarily with outward actions?**
- **What is the Gospel, God's Story? Is it helpful to use the outline:**
  - **God**
  - **Sin**
  - **Jesus**
  - **Redemption**
- **How do these questions help us think Gospel and live a life of Thanksgiving and Holiness?**
  - 1. Who is God?
  - 2. What has He done?
  - 3. Who are we in light of that truth?
  - 4. How do we live in light of that truth?