

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS PART II
5-28-2017

As I said a few weeks back, I searched through my notes and though I make reference to the 10 commandments all the time, I do not recall ever preaching a message solely on the ten commandments.

I recall many years ago asking a certain person if they knew they were saved. They said yes. I asked how do you know that? They said they were a good person and lived by the 10 commandments. I asked them to quote them and they couldn't correctly. They got some of them right but not all of them. Then, as I quoted them to him, I even kind of stumbled through them. That is when I decided to write a song to memorize them. Probably next to the little song where we sing the books of the Bible, this song is one of the most profitable choruses we use in our church for teaching Scripture, especially for the children.

Today, most young people in our nation do not know the 10 commandments or the Bible. The 10 commandments are a condensing of all of God's law. They are in fact an outline, I believe, of all that is taught in the Pentateuch or the first 5 books of the law of Moses. This morning let us read them to refresh our memories together:

Exodus 20:1 And God spake all these words, saying,

Exodus 20:2 I am the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

Exodus 20:3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

Exodus 20:4 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:

Exodus 20:5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;

Exodus 20:6 And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

Exodus 20:7 Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

Exodus 20:8 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

Exodus 20:9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:

Exodus 20:10 But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:

Exodus 20:11 For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

Exodus 20:12 Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

Exodus 20:13 Thou shalt not kill.

Exodus 20:14 Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Exodus 20:15 Thou shalt not steal.

Exodus 20:16 Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

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

A few weeks back I preached a message on the 1st 5 commandments.. This morning we will be sharing a lesson on the second 5 commandments.

First let us review again the first 5 commands:

I. THE FIRST COMMANDMENT IS THIS: THOU SHALT NOT HAVE ANY OTHER GOD'S BEFORE ME.

Exo 20:3 Thou shalt not have any gods before me.

Just because a person says they love God and love Jesus does not mean they love the Jesus we worship. The Bible defines our Lord in detail. Those who worship a Jesus that contradicts who He is in the Bible actually have the wrong Jesus.

In our last message we shared the following:

1. CONSIDER THAT THERE WERE MANY OTHER GODS WHEN THIS WAS WRITTEN AND THERE ARE MANY OTHER GODS TODAY.

Who is the God that we worship? He is defined by the Bible we teach and preach.

2. CONSIDER THAT ANYTHING WE PUT BEFORE GOD BECOMES OUR GOD.

Exodus 20:3 Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

a. JESUS EXPLAINED THE 1st COMMAND BY SAYING IT ENTAILS LOVING HIM AND PUTTING HIM FIRST. Whatever or whoever we put first in our lives is our god.

Matthew 22:35 Then one of them, which was a lawyer, asked him a question, tempting him, and saying,

Matthew 22:36 Master, which is the great commandment in the law?

Matthew 22:37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

b. SOME PEOPLE PUT EATING AND DRINKING FIRST AND THAT BECOMES THEIR GOD.

Philippians 3:18 (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ:

Philippians 3:19 Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.)

Notice how Paul says that some put their bellies and appetites above God and therefore their god becomes their belly.

c. SOME PEOPLE PUT MONEY BEFORE GOD AND THIS BECOMES AN IDOL

Colossians 3:5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

II. THE SECOND COMMANDMENT GOES DEEPER INTO HOW WE CAN SHOW OUR LOVE FOR OUR GOD. WE SHOULD NOT ENGRAVE AN IMAGE OF GOD AFTER OR IMAGINATIONS OR AFTER ANY THING VISIBLE.

Exodus 20:4 Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:

Exodus 20:5 Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;

Exodus 20:6 And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

Our God is Spirit, and we are forbidden to use earthly images to represent him. Why is it men like to bow to images and material objects. Why do we want to see something that would make us feel spiritual. Men use beads, pictures, images, and statues, to make them feel spiritual.

III. THE THIRD COMMANDMENT AND TEST AS TO WHETHER YOU WILL LOVE GOD AND PUT HIM FIRST IS THIS:

Exodus 20:7 Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

Consider what it is to take God's name in vain. Some get too close for comfort.

In other words God expect us to respect Him and reverence Him and reverence and respect His name!

Before we were Christians and even for some of us after we were saved we may have by habit used the name of God irreverently. It is wrong and against his clear command. Repent of it!

IV. THE FOURTH COMMANDMENT IS ANOTHER WAY WE PROVE OUR LOVE FOR HIM. THE COMMAND TO HONOR HIS SABBATH DAY AND SABBATHS.

Exodus 20:8 Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy.

Exodus 20:9 Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work:

Exodus 20:10 But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates:

Exodus 20:11 For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it.

Remember all of these commands are in essence showing we love God with all our hearts. They are the proof of our love for Him!

V. THE FIFTH COMMANDMENT MANY BELIEVE IS THE 1st COMMANDMENT GIVEN IN OUR DUTIES TO LOVE OUR NEIGHBOR AS OURSELVES, BUT I THINK IT IS A COMMAND TO SHOWS OUR DESIRE TO HONOR OUR GOD.

Exodus 20:12 Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee.

THE SECOND TABLET CONTAINS THE NEXT 5 COMMANDS

Exodus 20:13 Thou shalt not kill.

Exodus 20:14 Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Exodus 20:15 Thou shalt not steal.

Exodus 20:16 Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

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

These are the commandments that are placed on the second stone tablet.

Jesus condensed all 10 of these commands into two:

Matthew 22:36 Master, which is the great commandment in the law?

Matthew 22:37 Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind.

Matthew 22:38 This is the first and great commandment.

Matthew 22:39 And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

Matthew 22:40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

These next 5 commandments:

VI. THOU SHALT NOT KILL

In the Bible there are many laws that define what the Bible means by thou shalt not Kill.

One of the things we often see people do is take God's law or commandments and twist them to mean what they think they should mean.

This command was given for this purpose.

Genesis 9:6 Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.

When someone maliciously takes another person's life they are making an attack on God Himself. It is that disrespect of God that makes this offense so grievous and serious!

The Bible is clear that when someone commits the crime of murder their life should be taken. The reason why is because they have made an attack against God who is man's creator. Gen. 9:6 clearly states this.

Genesis 9:6 Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.

Now there are all kind of reasons people give against capital punishment. I have heard people say that it costs more to go through all the legalities of putting someone on death row because of legal fees.

Talking about the cost of convicting someone for murder.. Look at how much money it cost the government to arrest Eric Frein and to convict him. - The Eric Frein manhunt costs at least \$1.4 million per week and it took over 6 weeks to find him. That is about 9-10 million dollars, plus the trial cost \$420,000.00. Plus think of all the heartache he caused those two trooper's families. That is the problem of our government's bureaucracy getting in the way of doing their job. Here we have an example in our country of a successful business man who we elect as president, and he can't get anything done because how insanely governmental bureaucracy works. Our politicians are more worried about the remote possibility that Trump campaigners encouraged the Russians to leak info about the democrats, than to find out who is leaking classified information in our own government? When human reasoning becomes the authority of justice, judgment, and equity, all common sense goes out the window.

Most times when arguing against the death penalty human reasoning is what dictates arguments against it.

Here Are a few of the Arguments I have read from those who oppose the death penalty:

1. The death penalty is racist.
2. The death penalty punishes the poor.
3. The death penalty may condemn the innocent to die.
4. The death penalty is not a deterrent to violent crime.
5. The death penalty is "cruel and unusual punishment."
6. The death penalty fails to recognize that guilty people have the potential to change, denying them the opportunity to ever rejoin society.
7. There is a better alternative: life without parole.
8. We pay many millions for the death penalty system.
9. Poor quality defense leaves many sentenced to death.
10. Capital punishment does not deter crime.
11. There is a better way to help the families of murder victims.

Families of murder victims undergo severe trauma and loss which no one should minimize. However, executions do not help these people heal nor do they end their pain; the extended process prior to executions prolongs the agony of the family. Families of murder victims would benefit far more if the funds now being used for the costly process of executions were diverted to counseling and other assistance.

12. The death penalty is applied at random.

The death penalty is a lethal lottery: of the 15,000 to 17,000 homicides committed every year in the United States, approximately 120 people are sentenced to death, less than 1%.

13. Mentally ill people are executed.

One out of every ten who has been executed in the United States since 1977 is mentally ill, according to Amnesty International and the National Association on Mental Illness. Many mentally ill defendants are unable to participate in their trials in any meaningful way and appear unengaged, cold, and unfeeling before the jury. Some have been forcibly medicated in order to make them competent to be executed. Although the U.S. Supreme Court has decreed that people with "mental retardation" may not be executed, some states have not yet passed a law banning the execution of the mentally ill.

14. The USA is keeping company with notorious human rights abusers.

The vast majority of countries in Western Europe, North America and South America - more than 117 nations worldwide - have abandoned capital punishment in law or in practice. The United States remains in the same company as Iraq, Iran and China as one of the major advocates and users of capital punishment.

15. No civilian's job description should include killing another person.

Corrections personnel involved in executions, like our military, frequently suffer PTSD from having to kill. Perhaps there is a reason to have a defensive military, but prisoners pose no threat to the well-being of our citizens. There is no reason to place the mental health of our corrections workers at risk simply to pursue vengeance.

16. Capital punishment goes against almost every religion.
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Bottom line: this is all man's reasoning. The Bible is clear the reason a person's life should be taken when they maliciously murder someone else is because God said so.

Most liberal churches are against the death penalty, but the Bible is clear.

Here are the **not so** isolated passages that permeate all the History of the Bible Old and New:

Genesis 9:6 Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man.

Exodus 21:12 He that smiteth a man, so that he die, shall be surely put to death.

Numbers 35:30 Whoso killeth any person, the murderer shall be put to death by the mouth of witnesses: but one witness shall not testify against any person to cause him to die.

Numbers 35:31 Moreover ye shall take no satisfaction for the life of a murderer, which is guilty of death: but he shall be surely put to death.

There is a difference between someone who maliciously takes someone's life and someone who accidentally kills someone. The Bible had laws to protect people from this type of thing.

The Bible had laws concerning cities of refuge, so that if a person accidentally killed someone they would be protected.

The Old testament is consistent to show that Murder was to be punished by death.

NEW TESTAMENT TEACHING:

Jesus actually went deeper with this commandment and said:

Matthew 5:21 Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment:

Matthew 5:22 But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.

In the New Testament Jesus actually goes into the sin of murder that can occur in a persons heart. Jesus said that a person can commit murder in their heart without ever committing murder.

James says the same thing.

James 4:1 From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members?

James 4:2 Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not.

Ye Lust and ye kill, what does that mean? It means that when we have bitterness in our hearts towards someone it is as if we killed them in our hearts.

We may not be hauled into jail for this sin, but we will be held accountable to God for this offense. AS JESUS SAID:

Matthew 5:22 But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.

Our Lord's teaching concerning this command should convict every man of his need for salvation. When there is bitter envy and hate in our heart towards our neighbour, sin lieth at our door just like it did for Cain. And you know the story of Cain when he did not repent of that sin, when he did not get a handle on it, it overtook him, and he in turn killed his brother. So the sin of murder was at his door and it overtook him.

SO THOU SHALT NOT KILL goes far deeper than just the act of murder. It includes a heart that is bent on hate.

I John 3:14 We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.

I John 3:15 Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him.

A proper understanding of what the Lord means by "THOU SHALT NOT KILL" should lead us to repentance and Salvation like all the commandments. None of us have perfectly kept the commandments and it is impossible that we could keep these commandments to be saved.

VII. CONSIDER THE NEXT COMMANDMENT: THOU SHALT NOT COMMIT ADULTERY.

Exodus 20:13 Thou shalt not kill.

Exodus 20:14 Thou shalt not commit adultery.

When you read the Mosaic law concerning the sexual sins that are related to this command, we find the prohibition against adultery goes much deeper than just THOU SHALT NOT COMMIT ADULTERY.

In Leviticus 19 - 20 speaks concerning, incest, fornication, bestiality, and homosexuality, it talks about cross dressing, and gives God's intent for regulating lawful and unlawful sexual behavior in just about every area of man's life.

In the New Testament Jesus again goes deeper into the intent of God's moral law when it comes to sexual conduct. Jesus gets right into the heart of the matter in the Gospel of Matthew.

Matthew 5:27 Ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not commit adultery:

Matthew 5:28 But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart.

Jesus gets right into the heart of the matter. He says, to look and lust is to commit adultery in your heart.

Again we conclude that no man that has perfectly kept this law. Our nation is so given over to sensuality and lust, and our advertisements subtly entice men to lust over scantily clad women in order to sell their products.

Sex is a sales gimmick so much so that our society purposely provokes people to lust to get their attention to buy products.

VIII. THOU SHALT NOT STEAL

Exodus 20:13 Thou shalt not kill.

Exodus 20:14 Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Exodus 20:15 Thou shalt not steal.

Do you know that the Bible goes into great detail about how we should respect the property of other people?

Exodus 22:14 And if a man borrow ought of his neighbor, and it be hurt, or die, the owner thereof being not with it, he shall surely make it good.

Deuteronomy 22:1 Thou shalt not see thy brother's ox or his sheep go astray, and hide thyself from them: thou shalt in any case bring them again unto thy brother.

Deuteronomy 22:2 And if thy brother be not nigh unto thee, or if thou know him not, then thou shalt bring it unto thine own house, and it shall be with thee until thy brother seek after it, and thou shalt restore it to him again.

Deuteronomy 22:3 In like manner shalt thou do with his ass; and so shalt thou do with his raiment; and with all lost thing of thy brother's, which he hath lost, and thou hast found, shalt thou do likewise: thou mayest not hide thyself.

Deuteronomy 22:4 Thou shalt not see thy brother's ass or his ox fall down by the way, and hide thyself from them: thou shalt surely help him to lift them up again.

In the New Testament the Bible condemns mooching, freeloading, and slothfulness as thievery. People who can work but do not work but choose to just abuse the hospitality and charity of God's people are condemned in the New Testament as thieves.

Ephesians 4:28 Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.

II Thessalonians 3:10 For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat.

II Thessalonians 3:11 For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies.

II Thessalonians 3:12 Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread.

II Thessalonians 3:13 But ye, brethren, be not weary in well doing.

II Thessalonians 3:14 And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, note that man, and have no company with him, that he may be ashamed.

When you do not give your fair share, you are actually being a thief.

What does a thief do? In essence he takes to himself something he did not earn or work for. He does not deserve it, he did not work for it, and it was not given to him. He just takes it to himself not having earned the right to receive it.

A Christian should be a giver, and should learn to work to have so he can give.

Consider now the 9th commandment:

IX. THOU SHALT NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS.

Exodus 20:16 Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

To bear false witness is to say something about someone else that is not true. IT IS FALSE, and you are bearing witness to something that is not true!

To lie is to misrepresent the truth.

But this command goes deeper than just lying. Anything you say that is not true is a lie, but not all lies are equal. The Bible says:

Psalms 116:11 I said in my haste, All men are liars.

Romans 3:4 God forbid: yea, let God be true, but every man a liar; as it is written, That thou mightest be justified in thy sayings, and mightest overcome when thou art judged.

If I tell you that it is raining outside and you look outside and it is not raining, you could say what I said was untrue and in essence a lie. But no harm was meant, I might have thought it was raining, or it might have looked like rain.

But when I say something about someone else, to make you think less of that person or to hurt their reputation, that lie now is to bear false witness against your neighbour. This is a violation of the command "THOU SHALT LOVE THY NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.. " Which is the purpose for ... "NOT LIEING.. " By the way the Bible says that we should not be liars, and

should not lie, but written on that table of stone is not thou shalt not lie, but what is written is THOU SHALT NOT BEAR FALSE WITNESS AGAINST THY NEIGHBOR. Which is in essence a certain kind of lie that is meant to harm your neighbor. This is a malicious lie against someone.

RAHAB THE HARLOT LIED AND WAS REWARDED FOR IT. She told the men of Jericho that the spies were gone when they were hiding in her loft. But she didn't do God's people harm by misrepresenting the truth, she actually showed her love and respect for God's people and fulfilled the law to love her neighbor. In essence she did not violate the 9th COMMANDMENT! You see when quoting the ten commandments most people quote the 8th commandment as THOU SHALT NOT LIE. That is not what it says, though it is certainly true we should not lie. But the command specifies that we should not falsify the truth to hurt others.

By the way it is just as wrong to share something that is true to maliciously hurt someone as it is to share an untruth to maliciously hurt someone.

PRO 17:9 He that covereth a transgression seeketh love; but he that repeateth a matter separateth very friends.

NOTE:

Leviticus 19:16 Thou shalt not go up and down as a talebearer among thy people: neither shalt thou stand against the blood of thy neighbour: I am the LORD.

Leviticus 19:17 Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart: thou shalt in any wise rebuke thy neighbour, and not suffer sin upon him.

Leviticus 19:18 Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am the LORD.

There are some people that are under the impression that just because something is true they have a license to go around telling everyone about it. No, the truth can be used as a weapon to hurt just as much as a lie. The command is to love your neighbor and not seek his harm. So if you know something about your brother that is an offense, you need to go to him alone and seek to restore him. That is what Matthew 18 says. If he will not hear you, you take someone else. If he will not hear the two of you then take it to the church. Why do it this way. The reason is that you are seeking to promote LOVE and not the hurt of your brother or neighbor.

Now, there are many subtle ways we violate the 9th commandment.

1. When we surmise the motives of a person and do not know for sure, their motives we are bound to bear false witness against them

For instance let's share a very primitive example of this:

Mary sees notices Susie is missing from church on Sunday. Mary tells Izzie, I know Susie is not coming back to church because she doesn't like Brother John who annoys her. Now you don't know that. It might be true, but maybe she hasn't been in church because she has been sick. Now that might be silly, but what did you just do? You bore false witness against someone in the church and spread a story that may be false. People do this all the time by making assumptions about people. Many times their assumptions are true but sometimes they are not.

One of the bad things about not following Matt. 18 is that things like this are bound to happen. You really don't know why someone has said, or did something until you confront them and ask them point blank. It is devilish to cover up and surmise motives when you really do not know. And then to gossip and share these tidbits of gossip as if they are facts is again wrong. What good does it do to share this information? Does it help at all?

REMEMBER THE DEVIL IS CALLED THE ACCUSER OF THE BRETHREN.

WHAT DID HE ACCUSE JOB OF?

His accusations seemed reasonable. Job only serves you because you blessed him. Take away the blessings and he will curse you to your face.

Don't become the devils advocate.

When you spread information about a person to make someone think evil of them and you do not have all the facts you are bound to be spreading a false report, a false witness.

Leviticus 19:16 Thou shalt not go up and down as a talebearer among thy people: neither shalt thou stand against the blood of thy neighbour: I am the LORD.

Leviticus 19:17 Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thine heart: thou shalt in any wise rebuke thy neighbour, and not suffer sin upon him.

Leviticus 19:18 Thou shalt not avenge, nor bear any grudge against the children of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself: I am the LORD.

John Gill Comments on this passage as follows:

Verse 16. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour. Neither publicly in a court of judicature, by laying things to his charge that are false, and swearing to them, to his hurt and damage; nor privately, by whispering, tale bearing, backbiting, slandering, by telling lies of him, traducing his character by innuendos, sly insinuations, and evil suggestions, whereby he may suffer in his character, credit, and reputation, and in his trade and business; Aben Ezra thinks the words describe the character of the person that is not to bear witness in any court, and to be read thus, "thou shalt not answer who art a false witness": or, "O thou false witness": meaning that such an one should not be admitted an evidence in court, who had been convicted already of being a false witness; his word and oath are not to be taken, nor should any questions be put to him, or he suffered to answer to any; his depositions should have no weight with those before whom they were made, nay, even they should not be taken, nor such a person be allowed to make any; but this is to put this precept in a quite different form from all the rest, and without any necessity, since the word may as well be taken for a testimony bore, as for the person that bears it: this is the ninth commandment.

X. Finally the 10th commandment:

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

WHAT IS IT TO COVET?

The Hebrew Word is the **CHAMAD**.

chamad, khaw-mad'; a prim. root; to delight in:-beauty, greatly beloved, covet, delectable thing, (X great) delight, desire, goodly, lust, (be) pleasant (thing), precious (thing).

The Word is translated **Desire** in **Deut. 5:21**

Deuteronomy 5:21 Neither shalt thou desire thy neighbour's wife, neither shalt thou covet thy neighbour's house, his field, or his manservant, or his maidservant, his ox, or his ass, or any thing that is thy neighbour's.

What is Covetousness: Is it not a inordinate desire, an unlawful desire?

To desire another man's wife is sin.

To desire another man's house is wrong, it is their house, and for the most part they are not going to sell it usually, unless something bad happens to them. How did Ahab acquire Naboth's Vineyard? Something had happened to him. He died, no, in fact he was murdered by Jezebel!

There are some things you should not even desire.

The Same Hebrew Word is used in Gen 3:6

Genesis 3:6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

In the New Testament we read Jesus saying:

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.

PAUL HAD A STRONG WARNING ABOUT COVETOUSNESS

Colossians 3:5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:

Isn't this an interesting statement.. **PAUL SAYS, COVETOUSNESS IS IDOLATRY.**

Why, this leads us right back to the 1st commandment.

THOU SHALT NOT HAVE ANY GOD'S BEFORE ME.

Conclusion:

Which brings us back to the start of our lesson:

When that fellow said to me, I believe I am going to go to heaven because I live by the 10 commandments. No one can be saved by keeping the 10 commandments.. The reason is given in Romans:

James 2:10 For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.

James 2:11 For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law.

Paul said, Covetousness is Idolatry. You break the 10th commandment you break the 1st, they are all linked together.

Romans 3:19 Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law: that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.

Romans 3:20 Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

Romans 3:21 But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets;

Conclusion:

THE LAW CAN ONLY BRING CONDEMNATION, BONDAGE, etc..

Jesus Christ fulfilled all the righteous demands of the law, and now through Him I am dead to the law and married to Christ and free to serve Him in newness of spirit and liberty, and not in the letter of the law..

Romans 7:1 Know ye not, brethren, (for I speak to them that know the law,) how that the law hath dominion over a man as long as he liveth?

Romans 7:2 For the woman which hath an husband is bound by the law to her husband so long as he liveth; but if the husband be dead, she is loosed from the law of her husband.

Romans 7:3 So then if, while her husband liveth, she be married to another man, she shall be called an adulteress: but if her husband be dead, she is free from that law; so that she is no adulteress, though she be married to another man.

Romans 7:4 Wherefore, my brethren, ye also are become dead to the law by the body of Christ; that ye should be married to another, even to him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God.

Romans 7:5 For when we were in the flesh, the motions of sins, which were by the law, did work in our members to bring forth fruit unto death.

Romans 7:6 But now we are delivered from the law, that being dead wherein we were held; that we should serve in newness of spirit, and not in the oldness of the letter.

Romans 7:7 What shall we say then? is the law sin? God forbid. Nay, I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet.

Romans 7:8 But sin, taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence. For without the law sin was dead.

Romans 7:9 For I was alive without the law once: but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died.

Romans 7:10 And the commandment, which was ordained to life, I found to be unto death.

Romans 7:11 For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it slew me.

Romans 7:12 Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy, and just, and good.

Romans 7:13 Was then that which is good made death unto me? God forbid. But sin, that it might appear sin, working death in me by that which is good; that sin by the commandment might become exceeding sinful.

Romans 7:14 For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am carnal, sold under sin.

Romans 7:15 For that which I do I allow not: for what I would, that do I not; but what I hate, that do I.

Romans 7:16 If then I do that which I would not, I consent unto the law that it is good.

Romans 7:17 Now then it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.

Romans 7:18 For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh,) dwelleth no good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.

Romans 7:19 For the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.

Romans 7:20 Now if I do that I would not, it is no more I that do it, but sin that dwelleth in me.

Romans 7:21 I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me.

Romans 7:22 For I delight in the law of God after the inward man:

Romans 7:23 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

WHAT IS THE CONCLUSION OF THIS CONFLICT THAT EVERY MAN EXPERIENCES WHEN EXPOSED TO THE LAW OF GOD?

Romans 7:24 O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?

Romans 7:25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

Through the Spirit of God we now are under one law, the law of Christ. We are free to serve Christ from the spirit and not in the letter of the law.

We are free to serve Him.

THIS IS WHY IN OUR CHURCH I LIKE TO KEEP EVERYTHING SIMPLE. THE MORE RULES WE HAVE AND REGULATIONS THE LESS FREEDOM THERE IS.

How beautiful it is when everything works together as a body as we can freely breath in the Spirit of Christ. We may never be a mega church this way but we can be a body, we can be the bride of Christ. We can be that branch that he purges as he sees fit. Obeying Him from the heart, united in spirit and not united by the letter of the law but the spirit of the law that should exceed the letter of the law as we all mature in Christ. One body, and what does a physical body need to be healthy?

Good food, so we have all the food we need in the Word of God.

Clean water, we have living water that flows through Christ. He is that living water.

Fresh Air, this fresh air can only come by way of the Holy Spirit as the Spirit of Christ is not grieved by doing things in our assembly that would grieve the Spirit.

When you try to legislate your body, you actually will hurt it. You can go into Hyper Ventilation.

Why would we want anything else? This is what it is all about and now from the heart we have His law written not on tables of stones but in our hearts, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Trust Him and He alone can set you free from the condemnation of sin and death. He alone can set you at liberty to serve Him.