

Exodus #64

The Moral Law

Lesson #16

“No Coveting” – Part II

Exodus 20:17

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“¹⁷ 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 belongs to your neighbor.”

Westminster Shorter Catechism states:

The tenth commandment requires full contentment with our own condition, with a right and charitable frame of spirit toward our neighbor, and all that is His.

The tenth commandment also forbids all discontentment with our own estate....

God was accusing the people of having plenty of time for themselves while pleading a lack of time for God. It was an accusation of having more than enough money to spend on their own comfort and pleasures while claiming not to have enough for God's service.

Haggai 1:5-6

“⁵ Now therefore, thus says the LORD of hosts, ‘Consider your ways! ⁶ You have sown much, but harvest little; {you} eat, but {there is} not {enough} to be satisfied; {you} drink, but {there is} not {enough} to become drunk; {you} put on clothing, but no one is warm {enough} and he who earns, earns wages {to put} into a purse with holes.’”

Haggai 1:9-11

“⁹ ‘{ You } look for much, but behold, { it comes } to little; when you bring { it } home, I blow it { away. } Why?’ declares the LORD of hosts, ‘Because of My house which { lies } desolate, while each of you runs to his own house. ¹⁰

Therefore, because of you the sky has withheld its dew, and the earth has withheld its produce. ¹¹

And I called for a drought on the land, on the mountains, on the grain, on the new wine, on the oil, on what the ground produces, on men, on cattle, and on all the labor of your hands.’”

Philippians 4:11-13

“¹¹ Not that I speak from want; for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. ¹² I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need. ¹³ I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.”

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II Corinthians 12:9-10

“⁹ And He has said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.’ Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. ¹⁰ Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ’s sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.”

Matthew 5:6

“⁶ Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.”

**Covetousness can cause
us to run ahead or
away from the Lord.**

We must “consider our ways.”

**“Consider your ways”
means literally “set
your heart on.”**

**Christian contentment is a
gracious frame of heart made
from a compound of all the
Fruits of the Spirit.**

Galatians 5:24-26

“²⁴ Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become boastful, challenging one another, envying one another.”