

Sermon Notes

Exodus – The Revealing of God’s Glory and His Design for the Chosen

“No Coveting” Part I – Exodus 20:17

I. The Last Commandment

A. The Text: Exodus 20:17

B. Introduction

1. A sobering statement in view of how North America lives.
2. Jesus remarked on many things, but none of his statements really cut across cultural norms like Luke 12:15.
3. Life consisting of the abundance of our possessions.
 - a. A pastor’s testing.

II. Why this command?

A. A Street Car Named Desire

1. Is this really that big of deal?
 - a. Key texts: Mark 7:21-22; I Cor. 6:9-10; Eph 5:5; Col 3:5
2. Thomas Watson

B. What is coveting?

1. MacKay
2. Watson
3. Westminster Shorter Catechism
4. New Testament terms.

C. Desire can be a good thing.

1. Desire has also been c_____ by s_____.

D. Note Eve

1. Genesis 3:6
2. Ryken
3. James 4:1-2

E. Coveting and the Exodus 20:17 list.

1. Note neighbor’s possessions listed.
2. Or a_____ else that belongs to your n_____.

III. Close to home where we live.

A. It really is a serious sin.

1. The Westminster Shorter Catechism Answers #80 & #81.
2. Michael Horton.

IV. Thomas Watson on indications that a person is beset with this sin.

A. When a man’s _____ are wholly taken up with the _____.

1. Psalm 1:2

B. A man may be said to be given to covetousness when he takes more pains for getting _____ than for getting _____.

1. Able to participate in just about everything, except the church.
2. He h_____ for the w_____ and w_____ for h_____.

C. A man is covetous when all his _____ is about the _____.

1. John 3:31; Eccl. 10:12
2. A c_____ man’s breath is like a d_____ man’s – it it smells strong of the e_____.

D. A man is given to covetousness when he so sets his _____ upon _____ things that for the love of them, he will part with the heavenly for the wedge of _____. He will part with the _____ of great price.

1. Rich young ruler: Matthew 19:22

E. A man is given to covetousness when he _____ himself with _____ business.

1. The scarcity of time.
2. Prayer and spiritual disciplines go wanting.

V. The cure.

A. Even the pagans offer some wisdom – Epicurus

B. Biblical cure

1. Covetousness is cured with c_____.
 - a. I Tim. 6:6-8; Psalm 23; Heb. 13:5-6

VI. Points for Reflection

A. The root of covetousness is distrust of God’s provision.

1. Watson. Psalm 16:5-6

B. We must face denial and realize that what we covet will not satisfy us.

1. They only cause fleeting delight.

C. The remedy for covetousness is to covet spiritual things more.

D. The fourth part of the remedy is to pray for a heavenly mind.

1. Lord help me to dig the earth out of my heart, teach me how to possess the world and not live it, how to hold it in my hand and not let it get into my heart.

E. Remember the call to glorification and enjoyment.