

## Sermon Notes

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

“No Coveting” Part II – Exodus 20:17

- I. The problem of wants beyond our needs.
  - A. Michael Horton
    - 1. The command is clear.
      - a. Exodus 20:17 – Note its concern over the heart.
  - B. The problem of covetousness is rooted in discontentment.
    - 1. Westminster Confession.
    - 2. Last week’s emphasis and Today’s emphasis
    - 3. Key illustration: Jeremiah Burroughs
- II. Background to the message of Haggai
  - A. His message is post-exilic.
    - 1. Three time periods
    - 2. Background of post-exilic
    - 3. The oracle’s purpose
      - a. Expose the false but prevalent view that God’s work is secondary and the people have no rest because their priorities are wrong.
  - B. Text: Haggai 1:2-11
- III. The state of being content
  - A. Definition of contentment
    - 1. Webster’s dictionary
    - 2. Tyranny of the urgent
  - B. Similarity to our lives
    - 1. Spending time – Note verse 6.
    - 2. “Satisfaction” is relative
    - 3. “Consider your ways” – Verses 1:5,7; 2:15,18
    - 4. God challenges their excuses of inactivity with two arguments.
      - a. First: Is it a time for you, yourselves, to be living in your paneled houses while this house remains in ruin? (vs. 11)
        - 1. Plenty of time for themselves.
        - 2. Today’s evangelical church.
      - b. Second: Haggai challenges the people’s inactivity by noting what has actually happened in their lives.
        - 1. Verses 5-6
        - 2. Verses 9-11
      - c. Parallel to our age?
- IV. The problem for us.
  - A. Are you content?
    - 1. Philippians 4:11-13
  - B. Consider your ways!
    - 1. The Jews pursued contentment apart from God. We do the same. Covetousness will be at the heart of it.
    - 2. Evaluate your inner being, your intentions.
- V. Points for Reflection
  - A. Covetousness can cause us to run ahead or away from the Lord.
    - 1. Christians do both.
      - a. A cluttered schedule with God not being at the center is running ahead.
      - b. Purposefully cluttering your schedule with things so that you will not have to face the Lord (fear of change) is running away.
  - B. We must “consider our ways.”
    - 1. Beware of the Devil.
    - 2. “Consider your ways” literally means “set your heart on.” This means meditate in sincerity what you really think and do.
    - 3. Take an honest appraisal of just what it is that creates the tyranny of the urgent.
      - a. Not being content with what God gives will be at the top of list in most cases.
  - C. Christian contentment is a gracious frame of heart made from a compound of all the Fruits of the Spirit.
    - 1. Galatians 5:24-26