



Lecture # 11 Part 2

The Ten Commandments, The Laws Governing Man's Duty To Others (Part 8): Commandment Eight Concerns Man's Property—Never Steal, Exodus 20:15

3. (Exodus 20:15) Commandments, The Ten— Stealing— Decision: What is the decision demanded by this commandment?

Exodus 20:15 (BHS)

¹⁵ לֹא תִגְנוֹב: ם
“Lo tignov”

Exodus 20:15 (KJV)

¹⁵ “Thou shalt not **steal**.”

Exodus 20:15 (NASB)

¹⁵ “You shall not **steal**.”

1. Scripture is very forceful in telling us exactly what **not to do**:
 - a. We must never steal, not even once.

Exodus 20:15 (NASB)

¹⁵ “You shall not **steal**.”

- b. We must never withhold tithes and offerings from God.

Malachi 3:8-10 (NASB)

⁸ “Will a man rob God? Yet you are robbing Me! But you say, 'How have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings.

⁹ You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing Me, the whole nation of you!

¹⁰ Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this," says the LORD of hosts, "if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you a blessing until it overflows.”

- c. We must never cheat our brother in anything.

1 Thessalonians 4:6 (NASB)

⁶ “And that no man transgress and defraud his brother in the matter because the Lord is *the* avenger in all these things, just as we also told you before and solemnly warned you.”

- d. We must never steal people: the enslavement of people takes away a person's right to his own life.



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Exodus 21:16 (NASB)

¹⁶“He who kidnaps a man, whether he sells him or he is found in his possession, shall surely be put to death.”

2. Scripture is also very forceful in telling us exactly **what to do**:
 - a. We must practice the golden rule: be honest, fair, and just with all people; treat others as we would want to be treated.

Romans 12:17 (NASB)

¹⁷“Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men.”

Matthew 7:12 (NASB)

¹²“In everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets.”

- b. We must love our neighbor as ourselves.

Matthew 22:36-39 (NASB)

³⁶“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?”

³⁷And He said to him, ‘YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.’

³⁸This is the great and foremost commandment.

³⁹The second is like it, ‘YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.’”

- c. We must be temperate, controlled in all things.

1 Corinthians 9:25 (NASB)

²⁵“Everyone who competes in the games exercises self-control in all things. They then *do it* to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable.”

- d. We must learn to be content with what we have; learn that we brought nothing into this world and we can carry nothing out.

1 Timothy 6:7-8 (NASB)

⁷“For we have brought nothing into the world, so we cannot take anything out of it either.

⁸If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content.”

Hebrews 13:5 (NASB)

⁵“*Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, ‘I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU, NOR WILL I EVER FORSAKE YOU.’*”



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- e. We must channel our desires toward eternal, heavenly treasures, not toward the temporary things of the earth.

Colossians 3:2 (NASB)

²“Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.”

- f. We must quit stealing and go to work: we must even work long and hard in order to earn more so that we can earn enough to help others.

Ephesians 4:28 (NASB)

²⁸“He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have *something* to share with one who has need.”

- g. We must realize this astounding truth: what we measure to others will be measured to us.

Luke 6:38 (NASB)

³⁸“Give, and it will be given to you. They will pour into your lap a good measure—pressed down, shaken together, *and* running over. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return.”

- h. We must learn the phenomenal, unbelievable promise of God: that we are not to get things by stealing, but by prayer and hard work.

Ephesians 4:28 (NASB)

²⁸“He who steals must steal no longer; but rather he must labor, performing with his own hands what is good, so that he will have *something* to share with one who has need.”

James 4:2 (NASB)

²“You lust and do not have; *so* you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; *so* you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask.”

- i. We must learn to work hard and trust God for the necessities of life. Stealing shows that we fail to trust God and His care for us.

Matthew 6:33 (NASB)

³³“But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”

Philippians 4:19 (NASB)

¹⁹“And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.”



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2 Thessalonians 3:11-12 (NASB)

¹¹“For we hear that some among you are leading an undisciplined life, doing no work at all, but acting like busybodies.

¹²Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread.”

- j. We must realize that stealing is a terrible sin: the thief shall face the terrifying judgment and condemnation of God.

Matthew 7:21-23 (NASB)

²¹“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven *will enter*.

²²Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’

²³And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.’”

Hebrews 9:27 (NASB)

²⁷“And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this *comes judgment*.”

Mark 8:36-37 (NASB)

³⁶“For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul?

³⁷For what will a man give in exchange for his soul?”

Luke 12:19-21 (NASB)

¹⁹“And I will say to my soul, ‘Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years *to come*; take your ease, eat, drink *and* be merry.’

²⁰But God said to him, ‘You fool! This *very* night your soul is required of you; and *now* who will own what you have prepared?’

²¹So is the man who stores up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.”

1 Thessalonians 4:6 (NASB)

⁶“*And* that no man transgress and defraud his brother in the matter because the Lord is *the* avenger in all these things, just as we also told you before and solemnly warned *you*.”

Isaiah 10:1-3 (NASB)

¹“Woe to those who enact evil statutes And to those who constantly record unjust decisions,

² So as to deprive the needy of justice And rob the poor of My people of *their* rights, So that widows may be their spoil And that they may plunder the orphans.

³ Now what will you do in the day of punishment, And in the devastation which will come from afar? To whom will you flee for help? And where will you leave your wealth?”



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- k. We must realize that stealing is a terrible sin. Stealing causes loss for the victim, perhaps something frivolous (jewelry, a television, a stereo, etc.) or perhaps something he needs (money, food, a job, or even his life) all because the thief acted on a desire of the heart and took what did not belong to him. The commandment against stealing is one of the ten basic commandments of God:

Exodus 20:15 (BHS)

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