

Commandment VIII

Scripture: Exod. 20:15; Deut. 5:19

Intro: God expects people to respect the property, persons, and rights of others and to pay debts when incurred.

1. Time is to be redeemed. (Eph. 5:16; Col. 4:5)
2. Tithe is to be reported. (Mal. 3:7-10)
3. Talent is to be regarded. (I Cor. 4:1-2)

I. Theft Is Prohibited. (Prov. 6:30-31)

- A. Curse on thievery. (Zech. 5:3)
 1. Society cannot survive when permitted.
 2. Citizens cannot be safe when practiced.
 - a. Those who steal will be stolen from. (Gal. 6:7)
 - b. Those whose philosophy allows it as part of life are blighted.
- B. Cure for thievery. (Ex. 22:1)
 1. Restitution demanded. (Ex. 22:1-9)
 - a. Repay with interest: double to five fold.
 - b. Responsible behavior demanded.
 2. Restraint commanded. (Eph. 4:28)
 - a. Pay honest debts. (Rom. 13:8; Ps. 37:21)
 - b. Put honesty first: Respect property of others.

II. Thieves Are Punished.

- A. Definition of thievery.
 1. What: Illegal possession of another's goods.
 2. Who: Ill-getter of goods. (Heb. 13:5)
 - a. Selfishness: Way of life on job.
 - b. Covetousness. (Col. 3:5)
- B. Destiny of thievery. (Ex. 21:16; Deut. 24:7)
 1. What constitutes it. (Lev. 19:35-36)
 - a. Stealing a good name. (Prov. 15:1) Traits listed.
 - b. Stealing someone's time.
 - c. Stealing God's money.
 - d. Stealing other's things. (I Thes. 4:6)
 - e. Stealing from self: Not allowing what you need. (Eccl. 6:2)
 2. What continuance does: Trust lost. (Rom. 12:17; Lk. 19:8)
 - a. Publican attitude.
 - b. Politician action.

III. Thievery Is Putrid. (Ps. 78:19)

- A. Defiance of God. (Ex. 20:15)
 1. Failure to trust Him to provide.
 2. Forfeiture of treasures of providence.
- B. Defilement of good. (Deut. 5:19)