

Sermon Notes – August 19, 2018

Review

- The Ten Commandments are an expression of God’s character & God’s heart for His people but obeying them is not a path to heaven. No one gets to heaven by being good.
- Several weeks ago, we studied the fourth commandment that emphasizes the Sabbath. We saw that God’s gift of rest isn’t just about a particular day, but about maintaining a daily posture of worship and dependence on the True Provider. We also saw that when we trust Christ as Savior we fulfill Sabbath because we “cease from our labors and enter God’s rest.”
- Last week we saw that obeying the seventh commandment – “You shall not commit adultery” – includes avoiding sexual sin, AND valuing marriage by keeping *all* your promises.

Today’s Text

History is full of famous thieves, some feared, and others loved: Jesse James, Bonnie & Clyde, & Robin Hood for example. The Bible also talks about thieves – Judas was a thief, Jesus was crucified between two thieves...and then there was Achan (Joshua 7).

“Don’t Take What Isn’t Yours!” Commandment #8

Exodus 20:15, Ephesians 4:28, II Thessalonians 3:6-12

- ⇒ The Ten Commandments are interconnected: _____ is the first step toward stealing, committing _____ is a form of stealing, and false worship robs God of honor that is His due.
- ⇒ Stealing sometimes involves taking physical possessions.
- ⇒ Stealing can also involve these too-common activities:
 - Taking other people’s _____ or _____ as your own.
 - Not giving a full day’s work for a full day’s pay (chatting, Facebook, shopping online, or playing games).
 - Expecting employees to take work home without compensation or failing to pay appropriate wages.
 - Underreporting income or over-claiming _____.
 - “Fudging” on a time-card.

Why Stealing is Such a Big Deal

Exodus 20:1-17 & Matthew 6:25-34

Pastor Jay Mosser

- False advertising or covering up _____ to make a sale.
- “Withholding good from those to whom it is due” – refusing to grant _____ or extend kindness or give due affection or spend time with the family. See Proverbs 3:27

Stealing Isn’t Just Bad Manners; It’s Bad Theology

- ⇒ Don’t miss it: The Bible affirms private ownership. Stealing takes away God’s provision for others.
- ⇒ Stealing, as with complaining, says that God’s _____ for me today isn’t good enough. Cf. Exodus 16:3
- ⇒ Stealing is a form of _____ against God. In the Garden of Eden God establishes vocation as an honorable value. Work is God’s plan for how you get food and other life essentials.
- ⇒ Stealing violates the “Second Great Commandment” – to love your neighbor as you do, in fact, love yourself.

Implications & Response

- ⇒ Before we get too nitpicky about trying not to steal from people (as important as that is), let’s start by thinking about how we might be stealing from God. When anything other than God is “god” to us, we rob God of the honor & obedience that is due to Him alone.
- ⇒ Think about Matthew 6:25-34; how does Jesus combat the mindset that leads to stealing?
- ⇒ Is there something in your life you need to clean up, repent of, or pay back? What is God bringing to your mind right now?
- ⇒ The Apostle Paul was a thief at one time in his life, but he later said this: “Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the worst.” This leads us to the gospel...!

Next Sunday: August 26, 2018

“Why Telling the Truth is So Hard”

Exodus 20:1-17

Pastor Tyler Pease

Answer Key: • coveting • adultery • ideas • work • deductions • defects • forgiveness • provision • rebellion •