

Scripture: Deut. 5:1-21 & Romans 7

Singing: 350:1-3 – 438:3 – 236:1-4 – 142:1-4 – 435:1, 2, 8, 9

Intro: Is the 10th the *summit* or the *spirit* of the Law?

The Command to Be Perfect in Each Commandment

I. What God forbids in the 10th? II. What God commands in the 10th?

I. What God forbids in the 10th?

A. God doesn't forbid to covet as such but to covet what is not yours

1. define *covet*

2. to covet is sometimes *commanded and approved*

a. 1 Cor. 12:31 & 14:39 commands to *covet the God's gifts*

b. 1 Tim. 3:1 *approves the desire to be bishop*

c. Prov. 18:22 *calls desire to find a wife good*

d. Ps. 127:4 *doesn't forbid longing for children*

3. but to covet *to possess what God gave to another* is sin

a. Hab 2:9 *condemns an 'evil covetousness'*

b. Ezek. 33:31 *exposes 'covetousness' in pew sitters*

c. Micah 3:11, Matt. 23:6-7 *details coveting in leaders*

4. Coveting isn't limited to *things or persons*

B. 10th goes deeper: *God commands us to reflect His inner Being!*

1. Note the difference between *be covetous* and *not covet*

a. our heart is **commanded** to *reflect His*

b. not sinful desire or thought is *to rise in my heart under no circumstances of our life*

2. In 10th God commands us *to be holy* rather than *do holy things*
 - a. original sin as the ‘fountain of pollution’ is *forbidden*
 - why can God still require this from us today?
 - b. original sin has never been in fashion and isn’t today

II. What does God demand in the tenth commandment

- A. What God **demand**s is even harder than what He forbids
 1. *Be ye perfect as your Father in heaven is perfect!* Matt. 5:48
 - a. that means *hate sin*
 - b. that we hate *all sin*
 - c. that we hate *at sin all times with the whole heart*
 - d. that we delight in all righteousness ...
 - **delight** in being and doing the right things like ...
 - **delight** in every detail of *devotional love*

Close: Who doesn’t feel overwhelmed by depth of this 10th?

- A. God’s intention is *not to feel overwhelmed* but *convicted!*
 1. Has God smashed my *self-conceited – proud - self-image*?
 2. If you sit under this teaching unmoved, then begin today *to strive to get impressions of God’s holy Being!*
- B. Why preach the Law when we can’t keep it?
 1. To drive you forever away from *your being and doing!*
 2. As well as to *lead you the Christ’s doing and dying!*
 3. To teach you to strive for *perfection!*