

Commandment 8: Do Not Steal **Exodus 20:15 & Deuteronomy 5:19**

Heidelberg catechism (1563)

Question: What does God forbid in the eighth commandment?

Answer: God forbids not only outright theft and robbery but also such wicked schemes and devices as false weights and measures, deceptive merchandising, counterfeit money, and usury; we must not defraud our neighbor in any way, whether by force or by show of right. In addition, God forbids all greed and all abuse or squandering of His gifts.

Reasons people violate commandment 8

1. **Disbelief**-not believing God will _____
2. _____ **at God's providence**-thinking people should not have what they have
3. _____-**pleasure**-We want what we want when we want
4. **Lack of love for God and others**-self reigns and _____

The Covenant of works:

-Adam took that which was not his and ate that which he was _____ to eat

-Humans are by nature born with the _____ desire of Adam-to take that which is not ours to take

The Covenant of grace:

-In Christ we find the exact _____-One who was rich became poor so that we, who are bankrupt in sin and misery, might become rich (2 Cor. 8:9)

-Christian, resting on Christ's perfection, strive to walk in love not defrauding your neighbor but _____ seeking their well-being

Helpful quotes

“If theft includes robbing God of His due, then we can understand how, in a sense, all sin is theft. So the eight commandment is a broad mandate upholding God’s whole law.”

-John Frame, “The Doctrine of the Christian Life” page 799

“Some of us steal by robbing God. Malachi 3:1-2 warns against withholding the tithe. The prophet considers that to be robbery from God, because God is ultimately the owner of everything. Whatever we have is on loan from Him.”

-Kevin DeYoung “The 10 Commandments” page 137

“In this commandment is required contentedness of mind with that part and portion of wealth and outward good things which God, in His providence, has allotted to us; and also in resting by faith upon the promise of God, and depending upon His providence.”

-Edward Fisher “The Marrow of Modern Divinity” page 308

“The external cause of theft is Satan's solicitation. Judas was a thief. John 12: 6. How came he to be a thief? 'Satan entered into him'. The devil is the great master-thief, he robbed us of our coat of innocence, and he persuades men to take up his trade...”

Thomas Watson’s sermon “The eighth commandment”