

God's Top 10 List!
"Number 8: Me, A Thief?"
Exodus 20:15 (page 53)

Sunday, June 14, 2009

Frank Mascaro

What is the **b i b l i c a l** perspective? (Psalm 24:1; Luke 16:10-13)

- God's perspective = **s t e w a r d s h i p**

This command is about **l o v e** toward **o t h e r s**.

I can **s t e a l** from others by:

- Theft, **r o b b e r y** and **e x t o r t i o n**. (Ezekiel 22:29)
- Stealing from my **e m p l o y e r / e m p l o y e e**.
(Titus 2:9-10; Jeremiah 22:13; James 5:4)
- Refusing to **w o r k**. (2 Thessalonians 3:10-12)
- **D i s h o n e s t y** and **f a l s e** measures (Proverbs 11:1; Amos 8:5)
- Failure to pay our **d e b t s / t a x e s**. (Psalm 73:21; Romans 13:8)

If I **l o v e** you, I will not **s t e a l** from you. (Romans 13:8-10)

Ultimately, this command is about **l o v i n g G o d**.

I can steal from **G o d** by:

- Refusing to **g i v e** back to God (Malachi 3:8)
- Living a **h y p o c r i t i c a l** life (Jeremiah 7:9-11; 1 Corinthians 6:19-20)
- Living to please **m y s e l f** rather than pleasing **G o d**. (Romans 12:1-3)

If I **l o v e** God, I will **o b e y** His commands (John 14:15, 23-24)

What is the **r i g h t r e s p o n s e** for stealing from another?

- **R e p e n t a n c e** and **r e s t i t u t i o n**. (Luke 19:18; Exodus 22:1-4)

What is the **r e m e d y** for stealing?

- **W o r k** *honestly* for the things that I obtain

I am to:

- √ Stop **s t e a l i n g** – **H o n e s t y**. (Ephesians 4:28a)
- √ Start **w o r k i n g** – **I n d u s t r y**. (Ephesians 4:28b)
- √ **G i v e** instead of **t a k i n g** – **G e n e r o s i t y**. (Ephesians 4:28c)

A Thief at Heart....

What ways have I broken this commandment recently?

How has that affected my relationship with others? With God?