

Bible Class Notes - Lesson 176 10 Commandments

Stealing is taking to yourself that which is not yours

This week we consider the 8th of God's 10 Commandments

Thou shalt not steal.

Exodus 20 v15

Bible Readings for this week

(Choose a regular time each day to read the bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

Day	Bible Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	Genesis 3v1-19 (The first theft, in Eden)	
Monday	Joshua 7v1,11-26 (Achan's sin discovered)	
Tuesday	Luke 19v1-10 (Zacchaeus stole, but repented)	
Wednesday	Matthew 6v19-34 (Layup treasure in Heaven)	
Thursday	John 10v1-13 (False teachers are thieves)	
Friday	John 10v14-29 (Jesus, The Good Shepherd)	
Saturday	John 3v1-21 (God's Love to undeserving sinners)	

Important Lesson for us Today: 'Thou shalt not steal'. We know that it is wrong to steal. We do not like being stolen from, and we all know that we should not steal from others. But, have you ever thought that we are guilty of stealing from God? We owe everything to God as the creator of our living soul, the giver and sustainer of our life. He commands, and deserves, our obedience, our worship, and our sincere repentance for our sin. Withholding these from Him is stealing from Him – it is breaking the 8th commandment. If we live to please ourselves, then we have stolen our lives from Him. Consider what He has done for us; the cost He paid when He suffered the wrath of His Father, and died on the cross to save us from the guilt of all our sin; consider the righteousness that He gives to us.

Does this not demand our allegiance, our love and respect for all His blessings to us?

Hymn 661 - Praising the love of the Saviour in dying for us on Calvary's Cross: -

1. He lovèd me, and gave Himself for me; 2. He lovèd me, and gave Himself for me;
And surely, I myself to Him will give; And surely I myself to Him will give;
None, Jesus, will I ever love like Thee, None, Jesus, will I ever love like Thee,
And to Thy glory only will I live. And to Thy glory only will I live.

3. And when I stand 'mid yonder shining throng,
And on fair Canaan's coast my Saviour see,
I'll add my chorus to the swelling song:
'He lovèd me, and gave Himself for me.'

EDT Bible/College Class Take Home Sheet.

This sheet is given to remind you of the lesson and to encourage you to read your Bible.

The 10 Commandments – *God's Moral Law, His Rules for all time.*

God's 8th Commandment – "Thou Shalt Not Steal".

Stealing, taking to ourselves that which is not ours, is a grave sin which has many aspects. These include: -

- **Stealing from others: -**
 - Taking to ourselves - Fraud, Cheating, Scrounging (expecting others to provide).
 - Slandering another – Stealing their reputation; hateful character assassination.
 - Stealing is unnecessary, selfish, greedy - showing our pride and arrogance.
 - Revealing that we have no care, respect, or love for those we steal from.
 - Always wanting more – Proudly saying, "I want it, so I will take it."
 - We have all stolen something – we are all guilty before God's all-seeing eye.
- **Stealing from God: -**
 - Adam and Eve both stole when they ate of the forbidden fruit. **Genesis 3v6**
 - Zacchaeus and Matthew were Tax Collectors who stole – but they paid it back.
 - By stealing our lives, taking all our time to ourselves – leaving The Lord God out of our lives. Laziness is stealing time – Do not waste time in idle pursuits.
 - By denying God of true worship - which He expects and deserves from us.
 - By ignoring Him - stealing from the Honour and Glory due to His Holy Name.
 - False Teachers steal truth from souls when they preach an erroneous Gospel.
- **The Consequences for Stealing from God and others: -**
 - **Now** - Loss of peace in the heart, no happiness or joy – a bad conscience, guilt.
 - **Eternal** - God's deserved Judgement – Eternal, never ending punishment.

The Character of God is the very opposite. He is a gracious, loving, a giver.

- **God has given us so many gracious blessings: -**
 - Our lives, bodies and eternal living souls. Joy and happiness in knowing Christ.
 - Creation around us - its' pleasing beauty, providing all that we need to live.
 - Our family, homes, love, security, comforts, friends, food, and clothes.
 - The Lord Jesus Christ – A Saviour of thieves who repent. **Read Luke 23v42,43**

In return, let us show gratitude to our God, praying for help to give to Him the praise, love, honour, glory, and time that He deserves. To give love and help to all around us.

- **The Graciousness and Mercy of God to Forgive Us Our Sin: -**
 - **Now** - Restoration of peace, happiness and joy through repentance and faith.
 - **Eternal** - God's undeserved salvation in Jesus Christ – Eternal, never ending.

We have all broken this commandment in so many ways. Let us sincerely repent.

God's free offer of forgiveness to each of us is, "Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your soul."

Matthew 11:28-29