

WRITTEN IN STONE

**THE SIN OF COVETING ...
AND THE JOY OF CONTENTMENT**

Exodus 20:17 Jeff Schreve

“You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife or his male servant or his female servant or his ox or his donkey or anything that belongs to your neighbor.” Exodus 20:17

Are you a covetous person or a contented person?

1. The sin of coveting is a sin of the heart.

“For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders.” Matthew 15:19

A. Coveting means to long after/lust after with great desire.

B. Coveting is an insatiable craving for more and more.

Let your character be free from the love of money, being content with what you have ... Hebrews 13:5



C. Coveting is where all other sins are born.

But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death. James 1:14-15

So Achan answered Joshua and said, "Truly, I have sinned against the LORD, the God of Israel, and this is what I did: when I saw among the spoil a beautiful mantle from Shinar and two hundred shekels of silver and a bar of gold fifty shekels in weight, then I coveted them and took them; and behold, they are concealed in the earth inside my tent with the silver underneath it."
Joshua 7:20-21

2. The sin of coveting is a sin of idolatry.

For this you know with certainty, that no immoral or impure person or covetous (pleonexia) man, who is an idolater, has an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. Ephesians 5:5

Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (pleonexia), which amounts to idolatry. Colossians 3:5

A. You cannot serve God and money.

B. You dare not let your heart be deceived by idols.

And He said to them, "Beware, and be on your guard against every form of greed (pleonexia); for not even when one has an abundance does his life consist of his possessions."
Luke 12:15

3. The sin of coveting is defeated in Jesus Christ.

Let your character be free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, "I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU, NOR WILL I EVER FORSAKE YOU," so that we confidently say, "THE LORD IS MY HELPER, I WILL NOT BE AFRAID. WHAT SHALL MAN DO TO ME?" Hebrews 13:5-6

A. Jesus is the antidote to coveting.

B. We will only find our satisfaction/contentment in Him.

Not that I speak from want; for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need. I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.
Philippians 4:12-13

For to me, to live is _____.

Be honest: where is your heart today?