



# The 8<sup>th</sup> Commandment



# Introduction

- Stealing: to take the property of another or others without permission or right, especially secretly or by force.
  - Dictionary.com
- Exodus 20:15
- Luke 10:30; Mark 6:17, 18
  - We don't struggle with this, do we?

# Stealing from Others

- Stealing was common during the NT.
  - Luke 19:8; Ephesians 4:28
  - 1 Corinthians 6:9, 10. Don't take this sin lightly.
- How do we steal?
  - Timecard? Résumé?
  - Dishonest business practices. Prov. 11:1
  - Positions of prominence? John 12:6
  - Taxes? Romans 13:1, 7; Mark 12:17
  - Unwillingness to work leading to aid? Eph. 4:28

# Stealing from your Brethren

- Stealing from family is low.
  - Genesis 27:18-27
- Are we guilty of this?
- When we are absent we are swiping at least two things from our brethren:
  1. Steal the opportunity for others to stir us up.  
Hebrews 10:24, 25
  2. Defraud others the blessing of teaching.  
Colossians 3:16

# Stealing from God

- Is it possible to steal from the One who has it all? Psalm 24:1
- Malachi 3:8
  - It is possible to steal from God.
  - Our offerings to God can be a form of robbery. Malachi 1:6-8
- As priests today, are we robbing God?
  - Romans 12:1

# Stealing from Christ

- Don't strip Christ of His rightful authority.
  - Matthew 28:18; Philippians 2:9-11
- How is this done?
  - Roman Catholic Church has not been too shy about this when they give authority to the Pope.
  - Matthew 7:21-23

# Conclusion

- Exodus 20:15 has broader implications than we sometimes think .
- Don't steal from others, brothers, or God.
- Prepare for the thief. 2 Peter 3:10-12