

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS # 10

Introduction

Our series in the study of the Ten Commandments is at a conclusion. We appreciate your being with us for these programs and trust that the thinking about the Word of God will be helpful to all of us. In this confused world we need His help and the direction of truth that will make our lives profitable. Without some firm line of guidance we would all be victims of violent corruption and human greed. While these laws are not the total guidance, they are foundational to the rest. As stated at the very start of this study, they are perhaps the greatest single piece of legislation in human history. The humanitarian culture of Israel and that of the Christian-Judeo world in general is no small tribute to the wisdom of God and the fact of His law.

As we have continued we have reminded ourselves from time to time of the progress in the study. Under this law we are to love God and honor Him. With a healthy stance before God we are enabled to have the basis for a good relationship with man. The order is important for it is our respect of God that enables us to respect others. But as our study comes to its end we meet the command that is most easily disregarded and gets the least public attention seeming to many to be a matter of near irrelevance. It is the pointed tenth commandment: "Thou shalt not covet." (Exodus 20:17)

The Tenth Command: Explanation

Coveting is the emotion of envying things that pertain to others with the inward desire of having them for ourselves. It is not a passive or non-emotional glance in the direction of what belongs to another. It is the calculated desire to have for ourselves what another possesses. This is