

The word of God is alive and powerful, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of the soul and spirit, and of the joints and the marrow, and is a critic of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

All scripture is God-breathed and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:

so that the man {or woman} of God may become mature, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

Friday title: "You shall not steal," The Eighth Commandment.

Part 2.

We have now come to the eighth commandment in Exo 20:15 which says "You shall not steal."

In reality, there are only two words in the entire verse; We have the phrase Lo' tignob --- correctly translated "You shall not steal", --- stealing refers to anything that falls under the category of things that are natural or spiritual, including people.

We also noted that your life is protected; marriage is protected, and the family is protected, all by commandments in the Mosaic Law.

In other words, one of the main reasons for the Mosaic Law was to reveal to mankind what sin is all about. --- WHY?

Because in ROM 5:12 we read Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned--

ROM 5:13 for until the Law sin was in the world; but sin is not imputed when there is no law.

Look at a great passage that tells us the reason why God gave the Ten Commandments for His people to follow; ROM 7:7.

Rom 7:7 What shall we say then? Is the Law sin? May it never be! On the contrary, I would not have come to know sin except through the Law; for I would not have known about coveting if the Law had not said, "You shall not covet."

I hope you got the point Wednesday evening but if you missed it, let me remind you of one of the main principles we have learned concerning the relationship between the Doctrine of Freedom and the divine institutions.

By divine institutions, of course I am referring to the rules and the guidance and directions for the four major institutions that must be followed:

Divine Institutions

1. Volition. (You are free to either accept or reject TLJC)
2. Marriage
3. Family
4. Nationalism

Now, this gets very interesting when we see the Ten Commandments and the principles of freedom that are intimately related.

For example, we noted that divine institution #1 Volition = is that which protects your freedom when it says; "You shall not murder." Exo 20:13.

Then we have Divine Institution #2, marriage, and therefore we are given all the doctrine necessary to protect those involved in the marriage; this is done through observation of the seventh commandment in EXO 20:14 "You shall not commit adultery."

Next, we have Divine Institution #3 the family, which is to protect those involved within the family unit in EXO 20:12 "Honor your father and your mother so that your days may be prolonged in the land which the Lord your God gives you."

And now we have a command in our passage that deals with the stealing and violations of the property or materialism you own or possess in EXO 20:15 which says "You shall not steal."

So, this commandment, "You shall not steal" is for the protection of your freedom and your private property.

This commandment establishes the "divinely given right" of the individual to own personal property and possessions, and it limits government interference to the protection of this property.

Every time the government gets involved in your life, you are opening up doors to the cosmic system and satanic deception.

In fact, this was a test that certain the early church went through in the book of Acts; Act 5:1-11.

They lied to God,

They lied to the church.

They stole from God

They stole from the church.

Let's get the background.

ACT 5:1 But a certain man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property,

ACT 5:2 and kept back some of the price for himself, with his wife's full knowledge, and bringing a portion of it, he laid it at the apostles' feet.

ACT 5:3 But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit, and to keep back some of the price of the land?"

ACT 5:4 "While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not under your control? Why is it that you have conceived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men, but to God."

ACT 5:5 And as he heard these words, Ananias fell down and breathed his last; and great fear came upon all who heard of it.

ACT 5:6 And the young men arose and covered him up, and after carrying him out, they buried him.

ACT 5:7 Now there elapsed an interval of about three hours, and his wife came in, not knowing what had happened.

ACT 5:8 And Peter responded to her, "Tell me whether you sold the land for such and such a price?" And she said, "Yes, that was the price."

ACT 5:9 Then Peter said to her, "Why is it that you have agreed together to put the Spirit of the Lord to the test? Behold, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they shall carry you out as well."

ACT 5:10 And she fell immediately at his feet, and breathed her last; and the young men came in and found her dead, and they carried her out and buried her beside her husband.

ACT 5:11 And great fear came upon the whole church, and upon all who heard of these things.

The early church had individuals in it who lied, who stole, and was definitely a 2TI 3:2 type of believer; "They will be lovers of self, lovers of money.

Now, there are two words coming up that we need to recognize; The word for Temple and the word for body and what they refer to.

In fact, look at 1CO 6:19, a passage that most of you are familiar with by now and it has a main interpretation but also a spiritual application where the apostle Paul said:

1Co 6:19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

Here, the word I want you to focus on is the word "Temple" which is the Greek noun **naos** = a safe place to dwell, a shrine or a temple.

It is true that your physical body is a temple of the Holy Spirit but so is your "spiritual body, the Church," which you are a part of forever, is also called a **"temple** of the Holy Spirit."

So, all this means is that there are times when the word Temple is used and it refers to a Natural Temple or the actual building itself during the Church-age.

Now, there are times when the word Temple is used and it refers to the spiritual Temple or a group of believers who are worshipping the Lord together and the Lord is blessing them because they fulfilled;

PSA 133:1 (A Song of Ascents, of David.) Behold, how good and how pleasant it is For brothers to dwell together in unity!

Choose life so that you may live!

Now then, don't miss this because it is extremely important.

1Co 6:19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

And then Paul goes on with a warning and a command when he says in 1CO 6:20 For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body.

Now, we have another word to focus in on, and that is the noun soma meaning a "physical body" or a spiritual body, which is His church also known as the "body of Christ.

So there are two words used by the apostle Paul, the word Temple which is the noun naos which can be translated "the temple" referring to the temple of your physical body or in reality it can also refer to the Temple of your spiritual body which is His Church.

Then we have the noun soma which refers to your body, literally or figuratively, meaning your physical body or,..... it can also refer to His spiritual body, which is His Church.

That is your physical body but also a reference to the spiritual body that you have been called to in 1Pe 5:2, where you are to glorify God with your Time, Talent, and Treasure and operating in your spiritual gift.

Of course, the most popular passage on the word "body," is found in 1Co 12.

1CO 12:12 For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ.

1CO 12:13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

1CO 12:14 For the body is not one member, but many.

1CO 12:15 If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body.

1CO 12:16 And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I am not a part of the body," it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body.

1CO 12:17 If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where would the sense of smell be?

1CO 12:18 But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired.

1CO 12:19 And if they were all one member, where would the body be?

1CO 12:20 But now there are many members, but one body.

1CO 12:21 And the eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you"; or again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you."

1CO 12:22 On the contrary, it is much truer that the members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary;

1CO 12:23 and those members of the body, which we deem less honorable, on these we bestow more abundant honor, and our unseemly members come to have more abundant seemliness,

1CO 12:24 whereas our seemly members have no need of it. But God has so composed the body, giving more abundant honor to that member which lacked,

1CO 12:25 that there should be no division in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another.

1CO 12:26 And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.

1CO 12:27 Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it.

Now, this is a passage that definitely uses the word "body" referring to the Church, the Royal Family of God.

Now, with all of this in mind look at a very important passage concerning this subject for in 2CO 6:16 we read "For we are the temple of the living God; just as God said, "I will dwell in them and walk among them; And I will be their God, and they shall be My people."

Notice here the temple is called "we" not "you" referring to the church that you are a part of.

It is usual to regard these verses as referring to the individual Christian, but the Epistle here is addressed not just to a believer but "unto the Church of God which is at Corinth, 1Co 1:2 it reads to the church of God which is at Corinth, to those who have been sanctified in Christ Jesus, saints by calling, with all who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours:

Now, with that in mind, go back to 1Co again where the apostle Paul gives us a very serious warning concerning not only our communion and fellowship with the Lord but how the church should have communion and fellowship with one another and not judge one another.

Let me show you some doctrinal principles and some Greek grammar.

First, the doctrinal principle: Now this brings us to a very important point in our doctrine which is the problem of Christian fellowship.

The problem of Christian fellowship originates from the trend to emphasize relationship with people over relationship with God.

Therefore, people emphasis takes precedence over God emphasis.

This is when interaction with people becomes the criterion of the Christian way of life instead of the execution of the PREDESIGNED PLAN OF God and the glorification of God.

This is usually manifested by such statements as we must love each other or the issue is not doctrine but love.

This is an excessive emphasis on the church or the body of Christ

It's not that Christian fellowship is wrong, but it is overemphasized so that today believers are not growing up spiritually.

Therefore, the emphasis on Christian fellowship is producing losers.

Let's note some Christian fellowship principles.

- a. Christian fellowship is never a substitute for fellowship with God.
- b. Christian fellowship is never a substitute for learning Bible doctrine.
- c. The execution of the PPOG and subsequent glorification of God only occurs through the consistent perception, metabolization, and application of Bible doctrine.

You should be able to distinguish between learning doctrine and Christian fellowship.

d. Execution of the predesigned plan of God and subsequent glorification of God does not occur through Christian fellowship.

e. God always provides a right pastor for positive volition.

No one is everyone's right pastor.

No pastor should ever get in your way to grow spiritually and that includes the pastor himself.

People have a tendency to forget that all people are sinners, including the pastor who must very careful not to allow anyone to make a role model out of him or for that matter a "role model" out of anyone.

They forget such passages like ROM 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

ECC 7:20 Indeed, there is not a righteous man on earth who continually does good and who never sins.

GAL 3:22 But the Scripture has **shut up** all men under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

Therefore, we must agree with God when He inspired the apostle John to deal with the sin issue in just three short verses, 1Jo 1:8-10.

1JO 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

1JO 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1JO 1:10 If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

Look at ROM 3:8 And why not say (as we are slanderously reported and as some affirm that we say), "Let us do evil that good may come"? Their condemnation is just.

ROM 3:9 What then? Are we better than they? Not at all; for we have already charged that both Jews and Greeks are all under sin;

ROM 3:10 as it is written, "There is none righteous, not even one;

ROM 3:11 There is none who understands, There is none who seeks for God;

ROM 3:12 All have turned aside, together they have become useless; There is none who does good, There is not even one."

ROM 3:13 "Their throat is an open grave, With their tongues they keep deceiving," "The poison of asps is under their lips";

ROM 3:14 "Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness"

ROM 3:15 "Their feet are swift to shed blood,

ROM 3:16 Destruction and misery are in their paths,

ROM 3:17 And the path of peace have they not known."

ROM 3:18 "There is no fear of God before their eyes."

ROM 3:20 because by the works of the Law no flesh will be justified in His sight; for through the Law comes the knowledge of sin.

ROM 3:21 But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets,

ROM 3:22 even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction;

ROM 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

ROM 3:24 being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus;

Now, because of these passages and more we can say the only true role model we should have is the one we develop in spiritual adulthood in our occupation with Jesus Christ.

You must learn to be occupied with TLJC and keep your eyes off of people.

As PRO 3:5 says "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And do not lean on your own understanding."

When things seem to be chaotic and are filled with confusion that is when you need to: "Trust in the Lord **not** in people!"

Also, when you find yourself in a situation that is filled with "Cosmic Thinking" Do not lean on your own understanding.

Satan is subtle in his approaches to deceive man and believe or not, he knows a lot more about you than you even know about yourself.

We can't afford to be ignorant concerning these matters.

Always remember you cannot change other people; you can only change yourself.

This is done by the consistent perception, metabolization, and application of Bible doctrine.

You cannot change yourself through Christian fellowship, but only through perception of Bible doctrine.

The point is that your relationship with God is the major issue.

When your relationship with God is straight, then your relationships with people will fall into line.

Changing yourself is a matter of consistent perception, metabolization and application of Bible Doctrine from which comes the consistent use of the ten problem solving devices of the predesigned plan of God.

There is no problem too great for these devices.

The most dramatic change in the life of any believer occurs when he is using all ten of these problem solving devices.

Relationship with God must precede relationship with people.

Christian fellowship is secondary to perception of doctrine.

Christian fellowship is never a substitute for fellowship with God or for learning Bible doctrine.

Christian fellowship is not the source of spiritual growth or momentum.

Christian fellowship has seven great disadvantages.

a. It establishes wrong priorities in the Christian life through the influence of confused believers.

b. It is a distraction from Bible doctrine through preoccupation with romance or friendship.

c. It is the acquisition of legalism through association with legalistic and arrogant believers.

d. It involves anti-nomianism, therefore association with promiscuous believers, which is also distracting.

e. using Christian fellowship as a dating bureau or a marriage pool is a distraction from growing in grace.

f. Christian fellowship often results in acquiring erroneous views of doctrine, or the ridicule of doctrine in a group of Christian believers.

g. Christian fellowship uses people as a crutch rather than learning and using the ten problem solving devices of the Christian way of life.

However, Christian fellowship does have some advantages.

For example:

1. A lifetime friendships develop among positive believers while they're growing in grace.

2. Encouragement from conversations among believers of like faith and practice.

Now, look at 1Co 3:16 Do you not know that you [you is the second person plural = ya'll or believers] you all are a temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you [second person plural = ya'll]?

1CO 3:17 If any man destroys the temple of God that is the church of God, --- [notice the temple of God is called the Church of God.]

What does Paul say that God will do?

God will destroy him, for the temple of God is Holy, and that is what you [Second person plural = you all are.

Then in 1CO 3:18 Let no man deceive himself. If any man among you thinks that he is wise in this age, let him become foolish that he may become wise.

Don't fool yourself.

Don't think that you can be wise merely by being up-to-date with the news or because you have mastered the internet for your personal desires.

And then verse 19 tells us to be God's fool is the path to true wisdom.

1CO 3:19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness before God. For it is written, "He is the one who catches the wise in their craftiness";

Now, this a passage that also explains what the apostle Paul said in 1CO 11:27 Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner, shall be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord.

That is not discerning the value of the impeccability of our Lord's physical body as well as it can refer to His Church, the spiritual body of Christ or the Temple of God.

All three of those descriptions apply to our subject.

And also not discerning the blood of the Lord or His spiritual death and His finished work on the cross where He died for our sins and also for those in the Temple or His Church.

Which is why true fellowship should be based upon 2CO 5:16 Therefore from now on we recognize no man according to the flesh or according to human viewpoint but rather divine viewpoint;

And what is divine viewpoint when it comes to the Church, the Temple of God?

It is EPH 4:32 And be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

Again, what is divine viewpoint when it comes to the Church, the Temple of God?

The divine viewpoint of the church or the temple of God is found in such passages as JOH 15:13 "Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends."

By the way, if someone tries to discredit these passages that we have noted so far, be like the Bereans; ACT 17:11 Now these were more noble-minded than those in Thessalonica, for they received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily, to see whether these things were so.

Now, for the best results and for the correct and the most accurate translation of any passage, it is wise to stay under the authority of the principle we call "ICE."

This means Bible doctrine must be taught based on three principles.

1. Isagogics is the historical setting of the passage.
2. Categories is the systematic theology developed from combining Scripture with Scripture.
3. Exegesis is the grammatical and syntactical analysis of the passage from the original languages.

Now, as we go forward in the PPOG and fulfilling our personal sense of destiny, it is important that we also know not "**what glorifies the Lord**" but "how to glorify the Lord."

Now in 1CO 11:28 But let a man examine himself [not others], and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

1CO 11:29 For he who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself, if he does not judge the body that is also the spiritual body rightly.

And remember what the apostle Paul said back in 1Co 3:17 that God will destroy him, for the temple of God is Holy, and that is what you are.

Well look at 1CO 11:30 now with a different understanding that is definitely applicable For this reason

What reason?

Because you have not judged or evaluated the Lord's body, His church, His temple, correctly.

For this reason many among you are weak and sick, and a number sleep or died.

Why?

Because they **did not** or **do not** discern the Lord's spiritual body which is His church, also called His Temple .

So we could also say For this reason many among you are weak and sick, and a number sleep or died because they **did not** or **do not** discern the Lord's physical body which He kept impeccable or His spiritual body which is His church and His Temple.

The fact that His spiritual body presently also known as His church, His Temple will forever be known as the bride of Christ for all eternity and it cannot be overstated or should ever be taken for granted; Pro 20:25.

For remember, the bride of Christ will be occupied with her right man, TLJC, for all of eternity and will do whatever her husband desires for all of eternity.

For example, do you operate with the Temple of God with your spiritual gift for in ROM 12:6 And since we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let each exercise them accordingly:

Or do you neglect or reject your spiritual gift for 1TI 4:14 says Do not neglect the spiritual gift within you, which was bestowed upon you.

Or a the apostle Peter states in 1PE 4:10 As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

Notice the three main words I mentioned, exercise, neglect, serve.

Exercise -- ROM 12:6, let each exercise their gift accordingly:

Neglect -- 1TI 4:14 Do not neglect the spiritual gift within you,

Serve -- 1PE 4:10 As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another

Now that is a great principle.

I.P. (Important principle): -The operation of your spiritual gift has been given to serve others in the Temple of God or the Church of Jesus Christ.

Do You?

Have I?

Have I become your enemy because I am telling you the truth?

Perhaps this is another reason why in 1CO 11:31, the apostle writes But if we judged ourselves rightly, we should not be judged.

And how do you judge yourselves rightly?

PSD#1 - Rebound or confession of sin or rebound and recovery, if needed or necessary.

In 1CO 11:32 But when we are judged, we are disciplined by the Lord in order that we may not be condemned along with the world or the cosmic system.