

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.

sun-morn title: "You shall not steal," The Eighth Commandment. Prt 3.

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; 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 the apostle Paul tells us the purpose of the Law in 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."

In GAL 3:24, the apostle Paul writes; "Therefore the Law has become our tutor or school bus to lead us to Christ, that we may be justified by faith."

Now, we have noted 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 and your life and so a commandment is given to prevent others from taken your freedom a way to live and so in Exo 20:13 it says; "You shall not murder."

Then we have Divine Institution #2, marriage, and therefore we are given all the doctrine necessary to protect those involved in the marriage; and 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."

Now. 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.

Now, on Friday evening we noted that 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."

Therefore, this means that every time the word Temple is used we need to define and recognize if it is a real temple or is it the spiritual temple that is in the passage.

So, all this means is that 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 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.

And 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.

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

Let's quickly point out some of the necessary verses concerning this subject.

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.

And so immediately we see the spiritual aspects of the word "body" which refers to His church.

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

Then Pauls goes on to breakdown the analogy of the "body" by pointing out the different functions of the Body in 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."

Then he goes on in 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.

Then the apostle Paul gets right to the point when he writes 1CO 12:27 which says Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it.

Please notice that one of the descriptions of our Lord's Church is the body of Christ.

So, 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 those in the church.

I hope you are beginning to see the principle of the Wall of Fire from the Lord that He has placed surrounding us, His Church, His Body, His bride.

It is when we recognize the intimate relationship and fellowship we can have with our Lord when we realize that we are His.....

His Church

His body,

His bride.

The analogy indicates that the members of the body of Christ are formed into one organic whole with a common plan, a common goal, common objectives, and a common purpose.

And the phrase "One body" emphasizes the status of unity among the members of the body of Christ..

Of course, being in the same family doesn't mean you always get along.

But God has provided a way so we can all get along in the same family.

The moment we believed in Jesus Christ, we entered into the royal family of God.

The baptism of the Spirit at salvation is the means by which we entered into this body.

The baptism of the Spirit results in the creation of both the new spiritual species and the royal family of God.

Therefore, what we possess as royal family is absolutely unique.

It is designed not only to give us the most fantastic happiness and blessing in every circumstance of life, but also so that we can get along together.

We are not combined by the same genes; we're combined by something far greater through the ministry of God the Holy Spirit.

The body of Christ is composed of two categories of Church-age believers.

- a. Those located on earth.
- b. Those located in heaven, who have died physically.

However, we can thank the Lord for actually making us members of His spiritual body, the church.

This is how we learn to deny ourselves and our OSN and then live in the new nature with the spiritual life that God has given to His Body, the Church.

You will never live in the new nature until you truly believe that God gave you a new nature and that new nature learns how to reject the old life and recognize the new life for the new creature.

Look what the apostle Paul writes in closing; ROM 6:1 What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace might increase?

ROM 6:2 May it never be! How shall we who died to sin still live in it?

ROM 6:3 Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death?

ROM 6:4 Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk **in newness of life.**

Look at ROM 7:6 But now we have been released from the Law, having died to that by which we were bound, so that we serve in newness of the Spirit and not in oldness of the letter.

So we have the newness of life and the newness of the Spirit.

People forget sometimes who they use to be, and that the entire human race needed a miracle to save them from themselves and the eternal lake of fire.

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,

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

Do you believe that?

It is true!

Every member of the human race must realize that we were all born physically alive but spiritually dead, including the Gentiles and the Jews.

So we read in 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 [nature] 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.

Now 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 3:19 Now we know that whatever the Law says, it speaks to those who are under the Law, that every mouth may be closed, and all the world may become accountable to God;

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.

We must learn them and apply them to our life.

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 and your fellowship 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.

Therefore, 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 at least seven great disadvantages I have noted.

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

This is when a weak believer manipulates anyone he can to accomplish his goals.

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

3. It is the acquisition of legalism through association with legalistic and arrogant believers.
4. It involves anti-nomianism, therefore association with promiscuous believers, which is also distracting.
5. Using Christian fellowship as a dating bureau or a marriage pool is a distraction from growing in grace.
6. Christian fellowship often results in acquiring erroneous views of doctrine, or the ridicule of doctrine in a group of Christian believers.
7. 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.

Not discerning the blood of the Lord or His spiritual death is to reject the Work of the Lord and Word of the Lord.

If you do so, you are called an enemy of Christ; PHI 3:18 For many keep walking, concerning whom I have warned you many times, and now continue to affirm, even weeping, the enemies of the cross of Christ.

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."

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

Heb 10:25 not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but gather together for the purpose of encouraging one another; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near.

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.**"

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 [mentally] and sick [physically], 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 she will do whatever her husband desires for all of eternity.

In fact, your life right now is being recorded by the Lord as to whether you are a winner believer or a loser believer, it all depends upon you!

For example, do you operate with the Temple of God with your spiritual gift when needed, well, ROM 12:6 says 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 You?

Or, will you?

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.

This commandment then, "You shall not steal" says that ***"If you don't have a right to a certain piece of property, keep your hands off!" — It doesn't belong to you!***

If you steal something, you are a thief who thinks you have the right to take what you can or whatever you are lusting after.

You are intruding upon and violating someone else's freedom.

All of us know how losing our freedom when it comes to our personal property creates in us a terrible emotional reaction from being robbed.

When someone steals from us, it feels like we have been raped or something evil has happened to us.

Why?

Because Satan loves to torture us to try and get even with us because our husband, TLJC, already shut the lid on his Angelic butt when He defeated Satan and the kingdom of darkness on the cross.

And He did so openly!

How do we know that?

We know that because we read in COL 2:13 And when you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions,

COL 2:14 having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us and which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

Now what happened when this happened?

Well COL 2:15 tells us when and where all these things took place, including the time of the ultimate victory over sin and Satan;

Col 2:15 When He had disarmed the rulers and authorities, He made a public display of them, having triumphed over them through Him.