

*Freedom: The Unexpected Logic of Blood-Bought Liberty*

**The Gift of Possessions**

Exodus 20:15

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The Lord's Day Morning

December 15, 2018

**Meditation**

“You shall not steal.” –Exodus 20:15

Q 110: What does God forbid in the eighth commandment? God forbids not only outright theft and robbery, but also such wicked schemes and devices as false weights and measures, deceptive merchandising, counterfeit money, and usury; we must not defraud our neighbor in any way, whether by force or by show of right. In addition God forbids all greed and all abuse or squandering of his gifts.

Q111: What does God require of you in this commandment? I must promote my neighbor's good wherever I can and may, deal with him as I would like others to deal with me, and work faithfully so that I may be able to give to those in need.”

–The Heidelberg Catechism,

**Four Ways to Break The Eighth Commandment**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ God's ownership and my stewardship of \_\_\_\_\_ .
2. \_\_\_\_\_, by force, fraud, or stealth, the possessions God has \_\_\_\_\_ to another person.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ for myself the possessions God intends for me to \_\_\_\_\_.
4. \_\_\_\_\_, through carelessness and mismanagement, the possessions God \_\_\_\_\_ to me.