

## **Exodus 20:17**

### **“Watch What You Want”**

March 28, 2021 – Rev. Rick Lyon

## **Commandment #10 - You shall not covet**

**Jeremiah 6:13** - From the least to the greatest *everyone* is given to covetousness.

**1 Cor. 12:31** - Earnestly covet/desire the greater [spiritual] gifts.

**Exodus 20:17** - “You shall not covet your *neighbor’s* house; you shall not covet your *neighbor’s* wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor’s.”

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### **1. The Curse of Covetousness**

**Curse #1** - Covetousness will cause you to forget the blessings you have.

**1 Kings 21:1** - And it came to pass after these things that Naboth the Jezreelite had a *vineyard* which was in Jezreel, next to the *palace* of Ahab king of Samaria.

**v. 2** - **So** Ahab spoke to Naboth, saying, “Give me your vineyard, that I may have it for a vegetable garden, because it's near, next to my house; and for it I'll give you a vineyard better than it. Or, if it seems good to you, I'll give you its worth in money.

**v. 3** - But Naboth said to Ahab, “The Lord forbid that I should give the inheritance of my fathers to you!”

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**Lev. 25:23** - "The land must not be sold permanently because the land is Mine."

**Numbers 36:7** - Every one of the people of Israel shall hold on to the inheritance of the tribe of his fathers.

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### **Curse #2 - Covetousness will steal your joy.**

**1 Kings 21:4** - *So Ahab went into his house sullen and displeased because of the word which Naboth the Jezreelite had spoken to him... And he lay down on his bed, and turned away his face, and would eat no food.*

**Luke 12:15** - "Watch out! Be on your guard against covetousness; life doesn't consist in an abundance of possessions."

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### **Curse #3 - Covetousness is the root of other sins.**

**1 Kings 21:5-13** - But Jezebel his wife came, and said to him, "Why is your spirit so sullen that you eat no food?"<sup>6</sup> He said, "Because I spoke to Naboth the Jezreelite, and said to him, 'Give me your vineyard for money; or else, if it pleases you, I'll give you another vineyard for it.' And he answered, 'I won't give you my vineyard.'"

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<sup>7</sup> Then Jezebel his wife said to him, “You now exercise authority over Israel! Arise, eat food, and let your heart be cheerful; I’ll give you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite.” <sup>8</sup> And she wrote letters in Ahab’s name, sealed them with his seal, and sent the letters to the elders and the nobles who were dwelling in the city with Naboth. <sup>9</sup> She wrote in the letters, saying, Proclaim a fast, and seat Naboth with high honor among the people; <sup>10</sup> and seat two men, scoundrels, before him to *bear witness against him*, saying, “You’ve blasphemed God and the king.” Then take him out, and *stone him*, that he may die.

<sup>11</sup> So the men of his city, the elders and nobles who were inhabitants of his city, did as Jezebel had sent to them...

<sup>13</sup> Two men, scoundrels, came in and sat before Naboth; and the scoundrels witnessed against him, in the presence of the people, saying, “Naboth has blasphemed God and the king!” Then they took him outside the city and stoned him with stones, so that he died.

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**Commandment #9 - You shall not lie.**

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**Commandment #8 - You shall not steal**

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**Commandment #7 - You shall not commit adultery.**

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**Commandment #6 - You shall not murder.**

**1 Kings 21:16** - So it was, when Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, that Ahab got up and went down to take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite.

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**Curse #4 - Covetousness won't satisfy you.**

**Ecclesiastes 5:10** - Whoever loves money *never has enough*; whoever loves wealth is *never satisfied* with their income.

**1 Kings 21:17-19** - Then the word of the Lord came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying,<sup>18</sup> “Arise, go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, who lives in Samaria.

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There he is, in the vineyard of Naboth, where he's gone down to take possession of it. <sup>19</sup> Speak to him, saying, ‘Thus says the Lord: “Have you murdered and also taken possession?”’ Speak to him, saying, ‘Thus says the Lord: “In the place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth, dogs shall lick your blood, even yours.”’”

## **2. The Cure for Covetousness**

**Philippians 4:12** - I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I've learned *the secret of being content in any and every situation.*

**#1 - Be thankful for what you currently have.**

**Hebrews 13:5** - Keep your life free from covetousness; *be content with what you have.*

**Timothy Keller:** *“If we look to some created thing to give us the meaning, hope, and happiness that only God Himself can give, it will eventually fail to deliver and break our hearts.”*

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**#2 - Trust God to give you what's best for you.**

**James 1:17** - Every good and *perfect* gift comes down from above.

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**#3 - Refuse to compare yourself to others.**

**Hebrews 12** - Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith... Consider Him...

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**#4 - Don't obsess over what you don't have.**

**1 Timothy 6:6-8, 17** - Godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, so we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that... God richly provides all things for us to enjoy.

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#### **1. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Covetousness**

**Curse #1** - Covetousness will cause you to \_\_\_\_\_.

**Curse #2** - Covetousness will steal \_\_\_\_\_.

**Curse #3** - Covetousness is the root of \_\_\_\_\_.

**Curse #4** - Covetousness won't satisfy you.

#### **2. The \_\_\_\_\_ for Covetousness**

**Philippians 4:12** - I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I've learned *the secret of being content in any and every situation.*

**#1** - Be thankful for \_\_\_\_\_.

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**#2 - Trust God to give you \_\_\_\_\_.**

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