

Theology Simply Explained — CC101 “The Heart of the Law”

Pastor walks his children through Children’s Catechism question 101—especially explaining how the tenth commandment bookends with the first, sums up the second table, and shows how the whole law addresses the heart.

Q101. What is the tenth commandment? *The tenth commandment is, Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbor's.*

(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via hopewellarp.org)

Sophia. Your question this week is what is the tenth commandment? And your answer is the tenth. Commandment is Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife. Nor his manservant. Lord, his maidservant. Learn his Ox nor his ass. Nor anything that is thy neighbor.

Now, when God gives us the 10th commandment as the last one. He does something interesting. Although we know That the other Commandments require. Right, thoughts and feelings. Here. He'd dress. He addresses our thoughts and feelings directly Coveting is something that happens in your thoughts. In your feelings. So it's not just, you shall not steal.

It's you shall not covet. You shall not wish. That someone else's thing was yours. To wish that someone else's thing is yours. Is to attack God and that person. To attack God. Because such a wish that someone else's thing is yours. Is to cast judgment on what God has given you.

That somehow you were wiser than God. He wasn't as wise as you are. And so he has made a poor decision about what to give you. Maybe he is foolish or maybe even He is weak, he would have wanted to give you something better but he couldn't or maybe even he is hateful.

He knew better things to give you could have given them to you, but didn't want to. So, if you Covet. You are either saying that God is foolish that God is weak. That God is hateful. Or some combination of those things. Which is a dreadful thing. And so, The tenth commandment mirrors.

The first commandment you shall have no other gods before me. So honoring God himself as God. And one of the main applications to honor God himself as God in our lives. Is that we'd be content in our hearts. We would trust that he is wise and he knows the good thing.

That he is powerful that he can do the good thing that he is good and he does the good thing. And so it makes a good mirror to the first commandment. A closing off the Ten Commandments by addressing our heart closing off the Ten Commandments. By making good application of.

believing that God is God and treating God as God. And also, Closing off the second table of the law. In which we are to love our neighbor as ourselves. And it would be hateful. To see the good that our neighbor has and to say, I wish instead of having that good that neighbor had bad so that I could have as good.

Now, we We will do more on what this? commitment, teach us next week in your next question. And we'll think about what it means when it says a house and we'll talk again about the heart and we'll talk again about loving our neighbor. But just for now.

we need to see the wisdom and understand the purpose of God in making the tenth commandment the tenth. It's a good bookend with the first commandment that we treat him as God and not think horrible things or imply, horrible things about him. It's a good reminder that all of the Commandments require our thoughts and hearts.

Our thoughts and feelings. to be conformed to his moral law. And it is a good conclusion. To loving our neighbor as ourselves. So it's a long answer. What is the tenth commandment? And the answer is the tenth. Commandment is Thou shalt not covet, thy neighbor's house. Thus shalt not covet, thy, neighbor's wife, nor his manservant nor his maidservant, nor his Ox, nor his ass.

Or anything that is thy neighbor.