

THIS WEEKS SERMON
THE TEN COMMANDMENTS
*"DEVELOP INNER
 CONTENTMENT"*

1

Exodus 20:17 (NIV)

"You shall not covet your neighbor's house. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

2

1 Timothy 6:6-10(NIV)

6 But godliness with contentment is great gain. 7 For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. 8 But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. 9 People who want to get rich fall into temptation

3

and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. 10 For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil. Some people, eager for money, have wandered from the faith and pierced themselves with many griefs.

4

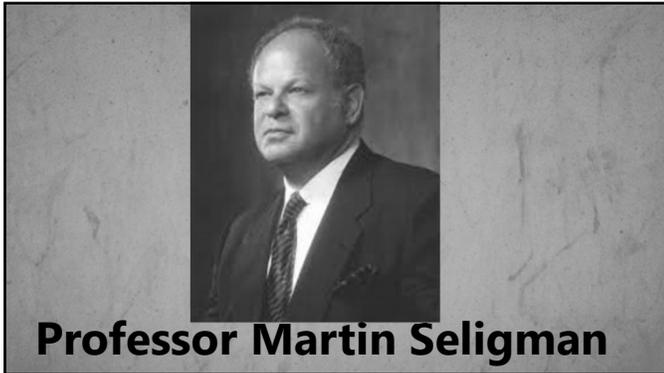
1 Timothy 6:17-19 (NIV)

17 Command those who are rich in this present world not to be arrogant nor to put their hope in wealth, which is so uncertain, but to put their hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. 18 Command

5

them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share. 19 In this way they will lay up treasure for themselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that they may take hold of the life that is truly life.

6



Professor Martin Seligman

7

“There is a general **loss of contentment** in America today.”

8

51% of Americans feel their life is **dull** and **boring**.
60% of **over 50** regard life as basically **without meaning**.

9

He calls it “The **waxing** of the ***individual***, and the **waning** of the ***commons***.”

Martin Seligman, Christian Author

10

The other ***nine*** (9) commandments have to do with “**externals**”. This is the **only one** (1) that has to do with “**attitudes**”!

11

This commandment, **more than any other**, enables us to “be **content** with ***what*** we **have**, and ***who*** we **are**.”

12

1. What does it mean to "**Covet**"?

13

Proverbs 21:25,

"The **sluggard's craving** will be the **death** of him, because his hands **refuse** to **work**."

14

To "**covet**" means inordinate desire....to be jealous of...
envious of...a feeling of discontentment.

15

- a. Don't be **envious** of your neighbor's house.
- b. Don't **covet** your neighbor's wife

16

Sign in my office:

"If the **grass looks greener** on the **other side** of the fence, you can **most assuredly bet** the water bill is **twice as high!**"

17

- a. Don't be **envious** of your neighbor's house.
- b. Don't **covet** your neighbor's wife
- c. Don't **covet** your neighbor's employees.
- d. Don't **covet** your neighbor's equipment or mode of transportation

18

"We are **all super wealthy** according to the standards of every other nation on earth!"

19

1. **What** does it "**mean**" to **covet**?
2. **Why** did God "**forbid**" **coveting**?

20

Why did God "**forbid**" **coveting**?

- a. coveting **destroys contentment**

21

"A **sure formula** for **misery** is to **compare** your **life** with **others!**"

22

1 Kings 21:4 (NIV)

"So Ahab went home, **sullen** and **angry** because Naboth had said 'I will **not** give you the **inheritance of my fathers**'; he (Ahab) lay on his bed **sulking** and **refusing** to eat."

23

Why did God "**forbid**" **coveting**?

- a. coveting **destroys contentment**
- b. coveting "**destroys friendships**".

24

James 4:1-3 (NIV)

"What causes **fights** and **quarrels** among you? Don't they **come** from your **desires** that battle within you? You **want something** but **don't** get it. You **kill** and **covet**, but you **cannot have** what

25

you **want**. You **quarrel** and **fight**. You **do not have** because you **do not ask God**. When you **ask** you **do not receive** because you **ask** with **wrong motives**, that you may **spend** what you get **on your pleasures**."

26

Why did God "**forbid**" coveting?

- coveting **destroys contentment**
- coveting "**destroys friendships**".
- coveting "**devastates budgets**"
- coveting "**clouds & obscures the spiritual**".

27

2 Corinthians 4:18 (NIV)

"Fix your eyes **not** on what is **seen**, but what is **unseen**."

28

Luke 12:15 (NIV)

"**Watch out**; be on your **guard** against all kinds of **greed**! A man's life does **not consist** in the **abundance** of his **possessions**."

29

- 1. What** does it **mean** to "**covet**"?
- 2. Why** did God "**forbid coveting**"?
- 3. How** can we "**avoid covetousness**"?

30

1 Timothy 6:6-8

"But **Godliness** with **contentment** is **great gain!** For we **brought nothing** into the **world** and we can **take nothing** out of it. But, if we have **food** and **clothing** we will **be content** with that."

31

- a. Determine your **primary objective.**

32

"There are no pockets in a shroud!"

33

Luke 12:20 (NIV)

"Tonight you're going to die! Then whose shall **all these things be?"**

34

Luke 3:14 (NIV)

"Be content with your pay."

35

Philippians 4:13 (NIV)

"I have learned the secret of being content in every situation whether living in plenty or want."

36

Hebrews 13:5 (NIV)

"Keep your lives **free** from the **love** of **money** and be **content** with what you **have**, because God has said, **never** will **I leave** you, **never** will **I forsake** you."

37

- a. Determine your **primary objective**.
- b. Be **alert** to the **dangers** of **greed** and **covetousness**

38

1 Timothy 6:9 (NIV)

"People who **want** to get **rich**, **fall** into **temptation** and a **trap**, and into many **foolish** and **harmful** desires, that plunge men into **ruin** and **destruction**."

39

Bumper sticker:
 "He who **dies** with the **most toys** **wins!**"

40

1 Timothy 6:10 (NIV)

"The **love** of **money** is the **root** of all kinds of **evil**..... Some people **eager** for **money** have **wandered** from the **faith** and **pierced themselves** with **many griefs!**"

41

1 Timothy 6:17 (NIV)

"Command **those** who are **rich** in this **present world** not to be **arrogant**, nor to put their **hope** in **wealth** which is so **uncertain**, but to put their **hope** in **God**, Who **richly** provides us with **everything** for our enjoyment."

42

Mark 8:36 (NIV)

"**What** shall it profit a man if he **gains** the whole world and **loses** his own soul?"

43

- a. Determine your primary objective.
- b. Be alert to the dangers of greed and covetousness
- c. Be generous with what you have.

44

1 Timothy 6:18 (NIV)

"**Command** them to **do good**, to be rich in **good deeds**, and to be generous and **willing** to share."

45

1 Corinthians 16:2 (NIV)

"...give as you have been prospered."

46

"God measures generosity not by **what** you give, but by **what** you keep for **yourself**."

47

1 Timothy 6:19 (NIV)

"...in this way they will **lay up treasure** for **themselves** as a firm foundation for the **coming age**."

48

Acts 20:35 (NIV)

"....it is more blessed to give than to receive!"

49

2 Corinthians 9:7 (NIV)

"Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."

50