

The School of Biblical Law
Covenant and Law

Lesson Thirty-Five: “The Covenant Model and Commandment Eight, Part 3”

Commandment Eight puts a boundary around every man’s assets and umbrellas all precepts and biblical laws that define the proper use of assets. Assets may be exchanged through free-will and non-fraudulent contractual exchange. The asset owner, whether that owner be an individual, a corporation, or even a civil government is bound by God’s law and forbidden to steal though any man-imposed confiscatory practice. The asset owner is afforded the opportunity to use his or their assets to loose heaven’s blessings on the earth and to earn heavenly rewards.

| Commandments 1-5 (Love God) | Covenant Model | Commandments 6-10 (Love thy neighbor) |
|--------------------------------|----------------|--|
| No other gods | Transcendence | Do not Kill |
| No graven images | Hierarchy | Do Not Commit Adultery |
| Do not take God’s Name in vain | Ethics | Do Not Steal |
| Remember the Sabbath Day | Sanctions | |
| Honor thy Father and Mother | Continuity | |

1. That which is forbidden for an individual to do is also immoral for a body politic, the collection of individuals, to do.

Corporations and business organizations may not use the power of purse strings or market place monopolies to take advantage of the employee, stock holder, or customer.

Fraternal organizations may not use their collective bargaining power to take advantage of the employer.

The civil government may not take an owner’s private property and give those assets to another who has not earned, traded, or contracted with the original owner for the property.

- Legalized redistribution does not provide for the profit of the original owner.
- Legalized redistribution supposes that the state not the private citizen is the owner of assets.
- Necessity does not justify theft.

2. A private citizen, a corporation, or a fraternal organization may use their own private assets to provide for the needs of others through gift giving, charity, and philanthropy.

- The Beatitudes declare, “Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy” (Mt. 5:1-12).
- Mercy is the provision that is offered from the man with the asset to the man without.
- Grace is the willingness to assist; mercy is the assistance.
- The Beatitudes begin with “Blessed are the poor in spirit.”
- Spiritual poverty is replaced with righteousness of God in Christ.
- Earthly poverty is progressively conquered by obedience to the commands of Christ, which The Beatitudes define as hungering and thirsting after righteousness.
- Having been the recipient of mercy, The Beatitudes announce a blessing upon the mercy-givers.

After a man has received the mercy of God, has had purchased for him that which he would be otherwise unable to buy for himself, and has had provided for him a change in his circumstance because of the aid of another, this man is in a position to turn to his fellowman and offer to someone else what was offered to him. Commandment Eight affords the asset owner free right of use of his property to keep, to save, to waste, to barter, to buy, to invest, to gift, or in all ways to make free-will choices for his possessions, property, and resources.