

The Ten Commandments (8): To Catch a Thief

Exodus 20:15

I. The Meaning of the Eighth Commandment

- A. Stealing is taking something that doesn't belong to you.
- B. Stealing is not just a violation of someone's property rights, but a violation of the principle of stewardship.

II. The Types of Thievery

- A. Obvious Theft (Job 24:2)
- B. Hidden Theft (Leviticus 19:11)
- C. Business Theft (James 5:4; Deuteronomy 24:14-15; Colossians 4:1; Amos 8:4-6; Proverbs 20:23; Matthew 21:13)
- D. Spiritual Theft (Malachi 3:8-9; Matthew 25:14-30)

III. The Biblical Cure for Thievery

- A. Be honest about the theft (Ephesians 4:28 a)
- B. Seek integrity in personal and business relations (Ephesians 4:28b)
- C. Trust God and practice generosity (Ephesians 4:28c)