

## COVETING: IT'S MORE THAN POSSESSIONS, MT 20:1-16, 12/5/21

### GETTING OUR FEET WET- CRAB "THEOLOGY"

#### DIVING INTO SCRIPTURE- JESUS' THEOLOGY- MT 20:1-16

##### ➤ THE CONTEXT- WHY DID JESUS TELL THIS STORY?

1. Jesus was going up to J\_\_\_\_\_ - Mt 16:21, 20:17-18, 21:1
  2. Jesus was asked two questions
    - By the Rich Young Ruler- Mt 19:16
    - By Peter- Mt 19:27
  3. Jesus tells one story- The Vineyard Owner & the Grape Pickers
  4. Jesus repeats one truth- "The f\_\_\_\_\_ shall be l\_\_\_\_\_, and the l\_\_\_\_\_ f\_\_\_\_\_ " – Mt 19:30, 20:16, 21:31-32, Lk 13:30
    - The sinful nature- A sports analogy
    - The image of God- Christ's nature
- John 3<sup>29</sup> He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. Therefore, this joy of mine is fulfilled. <sup>30</sup> He must increase, but I *must* decrease. – John the Baptist
- I Cor 13<sup>4</sup> Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy (covet).... <sup>5</sup> It is not self-seeking (covet).... <sup>6</sup> Love does not delight (covet) in evil but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup> It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

##### ➤ THE BIGGER CONTEXT- WHAT'S THE CONNECTION TO COVETING?

- A. The Rich Young Ruler's thinking- Jewish thinking- our thinking
  1. You shall not covet = desire other people's p\_\_\_\_\_
  2. As long as I don't covet a spouse, house, servants or animals I'm o\_\_\_\_\_

#### B. Jesus' and God's thinking-

1. Does the 10<sup>th</sup> command just include possessions?
  - Dt 5<sup>21</sup> "You shall not covet your neighbor's **wife**. You shall not set your desire on your neighbor's **house** or land, his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or **anything** that belongs to your neighbor."
2. What's the reason why God gave these examples?
  - To help us a\_\_\_\_\_
  - Yet, examples are NOT e\_\_\_\_\_
3. Does the Bible make a big deal of coveting more than possessions anywhere else?
  - The big s\_\_\_\_\_ - Satan, Adam & Eve, Cain & Abel, Jesus' betrayal & crucifixion
  - The big stories- Joseph, Moses, David, Daniel, Jesus
  - The big root of our s\_\_\_\_\_ - linked to greed, worry, lust, evil desire, envy
  - The big goal- covet- orig def- to desire & delight in what's good, beautiful – Ps 37:4

#### TAKING IT HOME

##### A. Was Jesus a Capitalist?

1. Jesus assumed- ownership, work, wisdom & freedom – Gen 1:27-28
2. Jesus taught c\_\_\_\_\_ capitalism - a denarius = meeting daily n\_\_\_\_\_
3. Are you helping others get a l\_\_\_\_\_ wage?

##### B. Whose circumstances are you coveting?

1. The Rich Young Ruler coveted the disciples' future.
2. Peter coveted the Rich Young Ruler's present.
3. The full-time workers coveted the part time's pay.
4. So, what do you covet??? Take it to Jesus & let Him help you sort it out!

❖ WHAT'S GOD SAYING TO YOU? – write it down, pray it back, share it with others!  
Heavenly Father, thank you that you are a God of love, desiring & delighting in what is good. Lord Jesus, You being first, delighted in being last to put us first. Thank You for giving us Your heart! Show me where I'm being a crab, grabbing, greedy, jealous, envious. I renounce these through the power of the Spirit, and put on Your love, joy, contentment, & compassion. I will delight in serving & giving for others' good just like You did for me. I especially feel You saying to me...