

“Let Him Who Stole...”

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- Rom. 13:9 - “For the commandments, You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not bear false witness, You shall not covet, and if there is any other commandment, are all summed up in this saying, namely, You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”
- 1Cor. 6:9-10 - “Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God.”

“Let Him Who Stole...”

- Eph. 4:28 - “Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.”
- 1Peter 4:15 - “But let none of you suffer as a murderer, a thief, an evildoer, or as a busybody in other people's matters.”

What Is Stealing?

- “Taking the goods of another feloniously; withdrawing imperceptibly; gaining gradually” (Webster's)
 - Burglary
 - Shoplifting
 - Piracy and Bootlegging
 - Insurance fraud
- If the world understands this to be a crime, why is it that some professed Christians cannot see it as sin?

What Is Stealing?

- Stealing in various settings
 - At work
 - At school
 - In all places
- Whenever you take something or obtain a benefit for which you have not paid or to which you are not entitled, you are stealing

Issues With Stealing

- “Why is it such a big deal?”
- God calls it sin
 - Rom. 13:9 - One of the first Ten Commandments; it is still wrong today
 - 1Cor. 6:9-10 - Those who do it will not inherit the Kingdom of God

Issues With Stealing

- It deprives others of what is rightfully theirs
 - When stealing takes place, someone always loses
- It violates the law of love
 - Luke 6:31 - “And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise.”

The Right Answer To Stealing

- Eph. 4:28 - “Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.”

The Right Answer To Stealing

- Repent
 - The thief must change the way he thinks and acts, be willing to make restitution for the injuries done, and face any penalties
 - Luke 19:8 - “Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold.”

The Right Answer To Stealing

- Find labor
 - He must transform into a healthy asset to the community
 - 1Tim. 5:8 - “But if anyone does not provide for his own, and especially for those of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.”

The Right Answer To Stealing

- “But what if we are starving; can we steal to survive?”
- “But what if we are going to be killed unless we deny the Lord?”
- Sin is sin, regardless of our motivation.