

## 16. Keeping the Tenth Commandment

Once again we will continue looking at the difference between being religious and being spiritual as we did in our last three studies; look into a little more in depth so that we can be clear in our own minds on this very important matter.

Most of us are aware of the Ten Commandments that God gave Moses. You may not know all of them. It is good to know all of them. I want to point something out to you in those Ten Commandments which you may have not noticed up until now. If we understand that, we will see a little bit of the reason why God gave The Law, even though He knew that The Law could never lead anyone to becoming spiritual or to live a godly life. In fact, in Hebrews 8:7, you will see very clearly that the Old Covenant was faulty. That is the word used there that the old covenant, The Law was faulty.

Did God give something faulty? Did He make a mistake? He certainly didn't. He knows the end from the beginning. He gave it with a purpose, for our help, for us to see our need. The Law was given to expose sins. We could also say that The Law was given by God to test man - to see how many people would be satisfied with an external righteousness that brought the honour of men, and how many would seek God for that inner purity which alone pleases God.

You remember when Jesus was speaking to the Pharisees, He told them, "You are people, who just clean the outside of the cup, but God sees your hearts and He wants the inside of the cup cleansed.

## 16. 持守第十诫

下面我们要继续前三章所讨论的“属宗教”与“属灵”的区别，并更深入的讨论，从而更清楚这个非常重要的问题。

我们大部分人都知道神交给摩西的十诫。也许你还不清楚十诫的全部内容（能全知道是件好事）。我想要指出，十诫中的一件或许你还没留意到的事。我们若能明白这件事，就能更清楚的了解，为什么神明知道律法本身无法让人活出属灵敬虔的人生，但仍然把它给了人类。实际上在希伯来书 8 章 7 节，你可以清楚的看到，旧约（那个旧的约）是有瑕疵的。那里用的词就是，旧的约，那律法，是有瑕疵的。

神怎么会给人有瑕疵的东西呢？难道祂出错了么？当然没有。神从起初就知道末了。祂这么做是有目的的，那就是为了帮助我们，使我们看到自己的需求。律法是用来揭示罪的。我们也可以说，神给人律法是用来测试人的，看有谁满足于给自己带来好名声的表面的正直，又有谁渴慕追求神，渴慕内在的圣洁，只想讨神的喜悦。

你还记得耶稣对法利赛人说：“你们这些人，只洗净杯盘的外面，而神看重的是你的内心，祂想要内里也洁净。你们这些人尽去做使别人印象深刻的表面功夫，可神想看的是你内心的深处。祂想看你内在的动

You people will do all the right things externally so that people are impressed, but God sees deep within; He is looking for inner purity of motive." We can say that the Pharisees were like Adam covered with fig leaves, and you know, from the previous study, that there is curse upon it. That is why you find that Jesus was in constant conflict with the Pharisees.

The Pharisees, who kept the letter of the law down to the last detail, whose doctrines were so correct that we read that Jesus told even His disciples to follow the teachings of the Pharisees (Mt. 23:2-3). Have you noticed that? He said that because whatever they say is right. The only thing, He said, is that they don't do like they teach; don't follow their example in your life, because they teach things they don't practice. So, there was nothing wrong with the doctrine of the Pharisees.

There was another group in Jesus' time called the Sadducees who had wrong doctrines. Jesus never told His disciples to follow their teachings, because they didn't believe in angels or Spirit or resurrection. In fact, they were very earthly minded. They didn't think much about future life at all. Their doctrine was wrong. But the Pharisees were the people whose doctrines were right. A person can have all his doctrines right - his doctrines may be thoroughly evangelical and yet he may not be religious. He may be only having a doctrine which is external.

Now think of the Ten Commandments; God said, "You shouldn't have any other gods, you mustn't make idols, you must not take My name in vain, you must keep the Sabbath day holy. You must honour your father and mother, you must not murder, you must not commit adultery, you must not steal, you

机是否纯净。”我们可以说，那些法利赛人，就像是披着无花果树叶子的亚当，你知道吧，我们前面说过的，那上面是有一个咒诅的。这就是为什么你总能看见耶稣和法利赛人的冲突。

那些法利赛人，把律法的条文持守到枝稍末节，以至于他们的规条是如此的正确，连耶稣都告诉祂的门徒们，法利赛人所吩咐的要遵守（马太福音 23 章 2 至 3 节）。你留意到了吗？祂说那些法利赛人所说的是正确的。只是祂说，那些人却不喜欢做他们自己所说的，因此不要把他们的行为方式当作榜样，因为他们能说却不能行。所以，法利赛人的规条是没错的。

在耶稣生活的时代，还有另外一群人，被称作撒都该人，他们则持着错误的教义。耶稣从没告诉祂的门徒去服从撒都该人的教导，因为那些人不信有天使、灵，或是复活。实际上，那些人的心思是非常世俗的。根本就不太考虑以后。他们的教义是错误的。然而法利赛人，持着的则是正确的教义。一个人完全可能持着全部正确的教义，完全是新教福音的教义，然而却不是个属灵的人。因为他的教义也许全是外在的。

现在请思考一下第十诫，神说，“你不可以有别的神，你不可造偶像，你不可妄称我的名，你必须守安息日。你必须孝敬父母，你不可谋杀，你不可犯奸淫，你不可偷盗，你不可做假见证。”这是十诫中的九条。对于任何人，想要持守这九条诫命，就算没有圣灵的帮助，也是可能的。证据就是，在旧约时代，

must not bear false witness." Now these are nine of the Ten Commandments. It is possible for any person, without the help of the Holy Spirit, to keep those nine commandments. The proof of it is that many people in the Old Testament kept those nine commandments without the help of the Holy Spirit.

They did not have the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament times and yet, Paul could say, "I have lived with a good conscience before God from my childhood up until this day" (Acts 23:1). The rich young ruler, when Jesus pointed out these commandments to him, said, "I have kept all of these from my childhood" (Mk. 10:20). It was possible for a God-fearing person to keep all these commandments without the help of the Holy Spirit, just by his own strength. It is possible for any man of any religion to keep these nine commandments without any help from God, because man has certain strength to lead an externally moral life. If you don't lead an externally moral life, nobody is going to accept your religion. People expect religious people to be, at least, moral externally!

But, when we come to the tenth commandment, the tenth commandment did not deal with the external; it dealt with something inward. The commandment was, 'You shall not lust or covet or strongly desire'- all these three words mean the same. Unfortunately lust has got an evil connotation in people's minds. But all it means is strong desire, like it says in Galatians 5:17, "The Holy Spirit lusts against the flesh." What does that mean? The Holy Spirit doesn't do any evil. He has got a strong desire against (as opposed to) the flesh. And the flesh has got a strong desire against the Holy Spirit.

It is the same word used in Exodus 20: 17 in the

没有圣灵的帮助，很多人都持守着这九条诫命。

旧约时代的人没有圣灵住在里面，但保罗仍可以说，“我在神面前行事为人都是凭着良心的，直到今日”（使徒行传 23 章 1 节）。当耶稣提到这些诫命时，那个青年财主说，“这一切我从小都遵守了”（马可福音 10 章 20 节）。没有圣灵的帮助，敬畏神的人依靠自己的力量，是有可能来持守这九条诫命的。其实对于任何宗教的任何人，不用神的帮助，也都可以持守这九条诫命，因为人的确具有一定的能力来保持外在的品行。如果你外在没有这些品行，那么没人会接受你的宗教。人们指望宗教人士至少在表面上应该是有道德的！

然而，当我们面对第十诫时，发现它所对付的不是外在，而是内在的。这条诫命说“你不可以贪恋，或者说觊觎，或强烈渴求的欲望”这三个词是同样的意思。可惜，欲望这个词在人脑海中有邪恶的暗示。其实这条诫命所指的强烈的渴求，如同加拉太书 5 章 17 节所说的“圣灵与肉体的欲望相争”，这话什么意思呢？圣灵不会做任何邪恶之事。这话是说，圣灵所渴求的，敌对于肉体渴求的。而肉体所渴求的，是敌对于圣灵渴求的。

在出埃及记 20 章 17 节的第十诫，用的词也是这个，

tenth Commandment -"You shall not covet your neighbour's house or your neighbour's wife." This means the same as, 'You shall not lust for your neighbour's house or lust for your neighbour's wife.' It means the same as, You shall not have a strong desire for your neighbour's house or for your neighbour's wife or you shall not have a strong desire to get your neighbour's servant and wish that that servant who works in your neighbour's house could be your servant, because may be she is such a faithful servant. You shall not desire your neighbour's business, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbour's. The tenth commandment was inward. The thing is there is no way by which anybody could find out whether you kept it or not. It was impossible.

Now Paul was a very, very honest person. He tells us that, 'According to the righteousness which is in The Law, he was blameless' (Phil. 3:6). He had kept the law blamelessly. What does it mean? Does it mean he kept all Ten Commandments? - He certainly didn't; He kept only nine. But that is all that was required. Nobody could keep the tenth commandment. Nobody could say I have never lusted after anything; I have never lusted out for my neighbour's wife or my neighbour's daughter and remember every woman in the world is either your neighbour's wife or your neighbour's daughter, everyone in the world. You can never say that you have never desired what belongs to somebody else.

There is not a soul in this world who can say that, not even the apostle Paul. And He tells us that very honestly, "What shall we say then, is The Law sin, may it never be." He continued, "I would not have known sin except for The Law" (Rom. 7:7). Then he mentions the tenth commandments, not the first

“你不可贪恋别人的房屋，也不可贪恋别人的妻子。”这就等于说“你不可以对别人的房屋或他的妻子有欲望”。就是说，你不可以对人家的房屋、妻子产生强烈的渴求，或者因为你邻居的仆人是如此忠心，就渴望得到她来为你工作。你也不可以渴求你邻居的生意，或他的驴子，或任何他的东西。这第十诫是向内在的。这条诫命的问题在于，别人没法知道你是不是在持守它。在旧约时代，持守这条诫命是不可能的。

保罗是位非常非常诚实的人。他告诉我们：“就律法上的义说，我是无可指摘的”（腓立比书 3 章 6 节）。他对律法的持守是无可指摘的。那是什么意思？他能够持守全部的十诫吗？他当然没有。他持守了只有九条。然而那是当时要求的全部。因为没人能守得住第十诫。没人能说自己从没对什么起过贪欲。没人能说自己从没有对别人的妻子或女儿动过欲望。要知道这世界上每一个女人，不是别人的妻子，就是人家的女儿。你无法说你从没渴求过别人拥有的东西。

这世上没有任何一个人能说这话，连使徒保罗都不行。他曾非常诚实的告诉我们，“这样，我们可说什么呢？律法是罪吗？断乎不是！”尔后他继续说“若没有律法，我就不知何为罪”（罗马书 7 章 7 节）。然后他提到了第十诫，他没有说前九诫，因为那些他都持守了。当说，当谈到第十诫时，“你不可对别人

nine, because he kept the first nine. He says, when it came to the tenth Commandment, which said, 'You shall not covet, you shall not lust, you shall not have a strong desire for anything that is yours neighbour's,' "I discovered every type of lust in my heart" (Rom. 7:8). He was honest. He said, 'I thought I was pleasing God till this commandment showed me the corruption of sin in my life. I saw that I was dead spiritually in God's eyes, because I found every kind of lust in me.' He says, 'Every kind of coveting, every kind of strong desire' (Rom. 7:8).

Why did God give such a commandment if He knew that nobody could keep it without the help of the Holy Spirit? Now here is the answer: God gave it to see how many people would be honest in admitting that they come short in this area. Do you know friends; the first step to being spiritual is honesty. God doesn't ask you to be holy first; none of us can be holy. Again, He doesn't ask us to be loving or humble or anything, because all these things take time.

There is one thing you can be today, that is the first step to true spirituality, and that is honesty. Paul was honest. He said, 'It is true, I find every type of covetousness in my heart. I am a sinner.' He admits, 'Such a sinner that I thought I was alive, but I am actually dead, I am dead in sin.' A man who kept every single external commandment acknowledges that he is thoroughly dead in sin, because he discovered every type of lust in his heart.

How do you find it in your heart? You just got to be honest. If you are honest, God will lead you further. But if you are dishonest and pretend that you don't have any such desires and that you are so clean and upright like the Pharisees pretended, then

的东西可起贪心”，“我发现诸般的贪心在我里头发动”（罗马书 7 章 8 节）。他很诚实的告诉我们，“在这条诫命之前，我以为自己是讨神喜悦的，可这条诫命却让我看见了自己的生命里犯着罪的腐坏。它使我看到了，在神眼中，我的灵是死的，因为我在自己里面发现了各种的贪欲。”他说，是“每一种贪欲”（罗马书 7 章 8 节）。

那么神为什么要给人这条诫命？祂明知道没有圣灵的帮助，就没人能守住。答案是这样的：神想看看有谁会坦诚的承认自己在这个领域的亏缺。朋友们，你知道吗？迈向属灵生命的第一步，就是诚实。神没有从一开始就要我们圣洁，因为我们没有人圣洁。同时祂也没从开始就要你慈爱、谦卑或别的，因为那些需要时间。

今天你能做的，则是通往真正属灵生命的第一步，那就是诚实。使徒保罗就是诚实的。他说“没错，我在心里发现了各样的贪欲。我是一个罪人。”他承认自己是“如此一个罪人。我曾以为自己是活的，然而我其实是死的，因为罪的缘故，我是死的。”一个持守了每条外在诫命的人，承认自己彻底的死于罪，因为他发现了心里各样的贪欲。

那么如何能看清心里这些贪欲？你唯一需要的就是诚实。如果你够诚实，神会带领你到更前方。然而，你若不诚实，假装自己没有任何这样的贪欲，像法利赛人一样假装自己纯洁又高尚，那么耶稣将会讽刺的对你说“我不是为了义人而来的，而是为了罪人而来

Jesus will say to you, sarcastically, like He said to the Pharisees, "I did not come for the righteous people, I came for the sinners. I came to call sinners to repentance," and he will pass by you altogether. And you will miss the Lord completely, like the Pharisees missed him.

Why did they miss the Lord? Why did the Lord leave them alone? He says, "You people are healthy. I came for sick people; only sick people need a doctor. Why do you healthy people need me?" You think they were healthy? - Far from healthy. Pharisees were the sickest people in Israel. Why did Jesus say, "You people are healthy?" He was being sarcastic. He was trying to show them their hypocrisy. He was showing them that He would not go to help those who are not honest.

You see, how easy it is to come to the Lord. You just got to be honest about the sin in your heart and say, 'Lord, there is every type of lust in me.' Because Paul was honest, you know what happened? He discovered how the Holy Spirit's power could help him keep even the tenth commandment; How the Holy Spirit's power could deliver him from lusting within his heart.

The blood of Jesus would cleanse his past failure and the Holy Spirit's power would set him free. He says, "The Law of the Spirit of life has set me free from The Law of sin and death" (Rom. 8:2). Do you want that experience? Do you want to come into a life where the Law of the Spirit sets you free from this slavery to lust in your heart? Be honest. Tell the Lord that you have come short, that you have failed, that you have sinned in your heart, and ask Him to forgive you and cleanse you in His blood and say, 'Lord, I never want to be dishonest again.' Ask Him

的，来招呼罪人悔改，”然后祂就会不理你了。那样你就彻底失去了主，如同法利赛人一样失去了祂。

法利赛人为什么会失去主？为什么神不管他们了？耶稣说，“你们这些健康人。我来是为了生病的，只有生病的才需要医生，你们这些健康人要我干嘛呢？”那么你觉得这些法利赛人健康吗？当然不是。法利赛人是以色列人里病得最厉害的。那么耶稣为什么说“你们这些健康人”？祂是在讽刺。祂想让他们看见自己的虚伪。想让他们知道，若不诚实，祂就不会帮他们。

你们看，来到神的面前是多么容易。你只需要把内心的罪恶向神坦诚，说“主啊，我里面有各种贪欲”。保罗由于诚实，你知道发生了什么吗？他发现圣灵的力量可以帮助他来持守第十诫。圣灵的力量可以从里面给他力量，解救他脱离贪欲。

耶稣的宝血可以洁净他过去的失败，尔后圣灵的力量使他得到自由。保罗说，“赐生命的圣灵之律，使我脱离罪和死的律了”（罗马书 8 章 2 节）。你渴望这样的经历吗？你渴望这样的生活吗？赐生命的圣灵之律，将你从内心贪欲的牢笼中解救出来？那么就诚实面对吧。告诉主你的亏缺，你的失败，对祂坦白你内心的罪，求他宽恕你，并用祂的宝血来洁净你，“主啊，我再也不愿对你不诚实了”。求祂用圣灵充满你，从里面给你力量来洁净你。

to fill you with His Holy Spirit and give you power  
within and you can be pure.