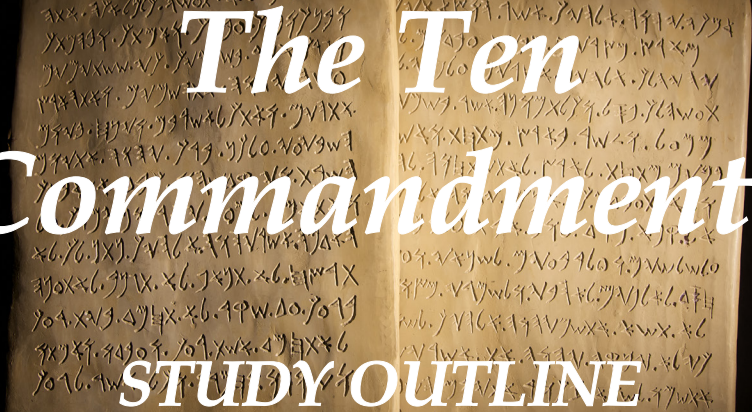


**VIDEO LECTURE SERIES**

*by Rev. A. T. Vergunst*



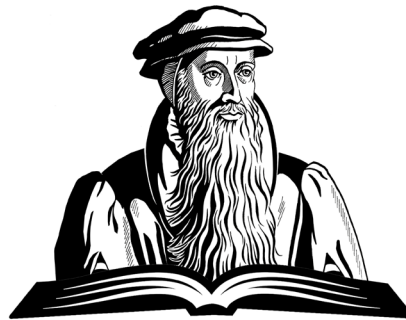
**The Ten  
Commandments**  
**STUDY OUTLINE**

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**Lecture #15**

***The Eighth Commandment***

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**The John Knox Institute  
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*Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide*

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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from the Authorized King James Version.

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# *The Ten Commandments*

by Rev. A. T. Vergunst  
in 18 lectures

1. Introduction
2. The God of the Law
3. Paradise and the Law
4. Jesus and the Law
5. The Law and the Sinner
6. The Law and the Saint
7. The Law at Mount Sinai
8. The First Commandment
9. The Second Commandment
10. The Third Commandment
11. The Fourth Commandment
12. The Fifth Commandment
13. The Sixth Commandment
14. The Seventh Commandment
15. The Eighth Commandment
16. The Ninth Commandment
17. The Tenth Commandment
18. The Law in Eternity

# The Ten Commandments

by Rev. A. T. Vergunst

## STUDY OUTLINE

### Lecture #15

## THE EIGHTH COMMANDMENT

#### Lecture Title:

Handling God's Resources

#### Key Text:

"Thou Shalt Not Steal."—Exodus 20, verse 15

#### Summary:

Did you know that no earthly subject gets as much attention in God's Holy Scriptures as the subject of money? God knows where our chief temptations lie, and therefore it is of his goodness that he legislated the Eighth Commandment. But the extent of "not stealing" is much broader than literal theft. God also calls us to be good stewards of what he allows us to possess on earth.

#### Structure:

1. Introduction – the eighth general principle.
2. The truth about what we own:
  - a. The underlying assumption in the Eighth Commandment.
  - b. We are God's stewards.
  - c. Where stealing begins.
3. The limits in how we acquire possessions:
  - a. We have a right to private possession, though we remain stewards.
  - b. The law means to acquire possessions.
  - c. What unlawful means God forbids.
  - d. Spiritual application of this commandment.
  - e. The command to tithe.
4. How am I to be a good steward of my possessions?
5. Conclusion.

**Review Questions:**

1. What does the eighth general principle teach us practically? How does the Bible support this principle? What should we avoid?

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2. What are the underlying assumptions of the Eighth Commandment? What resources God has given unto you?

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3. How are we to understand the exhortation in 1 Peter 4, verse 10? How do other Scriptures support the truth that we don't own our possessions: we are stewards of God's?

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4. Do people have the right to have private possessions? Is a forced redistribution of wealth in money or land a biblical command?

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5. What are the lawful ways of acquiring possessions? What does the Bible teach us about the lawful means of working?

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6. What are the unlawful ways of acquiring possessions that God forbids?

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7. What are the spiritual applications of "Thou shalt not steal"?

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8. How are we to understand the command to tithe? Is it just a church rule or is it a spiritual test of God? What are the other purposes of this command?

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9. How are we to be good stewards of God's resources?

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10. What does James chapter 5 teach about the sin of stealing?

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**Further Application:**

1. Meditate on this commandment by considering the positive responsibilities and the things that are forbidden. Read the Heidelberg Catechism and the Westminster Shorter Catechism about this commandment.

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2. Pastor Vergunst says, "the Bible gives great attention to the topic of money." What other teachings about this topic can you find in the Bible?

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