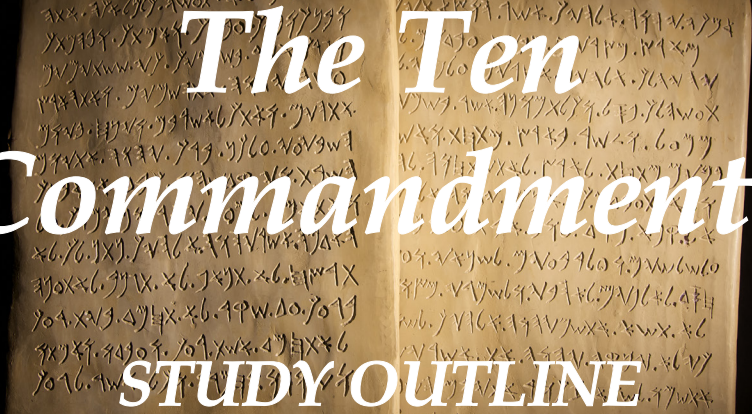


VIDEO LECTURE SERIES

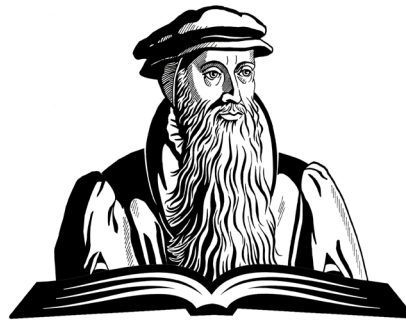
by Rev. A. T. Vergunst



**The Ten
Commandments**
STUDY OUTLINE

Lecture #17

The Tenth Commandment



The John Knox Institute
of Higher Education

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

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STUDY OUTLINE

Lecture #17

THE TENTH COMMANDMENT

Lecture Title:

The Command to Be Perfect in the Obedience of Each Commandment

Key Text:

“Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour’s house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour’s wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour’s.”
—Exodus 20, verse 17

Summary:

The Tenth Commandment is the last but not the least of the commandments. On the contrary, analyzing the Tenth Commandment will prove to be the most revealing, as well as the most devastating, to our mistaken self-image in relationship to our obedience to God’s commandments. God sets out the basis for other nine commandments in this Tenth. The only way we will really understand the depth of the Tenth Commandment, is to take our starting point from the God whom we are to reflect in our life. Only then we will also be brought to the ultimate intention of this statement: “Behold, the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world” (John 1:29).

Structure:

1. Introduction.
2. What does God forbid?
 - a. God doesn’t forbid the positive “covet”.
 - b. God forbids us to covet sinfully.
3. What does God command?
 - a. A total likeness with regard to each commandment to his own being.
 - b. Be holy.
 - c. Be perfect.
 - Hate all sin with our whole heart.
 - Delight in righteousness.
4. God’s intention in the Tenth Commandment.
5. Conclusion.

Review Questions:

1. How do we understand the importance of the Tenth Commandment in the background of the entire Ten Commandments as a building?

2. Why did Pastor Vergunst compare the Tenth Commandment to an MRI?

3. How do we know that the word “*covet*” is also a positive word? Provide evidences from the Bible.

4. What is sinful covetousness? Give some examples. Why can we say, “evil coveting is a silent killer and a deceitful pathway”?

5. What does God command us in the Tenth Commandment? What is the answer to this question in the Heidelberg Catechism?

6. What are the “deep layers” of the Tenth Commandment?

7. How does the command to be holy go to the inner core of our being?

8. What is meant by the command, “*be perfect*” (Matthew 5:48)?

9. What is it to “*delight in righteousness*”?

10. What is the intention of God in setting forth the Tenth Commandment? Whom does he point us to?

Further Application:

1. Meditate on the Tenth Commandment, and also find other Scriptures that talk about this commandment.

2. Let us read the exhortation in this lecture again:

“Our hope as fallen sinners lies in the doing and in the dying of the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the door, the only door, for a transgressor to return to God. God cannot and he will not lower his standard of the Ten Commandments. He will not be satisfied with less than perfection. And now in Jesus Christ, he has provided for us a law-obedience that honors him to the highest degree. Hesitate not to turn also to the Lord Jesus Christ, that great High Priest, for he is able to save to the uttermost all that come unto God through him. And therefore, heed his urgent call.”

What comforts does this exhortation give you personally?
