

Someone in the crowd said to him, "Rabbi, tell my brother to share with me the property we inherited." But Yeshua answered him, "My friend, who appointed me judge or arbitrator over you?" Then to the people he said, "Be careful to guard against all forms of greed, because even if someone is rich, his life does not consist in what he owns." And he gave them this illustration: "There was a man whose land was very productive. He debated with himself, 'What should I do? I haven't enough room for all my crops.' Then he said, 'This is what I will do: I'll tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and I'll store all my wheat and other goods there. Then I'll say to myself, "You're a lucky man! You have a big supply of goods laid up that will last many years. Start taking it easy! Eat! Drink! Enjoy yourself!" 'But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night you will die! And the things you prepared—whose will they be?' That's how it is with anyone who stores up wealth for himself without being rich toward God."

Luke 12:13-21 (CJB)

"The Dire Warning of Covetousness"

Biblically speaking, covetousness is a death sentence to anyone claiming to be a "believer." To covet is to oppose the very nature of a Holy God. The nature of God is love and to give rather than to hate and take. The issue of coveting carries a warning to the "believer" as well as to a body of believers who may be fellowshiping with somebody who is participating in coveting.

1 Corinthians 5:9-11(CJB)

Subject: We are going to take a detailed look at the full spectrum of the sin of coveting.

A. Covetousness Defined by the Bible

- Hebrew word is *Chamad* and means:
 1. to desire, covet, take pleasure in, delight in
 - a. (Qal) to desire
 - b. (Niphal) to be desirable
 - c. (Piel) to delight greatly, desire greatly
 2. desirableness, preciousness
- Greek word for covetousness is *pleonexia* and means:
 - Short Definition: covetousness, avarice
 - Definition: covetousness, avarice, aggression, desire for advantage.
- A general summary for covet would be an uncontrolled selfish desire to fulfill a lustful nature.

4 CATEGORIES

- Desiring Prohibited Things by God
- Desiring/Wanting to be Desired in the Realm of Sexual Sin
- Desiring the Material Things of This World at the Expense of God
- Desiring to be in Ministry to Fulfill an Agenda Opposite of God's

B. 6 Questions to Be Asked as a Test of Seeking Righteousness or Covetousness

1. Do I Pursue Earthly Possessions or Heavenly Treasures?

Mark 10:17-25 (CJB)

Matthew 7:12-14 (CJB)

2. Do I Focus On “Receiving” Or “Giving?”

Acts 20:33-35 (CJB)

Mark 12:41-44 (CJB)

Luke 16:14-17 (NLT)

Luke 16:1-12 (NLT)