

## Sermon Notes – October 28, 2018

[#54] *Do not Steal the Life God has Given*

### Deuteronomy 24:1–7



#### Children's Sermon: The Gospel Reveals Real Treasure

What is our only comfort in life and death? (**Knowing the Truth**)

Tic-tac-toe cheater (**Knowing the Good**)

The beauty of a rainbow (**Knowing the Beautiful**)

Jesus rescues us from missing out on the true, good and beautiful.

**Psalm 119:18**

Open my eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of your law.

**Illustration:** What did Jesus do for the blind man

Notes:

#### The Law of God is Like a Diamond

- It breaks out the true good & beautiful life of God for us to behold

#### What Specific Aspect of the “Good Life” is in View?

- The Faithful, Joyful Married Life
- The Life Given is Blessed not the Life Taken

#### Today's Clear Biblical Bullet...

God wants Israel to jealously protect the life he is giving them from theft.



#### Do not Steal the Joyful Married Life (24:1-5)

Marriage is a Picture of the Life God Has Given Israel

#### Malachi 2:13–16

<sup>13</sup> [The Lord does not accept their offerings] <sup>14</sup> But you say, “**Why does he not?**” Because the Lord was witness between you and *the wife of your youth*, to **whom you have been faithless**, though she is *your companion* and *your wife by covenant*. <sup>15</sup> *Did he not make them one, with a portion of the Spirit in their union?* And **what was the one God seeking?** *Godly offspring*. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and *let none of you be faithless to the wife of your youth*. <sup>16</sup> “For the man who does not love his wife but divorces her, says the Lord, the God of Israel, *covers his garment with violence*, says the Lord of hosts. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and **do not be faithless.**”

## Legal Adultery (1-4)

<sup>4</sup> **then her former husband**, who sent her away, may not take her again to be his wife, after *she has been defiled, for that is an abomination before the Lord*. And you shall not bring sin upon the land that the Lord your God is giving you for an inheritance.

(Cf. Jesus – porneia; Matt 5:31–32; 19:7–9; Mark 10:4–12)

## Rights of Newlyweds (5)

<sup>5</sup> “When a man is newly married, he shall not go out with the army or be liable for any other public duty. He shall be *free at home one year to be happy with his wife* whom he has taken.

## Sexual Satisfaction found in Marriage

### Proverbs 5:15–23

<sup>15</sup> Drink **water from your own cistern**, flowing water from your own well. <sup>16</sup> Should your springs be scattered abroad, streams of water in the streets? <sup>17</sup> Let them be for yourself alone, and not for strangers with you. <sup>18</sup> Let your fountain be blessed, and rejoice in the wife of your youth, <sup>19</sup> a lovely deer, a graceful doe. *Let her breasts fill you at all times with delight; be intoxicated always in her love.* <sup>20</sup> *Why should you be intoxicated, my son, with a forbidden woman and embrace the bosom of an adulteress?* <sup>21</sup> For a man’s ways are before the eyes of the Lord, and he ponders all his paths. <sup>22</sup> The iniquities of the wicked ensnare him, and he is held fast in the cords of his sin. <sup>23</sup> *He dies for lack of discipline*, and because of his great folly he is led astray.

## A Good Marriage is Not the Ultimate Point (Our Need & His Grace)

### Jeremiah 3:1

“If a man divorces his wife and she goes from him and becomes another man’s wife, will he return to her? Would not that land be greatly polluted? *You have played the whore with many lovers*; and *would you return to me?* declares the Lord.

### Isaiah 54:5–6

<sup>5</sup> For **your Maker is your husband**, the LORD of hosts is his name; and the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer, the God of the whole earth he is called. <sup>6</sup> For *the LORD has called you like a wife deserted and grieved in spirit, like a wife of youth when she is cast off*, says your God.

## Do not Steal the Life of a Brother (24:6-7)

<sup>6</sup> “No one shall take a mill or an upper millstone in pledge, for that would be *taking a life* in pledge.

<sup>7</sup> “If a man is found stealing **one of his brothers of the people of Israel**, and if he *treats him as a slave or sells him*, then *that thief shall die*. So you shall purge the evil from your midst.

### **Deuteronomy 23:15–16**

<sup>15</sup> “You shall not give up to his master **a slave who has escaped** from his master to you. <sup>16</sup> He shall dwell with you, in your midst, in the place that he shall choose within one of your towns, wherever it suits him. *You shall not wrong him*.

## **Giving Our Life for God & Brothers**

### **What Life Do We Value?**

#### **Acts 20:24, 33–35**

<sup>24</sup> But **I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself**, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. ...

<sup>33</sup> *I coveted no one’s silver or gold or apparel*. <sup>34</sup> You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. <sup>35</sup> In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, **‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’**”

### **Do we believe it is better to give our lives for our brothers and our God?**

The Example of the Prophet Hosea (1:1)

Why did you (or do you want to) get married?

We have played the whore!

We are trying to take life instead of give it!

### **Consider the Love of Our Faithful Husband!**

#### **Ephesians 5:1–2**

<sup>1</sup> Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. <sup>2</sup> And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

#### **Ephesians 5:25–27**

<sup>25</sup> Husbands, love your wives, as **Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her**, <sup>26</sup> that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, <sup>27</sup> so that

he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish.

**...Fired at our Life & Heart**

Stop trying to take life, give your life away! Live for the mission to which we have been called.



**Don't Miss the Good Life! (Give your life for God & Others)**

Love your spouse

Find someone to build up in love

Especially, love the church!

**Luke 17:1-4**

<sup>1</sup> And he said to his disciples, "Temptations to sin are sure to come, but **woe to the one through whom they come!** <sup>2</sup> *It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck and he were cast into the sea than that he should cause one of these little ones to sin.* <sup>3</sup> Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him, <sup>4</sup> and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, 'I repent,' you must forgive him."