



²⁰ And he said, “What comes out of a person is what **defiles him**. ²¹ For **from within**, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, ²² coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. ²³ All these evil things come **from within**, and **they defile a person**.”

MARK 7:20-23

FROM WITHIN - OUR JOURNEY THUS FAR

- **Evil and Wickedness**
- **Sexual Immorality, Adultery, and Sensuality**
- **Pride and Foolishness**
- **Deceit and Slander**
- **Covet and Theft**



COVETING

AND

THEFT



KING AHAB (874–853 BCE)

- 7th King of Northern Israel
- Wicked king
- Together with his wife Jezebel, promoted and institutionalized idol worship
- “Did more evil in the eyes of the Lord than any of those before him!”



¹ Now Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard in Jezreel, beside the palace of Ahab king of Samaria. ² And after this Ahab said to Naboth, “**Give me** your vineyard, that I may have it for a vegetable garden, because it is near my house, and I will give you a better vineyard for it; or, if it seems good to you, I will give you its value in money.”

³ But Naboth said to Ahab, “**The Lord forbid** that I should give you the inheritance of my fathers.”

1 KINGS 21

⁴ And **Ahab went into his house vexed and sullen** because of what Naboth the Jezreelite had said to him, for he had said, “I will not give you the inheritance of my fathers.” And he lay down on his bed and turned away his face and would eat no food.

1 KINGS 21

COVET

Pleonexia (Greek)

- A greedy desire to have more.
- An appetite that always wants more—more money, more power, more pleasure—regardless of moral cost.
- The foundational sin that rivals the worship of God.

COVET

Chamad (Hebrew)

- To desire, to covet - usually in a bad sense.
- Desiring something that belongs to someone else with the willingness to take/possess it wrongly.

So when the woman **saw** that the tree was good for food, and that it was a **delight to the eyes**, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, **she took of its fruit** and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

GENESIS 3:6

“You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's.”

EXODUS 20:17

COVETOUSNESS LEADS TO THEFT

⁵ But Jezebel his wife came to him and said to him, “Why is your spirit so vexed that you eat no food?” ⁶ And he said to her, “Because I spoke to Naboth the Jezreelite and said to him, ‘Give me your vineyard for money, or else, if it please you, I will give you another vineyard for it.’ And he answered, ‘I will not give you my vineyard.’” ⁷ And Jezebel his wife said to him, “Do you now govern Israel? Arise and eat bread and let your heart be cheerful; I will give you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite.”

1 KINGS 21

COVETOUSNESS LEADS TO THEFT

¹³ And the two worthless men came in and sat opposite him. And the worthless men brought a charge against Naboth in the presence of the people, saying, “Naboth cursed God and the king.” So they took him outside the city and stoned him to death with stones. ¹⁴ Then they sent to Jezebel, saying, “Naboth has been stoned; he is dead.”

1 KINGS 21

COVETOUSNESS LEADS TO THEFT

¹⁵ As soon as Jezebel heard that Naboth had been stoned and was dead, Jezebel said to Ahab, “Arise, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give you for money, for Naboth is not alive, but dead.” ¹⁶ And as soon as Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, Ahab arose to go down to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, **to take possession of it.**

1 KINGS 21

COVETING BRINGS...

- Discontentment
- Distress
- Disobedience

NOTHING IS HIDDEN FROM GOD

¹⁷ Then the **word of the Lord** came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying,
¹⁸ “Arise, go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, who is in Samaria;
behold, he is in the vineyard of Naboth, where he has gone to take
possession. ¹⁹ And you shall say to him, ‘Thus says the Lord,
“Have you killed and also taken possession?””

1 KINGS 21

AHAB'S RESPONSE

²⁷ And when Ahab heard those words, he tore his clothes and put sackcloth on his flesh and fasted and lay in sackcloth and went about dejectedly.

²⁹ ...Because he has humbled himself before me, I will not bring the disaster in his days; but in his son's days I will bring the disaster upon his house.”

1 KINGS 21

¹ If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with

Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

⁵ “**Put to death** therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and **covetousness, which is idolatry.**”

COLOSSIANS 3:1-5