Exodus #59 The Moral Law

Lesson #11

"The Seventh Commandment – No Adultery Equals Sexual Purity" – Part II Exodus 20:14

2000 Republican National Convention

2012 Democratic Convention

"How shall we then live?"

The Westminster Larger Catechism

Q. 99: What are the guidelines for the proper understanding of the Ten Commandments?

A. 99.6: "The prohibitions against specific sins and the commandments to observe specific obligations are typical and so cover not just those particular sins or obligations but all others of the same kind. They similarly include all the contributory causes, means, opportunities, and appearances related to these sins and obligations.

Restitution

Defrauding

Exodus 22:1-4

"¹ If a man steals an ox or a sheep, and slaughters it or sells it, he shall pay five oxen for the ox and four sheep for the sheep.² If the thief is caught while breaking in, and is struck so that he dies, there will be no bloodguiltiness on his account. ³ {But} if the sun has risen on him, there will be bloodguiltiness on his account. He shall surely make restitution; if he owns nothing, then he shall be sold for his theft.⁴ If what he stole is actually found alive in his possession, whether an ox or a donkey or a sheep, he shall pay double."

A murderer could not make restitution except in the giving up of his own life. Sexual sin also is more serious because it too does not afford a restitutionary process.

Proverbs 6:27-35

"²⁷ Can a man take fire in his bosom, and his clothes not be burned? ²⁸ Or can a man walk on hot coals, and his feet not be scorched? ²⁹ So is the one who goes in to his neighbor's wife; whoever touches her will not go unpunished. ⁽³⁰ Men do not despise a thief if he steals to satisfy himself when he is hungry; ³¹ But when he is found, he must repay sevenfold; He must give all the substance of his house. ³² The one who commits adultery with a woman is lacking sense; He who would destroy himself does it.

^{('33} Wounds and disgrace he will find, and his reproach will not be blotted out. ³⁴ For jealousy enrages a man, and he will not spare in the day of vengeance. ³⁵ He will not accept any ransom, nor will he be content though you give many gifts."

II Samuel 13:19

"¹⁹ And Tamar put ashes on her head, and tore her long-sleeved garment which {was} on her; and she put her hand on her head and went away, crying aloud as she went."

Defraud

English, to take away or hold back property rights, to cheat.

<u>Mark 10:19</u>

"¹⁹ You know the commandments, 'Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not bear false witness, <u>do not defraud</u>, honor your father and mother.""

Defraud

Greek also - PLONEKTEO To be covetous, to over reach.

I Thessalonians 4:2-8

"² For you know what commandments we gave you by {the authority of} the Lord Jesus. ³ For this is the will of God, your sanctification; {that is,} that you abstain from sexual immorality; ⁴ that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, ⁵ not in lustful passion, like the Gentiles who do not know God; ⁶ {and} that no man transgress and defraud his brother in the matter because the Lord is {the} avenger in all these things, just as we also told you before and solemnly warned {you.} ⁷ For God has not called us for the purpose of impurity, but in sanctification.⁸ Consequently, he who rejects {this} is not rejecting man but the God who gives His Holy Spirit to you."

The breaking of this commandment involves far more than physical adultery after marriage. The inability to make restitution for sexual sin means that this infraction of the Moral Law is more serious. We may promote sexual sin among us based upon how we act and/or dress. Sexual intimacy between married couples involves a sense of knowing that is beyond a mere activity. Loving God means, in part, learning how to possess our own bodies in honor which is an expression of our love, and devotion to Him.