



New Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church  
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# **New Mount Zion M.B. Church Bible Class June 8, 2020**

***“Understanding The Ten Commandments”  
#10<sup>th</sup> Commandment***

## *What is covet?*

*To covet is to desire greatly, especially a thing belonging to someone else. It is wanting more of what you already have enough of; feeding one's greed. Covet comes when a person is not content with what he/she has.*

## *What is content?*

*Content is being satisfied, adequately happy; satisfied with what you have, not wanting more than you already have.*

# *Are You Always In Need or Is It Greed?*

*God wants us to be careful with greed and discontentment. While you are getting more and more, doubling everything, in reality it will eat you. The person living in greed, lives always in need. When we feed our greed, we only want more and more and greedy people are always generally unhappy.*

## *How Free Are You?*

*Not being greedy, not coveting, being content makes us free; living freely and happy. Living freely and happily is living without greed's; being content. When we do not want what our neighbors have or what we do not have, contentment becomes the source of happiness in life.*

*Philippians 4:4 -11. We must learn to be content.*

## *Is covetousness living deep in you?*

*In Luke chapter 12, Jesus gives us a story that can act as a test to see if our covetousness might be living deep within us. Let's read:*

*Luke 12: 13-21*

*Life (man's life) is not found and will never be found in the stuff or things we have. Culture and society tells us that the way to have life is to have that car, job, degree, PhD, business, have that money, that automobile, phone, have this and that.*

*But the creator (our creator) tells us this is a lie. The giver of life tells man that her/his life is not made of the stuff, those things, riches, money or wealth. All these things are useless to man but whoever seeks Him and focuses on heaven gains all.*

*Let's focus on heaven not all these worldly things, which the world tells us we must have to live. In fact, many are idols to man. We do not need them to live.*

*The life of man is more than food, clothes, money, worldly wealth and what the entire world gives.*

*From Jesus temptation, He teaches us that our life is not about things of this world or the fleshly body. We do not a whole lot of food, clothes, money, cars, buildings, riches to live. What does Jesus say in Luke 4:4. We only live by every word of God.*

*Blessings and riches are good, and they can be dangerous too as seen in the parable of the rich man. Solomon says something extremely interesting in Proverbs 30: 8-9.*

*This is the best prayer and a good thing every Christian must ask God. Keeping us away from riches helps us to not get caught up in worshiping this-worldly stuff, idols, images and toys.*

*Paul say, 'But godliness with contentment is great gain' 1 Timothy 6:6-11. We have the so-called 'prosperity teachers' today in Christian televisions. They teach that godliness with great gain gives contentment (the prosperity gospel).*

*So they teach us to name and claim it, grab and have it, you should be rich and rich. This is neither logical nor biblical (scriptural). It is not godliness with great gain that will give you contentment, but it is godliness with contentment that will give you great gain.*

*A content man is not the one who has the most but the one who needs the least. He is the one who says like Paul, 'I do not have needs. A content man knows that s/he brought nothing into this earth, and s/he will take nothing from it.*

*If you are not careful with coveting or if you are not careful with riches, they can chop off the word (the gospel). Mt 13:22. It can even be said that we as a people were more spiritual when we had less. When some people who were in the word, going to church and bible study suddenly get rich, that becomes the end between them and God.*

*Because of money, riches and wealthy, they cannot anymore make to bible study, to church, they have other things to do. They lose interest in the things of the scripture (God) and the word is chopped out by riches and wealthy.*

*It is not wrong to have possessions, be blessed materially, be rich and wealthy but it is dangerous too. Yes, it is! In Timothy, Paul teaches about the dangers of getting rich or striving to be rich and he gives an advice.*

*Paul advises the rich that;*

*They be not high-minded*

*Not to trust in riches but in the living God*

*They do good*

*They be rich in good works*

*They distribute their riches (sharing)*

*They be open to communicate (be approachable)*

*Place their investment in heaven*

## *Employing riches*

*To employ is to put into work (putting the blessings and riches into work). You put to work by not making more money or riches for yourself but by helping others and supporting the work of God.*

*The rich man (in the rich man parable) was blessed by God and he got more than He had before. Instead of him employing his riches, he chose to save by building more barns. And he said, this will I do. (Lk 12:13-21). And this is the greatest foolish thing he did. God looked at him and called him a 'fool' (Lk 12:20).*

*Many of us are like this rich man. We are blessed with money, riches and wealth but instead of employing them, we chose to save in barns; in banks and other places which the world gives. God looks at you, as your money, riches and wealth lies idle in the bank and He calls you a 'fool'.*

*You are supposed to employ all the riches which God gives you, and this is the best advice on money, or like the rich man after you have increased your barns (savings) and all are full, He (God) takes away your soul (die).*

*The more you give and share, the more you empty yourself, the more God blesses and gives you. God gives to you so that you can share and give. Through sharing and giving, you are blessing and building other people life's and this is what God wants when He blesses and enriches you.*

*Stingy people think they are rich but in reality they are poor, only loosing and no blessings coming their way. God tells you to give, give and give. Do not worry about what you eat, wear, live or if you will get more. He created all, He owns all and He will give you more (Lk 20:22-32).*