

The 10th Commandment, Part 2
Exodus 20:17
Heidelberg Catechism Lord's Day 44
September 7, 2014

Main Point:

God wants you to perfectly obey all His commands; therefore, in light of our study through the 10 Commandments, keep looking to Christ and press on toward the perfection that awaits you.

1. The 10th Commandment calls us to perfectly obey all of God's commandments.
2. Since the law requires perfect obedience, our study of it should always lead us back to Christ and His work on our behalf.
3. Since the law requires perfect obedience, our study of it should also push ahead our pursuit of holiness.
4. In light of our study through the 10 Commandments, keep looking to Christ and press on toward the perfection that awaits you.

HC 113 Q. What is God's will for you in the Tenth Commandment? A. That not even the slightest thought or desire contrary to any one of God's commandments should ever arise in my heart. Rather, with all my heart I should always hate sin and take pleasure in whatever is right.

HC 114 Q. But can those converted to God obey these commandments perfectly? A. No. In this life even the holiest have only a small beginning of this obedience. Nevertheless, with all seriousness of purpose, they do begin to live according to all, not only some, of God's commandments.

HC 115 Q. No one in this life can obey the Ten Commandments perfectly: why then does God want them preached so pointedly? A. First, so that the longer we live the more we may come to know our sinfulness and the more eagerly look to Christ for forgiveness of sins and righteousness. Second, so that, while praying to God for the grace of the Holy Spirit, we may never stop striving to be renewed more and more after God's image, until after this life we reach our goal: perfection.

James 4:1 ¹ What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? (NIV)

Matthew 5:48 ⁴⁸ "Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect. (NKJV)

G.I. Williamson "We properly understand the tenth commandment only when we realize that Jesus was right when he said that it is our duty to be perfect, even as our Father in heaven is perfect ..."

Romans 7:7 ⁷ What shall we say then? *Is the law sin?* Certainly not! On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law. For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said, "You shall not covet." (NKJV)

Philip Ryken "This commandment – more than any other – convinces us we are sinners ... [It] disabuses us of any notion that we are able to keep God's law [perfectly]."

Galatians 3:24 ²⁴ Therefore the law was our tutor *to bring us to Christ*, that we might be justified by faith. (NKJV)

Ephesians 2:10 ¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them. (NKJV)

John 14:15 ¹⁵ "If you love Me, keep My commandments. (NKJV)

John Calvin "The law is like a whip to an idle donkey, to goad and to stir and to arouse it to work."

2 Corinthians 3:18 ¹⁸ And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. (ESV)

Philippians 3:12 ¹² Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. (NKJV)

1 John 3:2-3 ² Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. ³ And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure. (NKJV)