

Study QUESTIONS

Ep. 1177: Is It Still Stealing if I Deserve It?

<https://christianquestions.com/character/1177-stealing/>

See: 

1. What is the eighth Commandment? What is the relationship of this Commandment to the others? According to the Jewish Law, what was the punishment for theft or kidnapping? (See Exodus 20:3-15, 21:16)
2. How does the eighth Commandment apply to the way we treat our fellow humans? What is the "High Standard of Honesty" here? (See Exodus 21:16, Leviticus 19:11-13, 35-36)
3. Why do people end up stealing? What are the three conditions that make fraud likely? (See *The Fraud Triangle*, TED Talk)
4. How are general robbery, livelihoods, negligence and breaches of trust covered by the eighth Commandment? What is the "High Standard of Honesty" here? (See Exodus 22:1-9, Leviticus 6:1-7)
5. What are the consequences for committing the sins mentioned above? Why are they so severe? What are two things should drive our actions to avoid any theft mindset? (See Proverbs 11:1-3)
6. What did Jesus say about the motivation behind theft? What is the difference in the Old Testament Law and the teachings of Jesus? What is the "High Standard of Honesty" here? (See Matthew 15:15-20, 21:12-13, 22:34-40, 1 Corinthians 6:10-11, Titus 1:10-11)
7. Why should we be careful about taking things we believe we deserve? Who was the first thief? How can people live with themselves while committing fraud? (See Isaiah 14:13-14)
8. To change "beg, borrow or steal" to "seek, act and rely," what is required to "seek" help when we are lacking things we need to survive? What must we do *before* we end up in extreme need which might set us to think we need to steal out of necessity? (See Leviticus 23:22, Romans 13:8-10, Galatians 2:9-10)
9. What do we need to "act" in a righteous manner? What must happen *after* a season of need where we received help from others? Ultimately, what should be our objective or goal? (See Ephesians 4:27-28)
10. Why is it so important to "rely" on God's grace and those who are spiritually-minded? How can this help us resist the urge to steal? Why is it important to be part of a spiritual community? (See Proverbs 4:23-27, Galatians 6:1-2)
11. How are you "marking out a straight path" that you might "stay on the safe path"? Can you think of a time when you allowed yourself to get into an extreme situation when stealing seemed your only option? How could you have used forethought to avoid this outcome?