

See, Covet, Take, Hide

“The road to hell is
paved with good intentions”

One way to Father.

Many ways to hell.

Four words show the steps
that lead to sin

See, Covet, Take, Hide

What is covetousness?

NOT desire in itself. Mt.13:17

NOT appreciation of good things in life.
1 Tim.6:17

Covetousness: greedy desire for more;
desire out of control.

- Idolatry, Col.3:5
- Sin may occur before the outward act takes place, Ex.20:17

I. Eve, Gn.3:
Wrong View of Permission

God...

- If God could create universe, He could make snake talk.
- Serpent did not go to Adam, but to Eve.
 - Did he think Adam would be harder to convince [he heard prohibition firsthand]?
 - Satan deceived Eve (2 Co.11:3).
 - She merely said to Adam, 'Eat' (6) ... and he did!

Eve misrepresented God's words

- “Cannot ‘touch’ the tree”
- **Midrash:** snake pushed Eve against the tree; when nothing bad happened, she concluded everything Adam told her was wrong.
- **Talmud:** “One who adds to God's words actually detracts from them.” True!
Dt.4:2.

Satan led Eve into sin by . . .

- Lying (overstatement): magnified the restraint.
- Slander (cruel God): “He wants to hold you back.”
- Denial: “You will not suffer, but will be like God.”
- Promotion: Eve assumes role of God, becoming her own deity.

The root of all our evil:

Displace God as moral authority

1. Rely on feelings to determine right / wrong.
2. Not satisfied with what he have.
3. To govern oneself is to replace God with satan.

The sequence is complete

Eve saw, coveted, took, hid

Genesis 3:6,8,10

Thought God was like them: allowed
disobedience with impunity

Psalm 50

I. Eve, Gn.3: Wrong View of Permission

II. Joshua 7, Achan:
Wrong View of Possessions

Achan participated in Jericho campaign

1. His fighting was an act of obedience.
2. His actions helped to defeat Israel's enemy.
3. His actions were mostly honorable:
marched, shouted, ran to enemy, did not
desert . . .

BUT he used his soldering opportunity
to take forbidden spoils.

Mark 8:36-37

Contrast:

Largest amount we
could possibly (?) gain
on earth

Whole world (more
than anyone could
use) vs one soul

- Steal, Lk.10:30
- Trust, Lk.12:33-34 (20-21)
- Greed, Gn.13:8ff
- Covet, 1 Jn.5:21

I. Eve, Gn.3: Wrong View of Permission

II. Josh.7, Achan: . . . Possessions

III. 2 Sm.11-13, David:
Wrong View of People

Up to this point David had . . .

- Controlled his passions (Saul, 1 Sm.24, 26).
- Confessed God's blessings.
- Concentrated on obedience.

Saints have bullseye on their back

- David fell.
- David harmed himself, Bathsheba, their families, children, and Israel.
- Worst: blasphemed God's name.

David saw, coveted, took, hid

Common snare . . .

- 11:1-4, object for his own pleasure
- 12:5, imaginary criminal worthy of judgment
- 12:7, David himself – judge / king in Israel
- 12:8, God had blessed David...
- 12:9, Uriah, David's soldier.
 - Ex.20:17 – more than a neighbor.
 - Ep.5:3-5 – covetousness is attitude that leads to other sins.

Acts 27:29

We have four anchors . . .

1. Avoid, Prov.4:15
2. Watch, Mt.26:41
3. Pray, Mt.26:41
4. Flee, 2 Tim.2:22