*Series: The Big Ten, # 6*

You Shall Not Steal

**Exodus 20:15**

What is the difference between moral absolutes and situational ethics?

Is there a place for both, in the life of a believer?

Prov. 6:30 “Men do not despise a thief if he steals to satisfy his hunger”

Don’t steal from:

1) others – Exodus 22:1-4

2) the government – Romans 13:6-7, Luke 20:20-26

3) the poor and oppressed – Proverbs 14:31, 19:17

4) God – Malachi 3:6-12

The Prayer of Agur

“Two things I ask of you, O Lord; do not refuse me before I die: keep falsehood and lies far from me; give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread. Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, ‘Who is the Lord?’ Or I may become poor and steal, and so dishonor the name of my God.” (Proverbs 30:7-9)

“There is only one sin, and that is theft.

Every other sin is a variation of theft.

When you kill a man, you steal a life.

You steal his wife’s right to a husband.

You rob his children of a father.

When you tell a lie, you steal someone’s right to the truth.

When you cheat, you steal the right to fairness.

There is no act more wretched than stealing.

A man who takes what’s not his to take,

be it a life or a loaf of bread...

if I ever cross paths with him, God help him.”

Baba-jan, teaching his son Amir

From the novel “The Kite Runner”

By Khaled Hosseini, 2003