

September 25th, 2016 - The Life and Death of Mr. Badman
Chapter 2 – Badman’s Wicked Behaviour In Childhood - Part 2

Thievery. In **Exodus 20:15** we read, “*You shall not steal.*” This is one of the 10 Commandments that God gave to Moses after they had been delivered out of their 400 years slavery to the Egyptians. Almighty God personally inscribed these commandments with his finger in stone. His holiness commands that stealing is sin.

I’d like to share a few statistics from the U.S.A. of what transpired after 1962 when prayer and the 10 Commandments (in which “You shall not steal”) were taken out of the schools. It comes from the Congressional Prayer Caucus Foundation:

“Criminal arrest of teens is up 150% according to the US Bureau of Census; teen suicides in ages 15-19 years up 450% according to the National Center of Health Services; illegal drug activity is up 6000% according to the National Institute of Drug Abuse; child abuse cases up 2300% according to the US Department of Health and Human Services; divorce up 350% according to the US Department of Commerce, and SAT scores fell 10% even though the SAT questions have been revamped to be easier to answer.”

Another US news agency says this:

“CNS news: Other facts included a comparison between the top five complaints of teachers from 1940-1962 -- talking, chewing gum, making noise, running in the halls and getting out of turn in line – to rape, robbery, assault, burglary and arson from 1963 to present.”

A local Canadian news agency says this about stealing:

“CBC news: One break-in per hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week — that's how often Calgary homes and businesses were struck in 2015 on average .Newly released data from the Calgary Police Service shows a sharp spike in property crime across the city, with 9,077 break-and-enters recorded last year. It marks a 56 per cent increase from the year before.”

The rapid decline in society has transpired since God has been taken out of public schools and the government at all levels. Now these stats mainly focus on the USA, but Canada followed suit with prayer being taken out of schools; “A 1988 Ontario court ruling effectively nixed compulsory prayer in public schools across the country — except in Alberta and Saskatchewan, which negotiated a constitutional provision assuring their right to maintain religiosity in schools as part of their entry into Confederation in 1905.” (National Post – November 14, 2013). Please watch this short video entitled, “[The Day They Kicked God Out Of The Schools.](#)”

Without the conviction of the Holy Spirit at work through the reading of God’s holy Word, sin has abounded. Stealing falls into the same category as using God’s name in vain or adultery according to the 10 Commandments. More than that, **Zechariah 5:4** says that curses will come upon those who steal; “*I will send out the curse, says the Lord of hosts; it shall enter the house of the thief and the house of the one who swears falsely by My name. It shall remain in the midst of his house and consume it, with its timber and stones.*” Stealing, killing and destroying. That sounds like satan himself doesn’t it where Jesus says this about him in **John 10:10**, “*The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.*” So these three go together like the three musketeers, they really are inseparable from each other. When stealing occurs, killing and destruction happen. We’ve all heard of stories where robberies have gone bad, then someone then gets killed and destruction has happened to all those involved. Sadly, movies portray thievery as glamorous, especially when those being stolen from are bad guys, or even Robin Hood – stealing from the rich to feed the poor. Stealing is still sin.

Proverbs 28:24 says how that someone who steals is a friend or companion of the destroyer (satan) himself, “*Whoever robs his father or mother and says, ‘it is no transgression,’ the same is companion to a destroyer.*” Mr. Badman didn’t even blush when admitting to stealing from his father! I’d like you to read this story in [Joshua 7:1-26](#). It tells of a man by the name of Achan who after explicitly being told – together with all the

Israelites - not to take any of the lute from battle of Jericho, coveted what he saw, he stole and because of this, the Israelites sorely lost the following battle against Ai. Consequently, Achan, his wife, children, all his possessions and what he stole are stoned to death and then burned with fire. We see the same pattern, he stole, he was killed and the ultimate destruction of his whole family. The three go hand in hand; they're intertwined with each other.

So we go from the terrible acts of Mr. Badman, but let's bring it closer home to where you are. **James 5:1-6** says; *"Come now, you rich, weep and howl for your miseries that are coming upon you! Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver are corroded, and their corrosion will be a witness against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have heaped up treasure in the last days. Indeed the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out; and the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth. You have lived on the earth in pleasure and luxury; you have fattened your hearts as in the days of slaughter. You have condemned, you have murdered the just; he does not resist you."* Do you see the same three similar words woven together? Fraud, condemn and murder. Would this apply to you if you're an employer? Are you withholding salary, increase and blessing to your employees for work they've done or what you've promised them? The Lord does see and he calls it stealing and won't turn a blind eye.

Judas Iscariot who betrayed Jesus was a thief. It says in **John 12:5-7**; *"Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor? This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it. But Jesus said, 'Let her alone; she has kept this for the day of My burial.'"*

Hopefully, as a Christian, you are not and do not make stealing a part of your lifestyle in any way, shape or form. **Malachi 3:8-12** talks about the Israelites stealing from God; *"Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, 'In what way have we robbed You?' In tithes and offerings. You are cursed with a curse, for you have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this,"* says the Lord of hosts, *"if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such a blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, so that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in your field,"* says the Lord of hosts; *"and all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a delightful land,"* says the Lord of hosts." I've heard it say that only 20% of church goers actually tithe. So that would imply, according to the Bible, that 80% of church goers are under a curse. A tithe is 10% from your gross salary not your net salary. Federal taxes, employment insurance, union dues (if that applies to you), and whatever else is taken off of your earnings by those you work for, are monies you owe, not the company. Hence, your tithe is off of your gross and not your net. Robbing God of what he has commanded us to do is called being a thief. Thievery brings a curse which in turn brings destruction and those could come in various ways.

Many argue that this is under the Old Testament law but the children of Israel were a type and shadow of the church, of how we are to live and not live. **I Corinthians 10:11**; *"Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come."* Giving and tithing go into the same category. I believe God can do more through our obedience to him in tithing, than by holding it back. Our tithes need to go to the local church, where you're getting spiritually fed on a regular basis. In the Old Testament they brought it to the Temple and it was used for God's service, likewise in the New Testament it's to be brought to your church for God's service. Now we know we individually are temples of the Holy Spirit, but each of us together comprise the body of Christ. It would be foolish to think that we can tithe to ourselves because we are His temple, so we tithe to the place where we come together as the Lord's body, individually parts making up the whole!

Now, the story of Elijah and the widow at Zarephath is a great example of what God can do when you give to him. It doesn't mention tithing, but it says that God commanded her to give to the prophet Elijah and so she gave him her last hand full of flour and oil to make a bit of bread, and as a result...her bin of flour and jar of oil did not run dry! [1 Kings 17:7-16](#) . We will not be diminished if we tithe! The opposite...we will be SO BLESSED that God said he'd open the windows of heaven over us! I choose blessings...not curses, how about you?

Paul the Apostle warns the Ephesian church in **Ephesians 4:28**; *“Let him who stole steal no longer, but rather let him labor, working with his hands what is good, that he may have something to give him who has need.”* So as bad as Mr. Badman was in his stealing, are we equal if we as Christians steal from God in our tithes? God offers us to ‘try’ him or ‘test’ him in our tithes as it says in **Malachi 3:10**, *“Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this,” says the Lord of hosts.*” See what God will do when you don't rob from him any longer! There is forgiveness in Jesus Christ. If stealing from God in tithes, or stealing from employees or others describes you, Jesus will forgive you if you ask him to.

Here is another short video about [“The Consequences of Removing Prayer from the Schools.”](#)

