

**Scripture Reading:** Matthew 25:14-46 Lord's Day 42 (2)

**Singing:** 176 – 136 – 99:2, 4, 5 – 305:1, 2, 3, 5

Introduction: One of God's glories is His kindness (Ps. 117:2)

A. It was His *merciful kindness* that moves Him to save sinners (Titus 3:3-5)

B. Our *merciful kindness* will be examined at judgment seat (Matt. 25)

**THE 8<sup>TH</sup> COMMANDMENT: HONOR ME WITH YOUR STEWARDSHIP OF MY RESOURCES**

I. The truth about our resources

II. The calling of our stewardship of God's resources

**I. THE TRUTH ABOUT OUR RESOURCES**

A. The truth is that none of us our possessors but stewards of Christ's (Ps. 24:1)

1. Steward has one single task: Matt. 25:19

2. Yet His direction is *that we may also enjoy our portion* 1 Tim. 6:17; Eccl.

2:24-26 – 3:12-13 – 5:18-20 – 6:2)

**II. THE CALLING OF OUR STEWARDSHIP OF GOD'S RESOURCES**

A. The scope of 8<sup>th</sup> details how to be a steward or manager of God's resources

1. what is forbidden as summarized in Heidelberg q/a 110

2. what is commanded in the 8<sup>th</sup> is the most glorious part of honoring Him

B. The 8<sup>th</sup> is not only about stealing: it is about *showing mercy in giving*

1. our failure to use God's resources to relieve the needy is sore evil

2. our failure to use our talents with a charitable focus is also evil

3. our failure to lend to the Lord is our greatest evil: Prov. 19:17

a. we are called to love our (every) neighbor as ourselves (Matt. 7:12)

● examine your reasoning for not doing this

● review your manner in doing this wisely and mercifully

4. the observing of '*giving part*' of the 8<sup>th</sup> is revealing: James 2:13-16; 1 John

3:17-19; Ps 37:21, 26; 112:5, 9; Prov. 14:31

C. Observe the prominence of obedience to the 8<sup>th</sup> in final judgment: Matt. 25

1. Why did Jesus lay the emphasis on the obedience to the 8<sup>th</sup>?

2. There is hardly a duty more insisted upon by God than *charitable giving* yet likewise no subject is hardly given more encouraging promises

3. Let's review a few of God's promises on *showing mercy in giving*

a. Acts 20:32-35

b. Eccl. 11:1-2 (Ps. 37:25-26)

c. See Prov. 11:24-25 - 19:17 – 28:27

d. Matt. 10:42, Luke 12:33

e. Ps. 41:1-3

Reflection: Jesus *new* commandment

A new commandment I give unto you,  
That ye love one another;  
**As I have loved you,**  
that ye love one another.  
By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples,  
**If ye have love one to another.**  
John 13:34