

## Do Not Want What You Can't Have Wednesday Word: May 25, 2016

*Covet definition:*

*\*Yearn to possess or have (something)*

*The true origin of this word is the Latin word 'cupere' which means "to desire".*

[http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/us/definition/american\\_english/covet](http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/us/definition/american_english/covet)

The first half of the Law given by God to Moses on Mount Sinai has to do with our relationship with Him. The second half of the Law has to do with our relationship with one another. This is why Jesus says:

**Matthew 22:37-40 - Jesus said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind." 38 This is the first and great commandment. 39 And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' 40 On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."**

All of the actions mentioned in the second half of the Law occur out of jealousy which leads to greed or vice versa (Exodus 20:13-17). The Lord is more concerned with the condition of our heart rather than what we possess externally. Many of us know this when it comes to material possessions but what about spiritual possessions?

When I first came to the Lord there were many gifts I saw others operating in that I wanted to walk in. I desired them but really had no clue what they were all about. My understanding of the Biblical text was very limited at that time and my soul (my mind, will, and emotions) was still very much in charge instead of Holy Spirit at that time (I am still a work in progress). Today I see and hear many say the same as I did, "Wow. I wish I had that gift."

A good mentor will always tell you the truth. The truth of the matter is that we all have to walk through the fire to get to each new level. Think about the story of Job. He lost everything but even more than that his friends abandoned him spiritually by condemning him. The words they spoke to him as he was dealing with these losses only made him feel worse. They were throwing

all kinds of condemnation and judgments at him. That was part of the fire for him besides losing everything. Yet Job came out better than before because he turned his heart back to God instead of continuing to let his soul lead and relying solely on man for comfort. We can only go through the tribulations of this world by turning our heart to God, holding the hand of Jesus and letting Him lead.

What is my point? The point is this. Every desire starts in the heart. When we want something we have to check our heart and ask what is the motive behind this desire. If we desire to operate in any of the spiritual gifts is it to be seen and acknowledged by men or is our motive to build up the Body of Christ? Is our motive to have big numbers of people attached with our name or to truly see people set free because of our love for them and our love for the Lord? Do not want what you can't have meaning if your heart is not set where it needs to be then don't push to have something you are not ready for.

There are sacrifices that have to be made for every new level of serving the Lord. The ultimate sacrifice is giving our whole self to the Lord so that He can operate through us. I will close with a scripture that helped and continues to help me deal with every desire I have in my heart. It's not that God doesn't honor our desires; it's all about our motive behind the desire. Notice the order within this scripture. May I suggest that each of us write a list of our desires and then ask the Lord to adjust our hearts so that the desires match up with His will.

**Psalm 37:3-4 - Trust in the Lord, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness. 4 Delight yourself also in the Lord, And He shall give you the desires of your heart.**

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