



Another in a series on the Ten Commandments.  
EXODUS 20:15: "THOU SHALT NOT STEAL."

What is it to steal?  
(1) To steal is to take by stealth or force that which rightly belongs to another. This is true whether the values stolen are tangible or intangible, whether they are values that we see, or values that we do not see. Stealing is thus an aggressive something. It requires activity on the part of the thief. Often this activity is dangerous, putting in peril the freedom, and even the life, of the thief. But whether the stealing is dangerous or safe, if we wrench values either from the hand or the heart of a brother, we are guilty of the violation of this rule.

(2) To steal is to withhold from our fellows that which they have a right to expect at our hands. Our lives interlock one with the other. Seriously, to ask the question, "Am I my brother's keeper?" is to show disregard for the rights of others. No man but a potential thief would ask such a question. Every man owes a debt to his fellows. To refuse to pay that debt is to violate this law. A thief, therefore, may be very active and aggressive.

Therefore, whether the stealing is active or passive, whether we take that which is another's or withhold that which we ought to give to another, we are guilty of the violation of this rule.

What are some of the common kinds of stealing that are prevalent today?

Take it on its positive side. Of course, there are those who steal material values. But we can pass over these lightly. I am not in the least uneasy at any reading this column will be pickpockets, embezzlers, or gangsters. The type of stealing that brings one into conflict with the law is not likely to appeal to many of us. But this, perhaps, is not so true of stealing within the law.

For instance, I have known more than one churchman to take advantage of another's hard luck to put him to the wall. This type of stealing is more contemptible than that of the highwayman. The knight of the road does possess a certain kind of daring. But not even this can be claimed for those who steal within the law. He exposes himself to no danger at all.

One of the most despicable characters in the Old Testament, when he first comes upon the scene, is Jacob. He prides himself on the fact that he can live by his wits. One day his big, hungry brother comes in from the chase. Jacob is cooking dinner. The savory odor of these steaming lentils comes to the nostrils of Esau with a compelling appeal. "Feed me that red stuff," he begs.

"All right," says the wily Jacob. "But first, sell me your birthright."

"Take it," says Esau. "I am about to die." He then

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### Surprised Honor

**SALISBURY**- On March 27, Rev. J. T. Stowe was honored with a Surprise Birthday Dinner by the members and friends of Yadkin Grove Baptist Church, Salisbury, where he is Pastor.

The center piece of the table consisted of yellow and white carnations with yellow candles on each side.

Along with 75 guests present at the Dinner, were Rev. Stowe's wife, Mrs. Sarah Currence Stowe, daughters Sherry, Jamey and Tarshish Stowe and son Daniel Stowe. His other son, George Stowe of Philadelphia, Pa., was not present. His goddaughter, Mrs. Lora Withers and son, was present also.

Rev. Stowe received many gifts and money and was presented a cake in the form of a Bible.

Rev. Stowe is also the Pastor of Union Baptist Church in Lexington.

## RELIGION

### Area Deaths And Funerals

**HIGH POINT**  
MR. CLARENCE DIGGS, 51, of 1804 Drew Street, died in Veterans Hospital, Durham. Funeral services were conducted at First Emmanuel Baptist Church by the Rev. D.D. Mason. Burial followed in Piedmont Memorial Garden. HAZLIP'S FUNERAL HOME was in charge of all arrangements.

MR. MAYFIELD LEACH, 82, of 205 Underhill Ave., was DOA at High Point Memorial Hospital. Funeral services were conducted at Memorial United Methodist Church by the Rev. Belvin Jessup. Burial followed in Piedmont Memorial Gardens. MOORE'S FUNERAL HOME was in charge of all arrangements.

MRS. ESSIE WATKINS, 70, of 507 Vail Avenue, died en route to hospital. Funeral services were conducted at Temple Memorial Baptist Church by the Rev. L. L. Macon. Burial followed in Greenhill Cemetery. HAZLIP'S FUNERAL HOME was in charge of all arrangements.

**SALISBURY**  
MR. LEONARD ADAMS

died in the Veterans Administration Hospital. Funeral services were conducted at Shady Grove Baptist Church by the Rev. John Gaston. Burial followed in the church cemetery. NOBEL AND KELSEY FUNERAL HOME was in charge of all arrangements.

MRS. MINNIE ARCHIE ARMSTRONG died in the Cabarrus Memorial Hospital in Concord, N.C. Funeral services were conducted at Smith Chapel Holiness Church by Bishop Walter Chambers. Burial followed in the church cemetery. NOBEL AND KELSEY FUNERAL HOME was in charge of all arrangements.

MR. JERTHO (JOE) BOYD, JR., 41, a former resident of Salisbury, died in his home in Wash., D.C. Funeral services were conducted in the chapel of the Noble and Kelsey Funeral Home by the Rev. David Hariston. Burial followed in Oakdale Cemetery. NOBEL AND KELSEY FUNERAL HOME was in charge of all arrangements.

MRS. REBACCA WOODRUFF YOUNGE,

82, or 24-F Brookview Apts., died at the Nurse Care Center. Funeral services were conducted at Mt. Zion Baptist Church by the Rev. S. R. Johnson. Burial followed in Oakwood Cemetery. NOBEL AND KELSEY FUNERAL HOME was in charge of all arrangements.

**THOMASVILLE**  
MR. ROBERT WALKER, 62, of 112 Highland Avenue, was DOA at hospital. Funeral services were conducted at Central United Methodist Church by the Rev. W. E. Banks. Burial followed in the Mt. Olivet Cemetery. THOMAS-HAZLIP FUNERAL HOME was in charge of all arrangements.

## Church Calendar

**HIGH POINT** - Group I, of Memorial United Methodist Church on Fairview St., will present the High Point Choral Ensemble in "Concert" on Sunday, 3 p.m. April 20th at the church.

This group under the direction of Rev. Emmanuel Rucker is made up of members of different churches in the city. They have been featured on "Gospel Expo" and have performed in churches all over the Triad area.

## CHURCH SUBSCRIPTION SALES "FUND RAISING DRIVE"

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Thanks to you, our listeners.