

# No Covetousness!

## Pastor's Desk – January 23, 2022



"Covetousness is idolatry because it positions self-interest and things in place of God. Individuals set up idols because they want to get pleasure or satisfaction from them. So, they serve to get, which is idolatry. The core of idolatry then, is to obtain for self. However, Christians must deliver themselves to The Lord, and we do this by surrendering to Him in compliance with whatever He says."

Excerpt from Pastor's Desk  
*No Covetousness!*  
by Pr. Teddy Santos  
January 23, 2022

Baltimore Christian Faith Center  
A Place Where Miracles Still Happen  
[www.BCFC.org](http://www.BCFC.org)



**Colossians 3:5** *“Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry.”*

"Covetousness" is an ugly word describing a nasty sin that is very destructive. It suggests ruthless self-seeking and an arrogant presumption that others and things live for one's own usefulness. Lexicons define the Greek word pleonexia (meaning covetousness) as "the insatiable desire to have what rightfully belongs to others."

Covetousness is idolatry because it positions self-interest and things in place of God. Individuals set up idols because they want to get pleasure or satisfaction from them. So, they serve to get, which is idolatry. The core of idolatry, then, is to obtain for the self. However, Christians must deliver themselves to The Lord, and we do this by surrendering to Him in compliance with whatever He says.

**Colossians 3:5** states that we are to "**mortify therefore [our] members which are on the earth**" (KJV). It is a powerful expression, meaning "to kill." This does not mean merely practicing ascetic self-discipline. The Christian must obliterate self-centeredness. They must radically transform their life, shifting the focus from themselves to God. This is precisely what the Lord Jesus taught in **Matthew 5:29-30**:

**"If your right eye causes you to sin, pluck it out and cast *it* from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell. And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and cast *it* from you; for it is more profitable for you that one of your members perish, than for your whole body to be cast into hell."**

I desire to reach Heaven with all my members, and I am positive that you do as well! Nonetheless, any and everything that keeps us from wholly obeying God and surrendering to Jesus Christ must be spiritually cut off. I conclude with the words of our Lord Jesus from **Luke 13:24** "**Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be able.**" Strive earnestly. The reward is totally worth it!

At His service,  
Pr. Teddy Santos