

Coveting

Part 2



Jodi Meadows

Remember yellow tiger who wanted white tiger's tub?



Jodi Meadows

So he took it?

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If these had been two humans, what sins *could* have been involved here?

- Stealing

- Stealing
- Not following the *golden rule*

- Stealing (Deuteronomy 5:19)
- Not following the *golden rule* (Matthew 7:12)
- ?

- Maybe the white tiger had taken the tub from the yellow tiger in the first place. Would this make a difference?

- You see, we do not know everything about another person or another incident.
- Jesus commands us: “Judge not, and ye shall not be judged: condemn not, and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven” (Luke 6:37).

- There are certain actions, deeds, and doctrines that godly men and women need to judge to see if they are righteous or not, but we cannot judge motives. Only God can read the heart.
- “. . . for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart” (1 Samuel 16:7).

We can covet the wrong things. Satan did–

- And *coveting* the honor which the infinite Father had bestowed upon His Son, this prince of angels [Satan] aspired to power which it was **the prerogative of Christ alone to wield.**
(*Darkness before Dawn*, p. 2)

Some things we have no
business coveting—



Kentucky Children's Hospital

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However, the pediatric cardiac surgical program at this hospital has been suspended while the hospital investigates the deaths of some children following their delicate and complicated surgeries. A pediatric cardiac surgeon has said (emphasis in original):

Places in Kentucky and other small volume centers have **NO BUSINESS** opening up a pediatric heart surgery program.

Why?

“Pediatric heart surgery is the most delicate/complex of any surgical procedure known to man. It is a hundred times more difficult to reconstruct a baby’s heart than it is to do brain surgery or colon surgery” (Jason Simpson, http://www.cnn.com/2013/08/03/health/kentucky-hearts-hospital/index.html?hpt=hp_c2).

“The training of a pediatric heart surgeon is the longest training pathway of any doctor. 4 years med school, 5 years general surgery, 3 years adult cardiothoracic surgery, 2-3 years pediatric cardiothoracic surgery = 14-16 years AFTER you finish undergrad. Even surgeons who have completed that pathway still have a LONG way to go in order to be fully competent surgeons and practice at the top of their craft” (*Ibid.*).

And smaller hospital just do not have the qualified staff to do the very technical and detailed surgery on a very young patient.

Therefore, this doctor stated:

“There are lots of other hospitals [than the qualified ones like Boston Children’s Hospital] who advertise for pediatric heart surgery programs, but they use surgeons who haven’t perfected their craft yet and are still basically in training. . . .

Places in Kentucky and other small volume centers have NO BUSINESS opening up a pediatric heart surgery program” (*Ibid.*).

We want to be very
careful about what we
desire because it may not
be something God wants
us to have.

Instead of wanting possessions
and material goods, God
wants us to work with him in
helping people to be ready
for the return of Jesus.

- It is recorded of the holy men of old that **God was not ashamed to be called their God** (Hebrews 11:16). The reason assigned is that **instead of coveting** earthly possessions or seeking happiness in worldly plans or aspirations they placed their all upon the altar of God and made disposition of it **to build up His kingdom.** (*God's Amazing Grace*, p. 344)

*Do you want God to be
pleased with you?*

This is one way–

- Do not covet earthly possessions,
- Do not seek happiness in worldly plans or aspirations,
- But put your *all* on the altar to build up God's kingdom on this earth!

We are to be content with what we have:

- “be content with such things as ye have” (Hebrews 13:5).

God will give us the desires of our hearts, if we are happy with him:

- Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. (Psalm 37:4)
- This means we will not ask for anything contrary to his will--if you are happy with him, then you are going to want his will!

Jesus prayed according to his Father's will:

- O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt. (Matthew 26:39)