

Date: 2 June 2019

Speaker: Rev Clement Chew

**Topic: A Covetous Man**

Scripture text: 1 Kings 21:1-16

1. A covetous man is one who desires for something that God has not appointed to be his. Christians must not be covetous because the tenth commandment of God tells us that men should not covet. Instead, our full satisfaction must be in Jesus Christ alone who has blessed us with all spiritual blessings.

2. God exposed king Ahab's sin of covetousness when he desired for Naboth's fertile vineyard which was near his palace. Ahab's sinful desire for someone else's property took place after he was appointed to utter destruction by the Lord. Instead of desiring for God's mercy and forgiveness, Ahab continued to harden his heart and desired for material possessions. May we all seek spiritual and not material riches.

3. In contrast, Naboth overcame covetousness and was a faithful steward of his inheritance given by God. Naboth refused to sell the land of his forefathers as commanded in Leviticus 25:23 and rejected Ahab's offer of another land or money. Let us be contented with the lot God has given to us and yield not to temptation.

4. Ahab's sin of covetousness led to the sin of murder when his wife Jezebel slandered the innocent Naboth, killed him and usurped his vineyard. The fruit of covetousness is wickedness so we pray that God will grant us the grace to quickly repent of our sins when He exposes the covetousness in our hearts.