

were all embraced in *two*; viz., to love God with all our hearts; and to love our neighbour as ourselves. But the covetous man loves his *gold* with all his heart. By this he breaks the first four commandments. He loves his gold more than he loves his neighbour. By this he breaks the last six commandments. What a dreadfully wicked thing covetousness is! St Paul tells us, as was said at the beginning of this sermon, that covetousness, or "the love of money, is the root of all evil." This means, that it leads people to commit all kinds of sin. It makes them unkind, hard-hearted, cruel, and unjust. It leads to violence, bloodshed, and murder.

When the Spaniards conquered Mexico, they killed so many people, that it might almost be said they *waded in blood* to get possession of it. And what was the chief object they had in view? It was to get the gold, which was found there in such wonderful profusion.

When the emperor found he could not protect his city against the fierce invaders, he collected his principal treasures together, and threw them into the lake on which his capital was built. The Spanish general, Cortes, was so much disappointed at finding so little gold; that he ordered a huge gridiron to be made, and then put the emperor on it, and roasted him over a slow fire to make him tell where his treasures were.

The history of the world is full of the horrible things that men have done from a desire to get gold.

We have considered four reasons why we should not covet. *Because it is UNSATISFYING; because it is DISGRACEFUL; because it is INJURIOUS; and because it is SINFUL.*

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