

A study of The Law

*“Love Your
Neighbor As
Yourself”*

“You shall not covet . . .”



A study of The Law

That God Gave Through Moses

"A covenant is a binding contract between two parties, both of whom have obligations specified in the covenant." (Fee and Stuart. 150)



(Exodus 19:5-6; 24:3-8; Deut. 5:1-3)

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That God Gave Through Moses



- ◆ God's essential nature is unchanging and unchangeable (Malachi 3:6; James 1:17),
- ◆ God's law is adapted to man's needs, therefore specific laws have changed in different dispensations (Gen. 6-9; 17:10; Exo 20; Mat. 17:1-5; Heb. 1:1,2; 7:12).
- ◆ There are principles behind the law God gave through Moses which will help us understand God and how to please Him. (Rom. 15:4; Gal. 3:24; 2 Tim 3:15)

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Two Major Divisions

Love God

1. You shall have no other gods before Me.
2. You shall not make for yourself a carved image.
3. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.

Love Man

5. Honor your father and your mother.
6. You shall not murder.
7. You shall not commit adultery.
8. You shall not steal.
9. You shall not bear false witness.
10. You shall not covet.

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"Love Your Neighbor As Yourself"

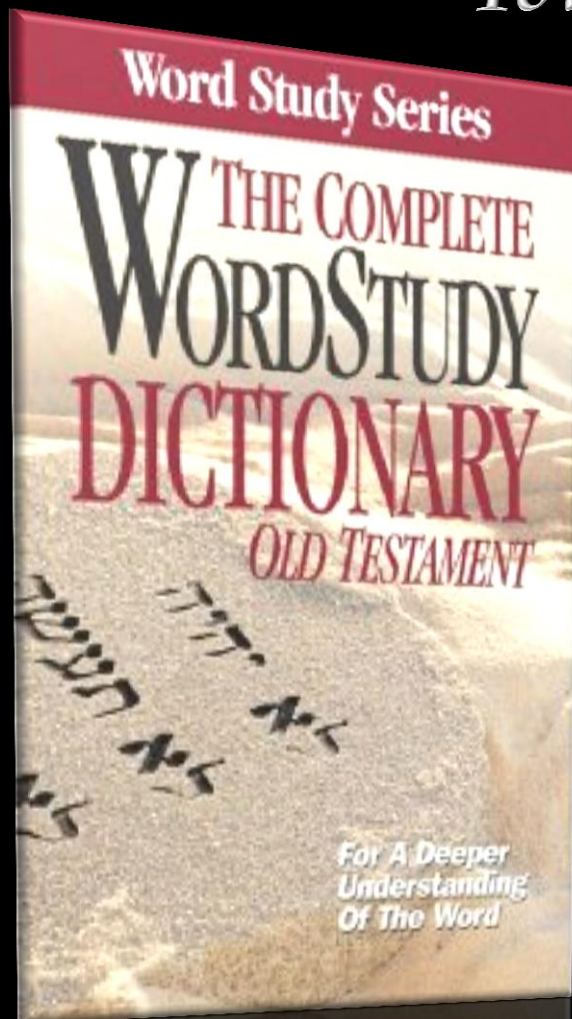
Exodus 20:13-17 (NKJV)

¹³ "You shall not murder. ¹⁴ "You shall not commit adultery. ¹⁵ "You shall not steal. ¹⁶ "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. ¹⁷ "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that *is* your neighbor's."

Deuteronomy 5:17-21

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“You Shall Not Covet”



The Complete Word Study Dictionary

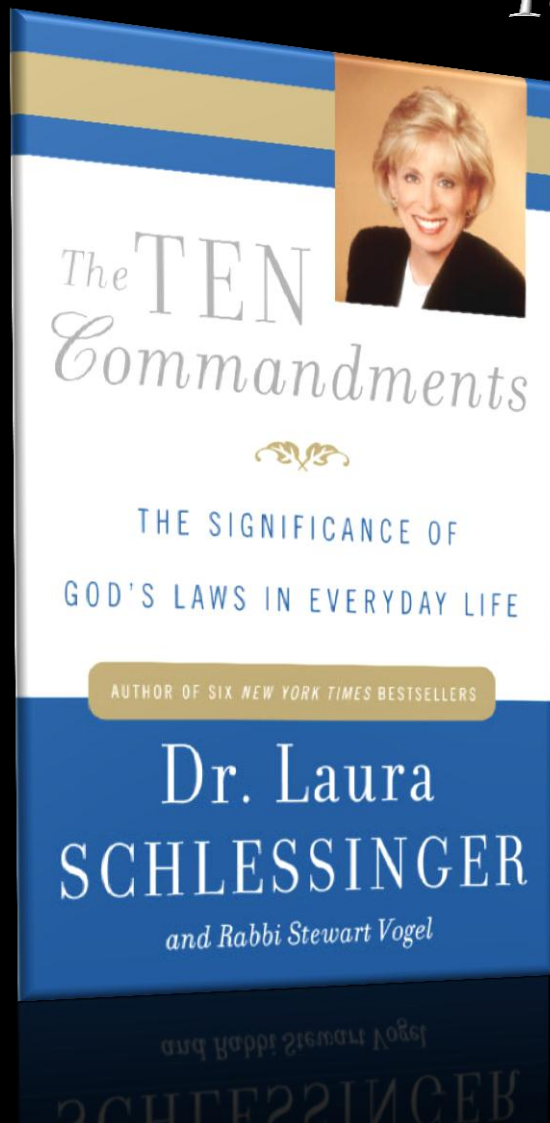
חָמַד - Transliteration: ḥāmad

Phonetic Pronunciation: [khaw-mad'](#)

A verb meaning to take pleasure in, to desire, to lust, to covet, to be desirable, to desire passionately. The verb can mean to desire intensely . . . The word expresses the idea of finding pleasure in something . . . indicates someone beloved or endearing . . .

A study of The Law

"You Shall Not Covet"



What Does Coveting Mean?

"Unlike murdering, stealing or perjuring, which are concrete acts or behaviors, this commandment concerns the arena of the mind; thoughts, desires, and feelings . . . The actual 'doing' of a forbidden, immoral, unjust, or unkind act doesn't begin with the act . . . It begins in the mind and heart with a sequence of feelings, thoughts, and planning." (pg. 299,300)

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"You Shall Not Covet"

Joshua 7:20-26 (NKJV)

²⁰ And Achan answered Joshua and said, "Indeed I have sinned against the LORD God of Israel, and this is what I have done: ²¹ "When I saw among the spoils a beautiful Babylonian garment, two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold weighing fifty shekels, I coveted them and took them. And there they are, hidden in the earth in the midst of my tent, with the silver under it."

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Joshua 7:20-26 (NKJV)

²² So Joshua sent messengers, and they ran to the tent; and there it was, hidden in his tent, with the silver under it. ²³ And they took them from the midst of the tent, brought them to Joshua and to all the children of Israel, and laid them out before the LORD. ²⁴ Then Joshua, and all Israel with him, took Achan the son of Zerah, the silver, the garment, the wedge of gold, his sons, his daughters, his oxen, his donkeys, his sheep, his tent, and all that he had, and they brought them to the Valley of Achor.

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"You Shall Not Covet"

Joshua 7:20-26 (NKJV)

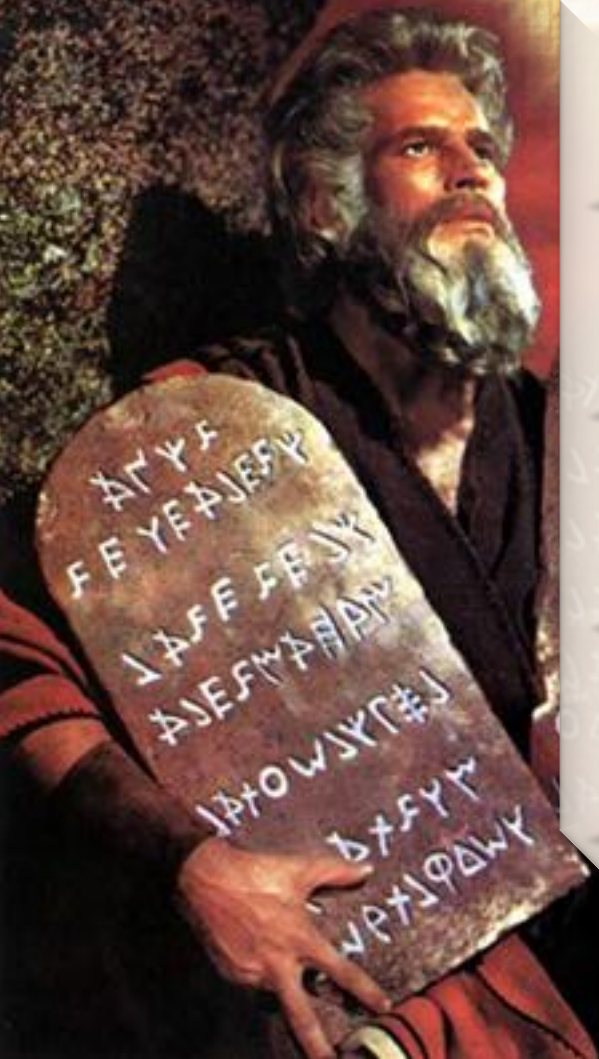
²⁵ And Joshua said, "Why have you troubled us? The LORD will trouble you this day." So all Israel stoned him with stones; and they burned them with fire after they had stoned them with stones. ²⁶ Then they raised over him a great heap of stones, still there to this day. So the LORD turned from the fierceness of His anger. Therefore the name of that place has been called the Valley of Achor to this day.

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"You Shall Not Covet"

Exemplified In Israel

- ◆ **Korah, Dathan and Abiram rebels against Moses** – (Numbers 16)
- ◆ **King Saul's hatred of David** – (1 Samuel 18)
- ◆ **David and Bathsheba** – (2 Samuel 11,12)
- ◆ **Ahab and Jezebel take Naboth's vineyard** – (1 Kings 21)



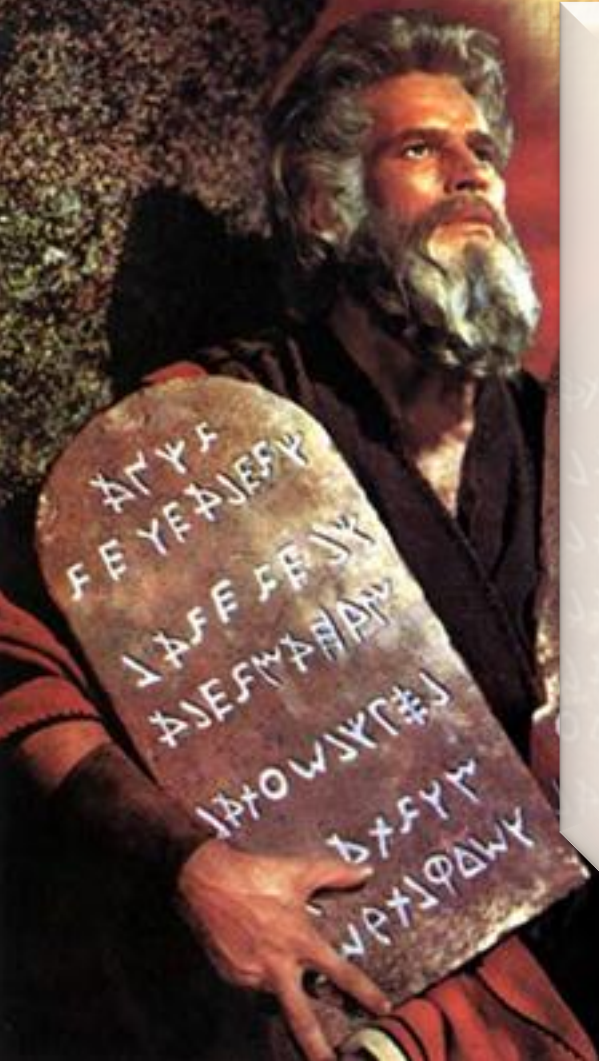
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Exemplified In Israel

Ezekiel 33:31 (NKJV)

³¹ So they come to you as people do, they sit before you *as* My people, and they hear your words, but they do not do them; for with their mouth they show much love, *but* their hearts pursue their *own* gain.



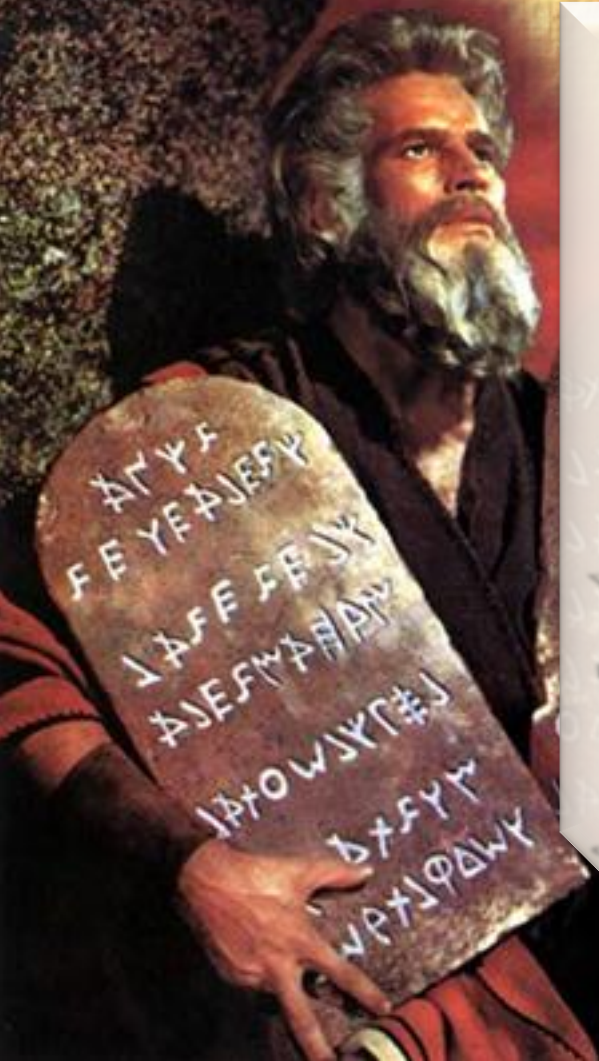
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Exemplified In Israel

Amos 2:6-7 (NKJV)

⁶ Thus says the LORD: "For three transgressions of Israel, and for four, I will not turn away its *punishment*, Because they sell the righteous for silver, And the poor for a pair of sandals. ⁷ They pant after the dust of the earth *which is* on the head of the poor, And pervert the way of the humble. . . .



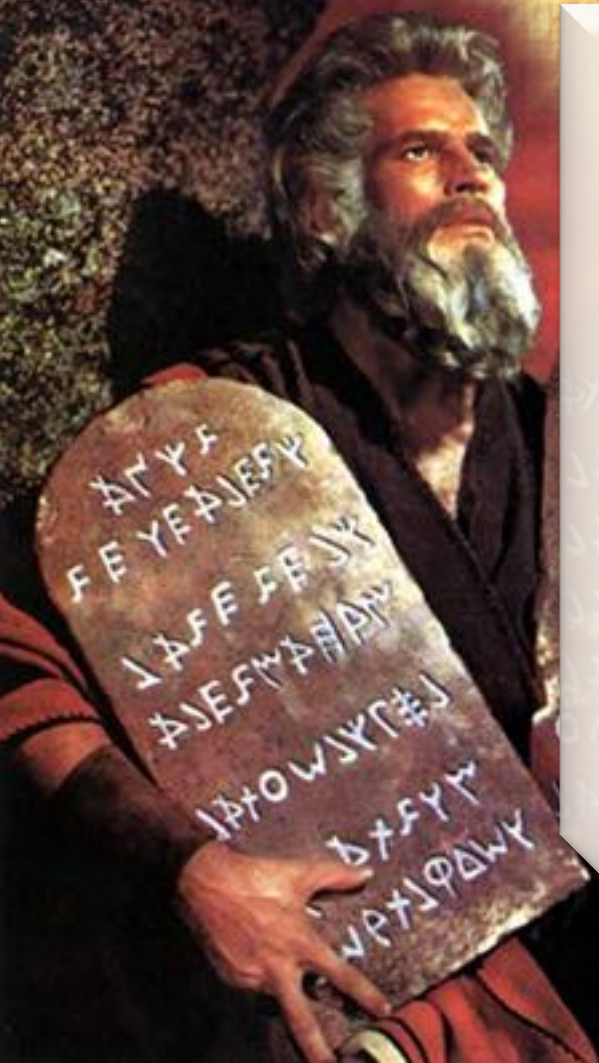
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Exemplified In Israel

Micah 2:1-2 (NKJV)

¹ Woe to those who devise iniquity, And work out evil on their beds! At morning light they practice it, Because it is in the power of their hand. ² They covet fields and take *them* by violence, Also houses, and seize *them*. So they oppress a man and his house, A man and his inheritance.



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Teaching of Jesus

- ◆ **"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth . . ."** - (Matthew 6:19-34)
- ◆ **"Beware of covetousness . . ."** - *Parable of the foolish rich man* - (Luke 12:13-21)
- ◆ **"Are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity"** - (Luke 8:14)
- ◆ **"If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself . . ."** - (Mat. 16:24-28)



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Writings of Paul

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 (KJV)

⁹ Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, ¹⁰ Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God..

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"You Shall Not Covet"

Writings of Paul

Ephesians 5:3-6 (NKJV)

³ But fornication and all uncleanness or covetousness, let it not even be named among you, as is fitting for saints; ⁴ neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.



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Writings of Paul

Ephesians 5:3-6 (NKJV)

⁵ For this you know, that no fornicator, unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God. ⁶ Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience.



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Writings of Paul

Colossians 3:5-7 (NKJV)

⁵ Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth: fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶ Because of these things the wrath of God is coming upon the sons of disobedience, ⁷ in which you yourselves once walked when you lived in them.



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Writings of Paul

1 Timothy 6:6-10 (NKJV)

⁶ Now godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷ For we brought nothing into *this* world, *and it is* certain we can carry nothing out. ⁸ And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content. ⁹ But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and *into* many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition.



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"You Shall Not Covet"

Writings of Paul

1 Timothy 6:6-10 (NKJV)

¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all *kinds of* evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.



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Writings of Paul

2 Timothy 3:1-4 (NKJV)

¹ But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: ² For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, ³ unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, ⁴ traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,



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Writings of Paul

Hebrews 13:5-6 (NKJV)

⁵ *Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have. For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."* ⁶ *So we may boldly say: "The LORD is my helper; I will not fear. What can man do to me?"*



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"This catalog's got a lot of toys I didn't even know I wanted."

- ◆ **We live in the richest country in the history of the world – YET we live in a society where unhappiness is an epidemic**
- ◆ **Advertisers are always sending messages of "You won't be happy until you get our product", etc.**
- ◆ **This attitude makes it difficult to enjoy the riches we do have – (our possessions, income, spouse)**

A study of The Law

"You Shall Not Covet"



"This catalog's got a lot of toys I didn't even know I wanted."

Fuels Discontent

Philippians 4:11-13 (NKJV)

¹¹ Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: ¹² I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. ¹³ I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

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"This catalog's got a lot of toys I didn't even know I wanted."

- ◆ **God is Concerned with Our Hearts Desires –** (Mat 15:18-20)
- ◆ **Selfishness – the root of all sin –** (Gen. 3:1-6; 2 Tim. 3:1)
- ◆ **Covetousness brings disharmony and friction & destroys personal relationships –** (Joshua 7:8-26; 1 Kings 21; 2 Sam. 11,12; 2 Tim 6:10)
- ◆ **The covetous heart is never satisfied –** (Eccl. 5:10)

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"This catalog's got a lot of toys I didn't even know I wanted."

- ◆ **Get our thinking right –** (Phili. 2:1-5; 4:4-13)
- ◆ **Realizing what true success is –** (Joshua 1:7-9)
- ◆ **Recognize the difference between wants and needs –** (Mat. 6:19-33)

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**What we covet, whether good or bad
always becomes our goal in life.**

If we covet the wrong things, we will have the wrong goals, and we may thus sacrifice things of great value in our effort to attain what has little ultimate and eternal value.

Matthew 16:24-26

²⁶ For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

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Matthew 6:33
(NKJV)

But seek first the
kingdom of God
and His
righteousness, and
all these things
shall be added to
you.

Prize above all things
that which is spiritual –
that which is eternal!!

Matthew 13:44-48

Colossians 3:1-7

John 3:3-5

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