

Jealousy

Mark 7:18-23.... 18 And he saith unto them, Are ye so without understanding also? Do ye not perceive, that whatsoever thing from without entereth into the man, it cannot defile him; 19 Because it entereth not into his heart, but into the belly, and goeth out into the draught, purging all meats? 20 And he said, That which cometh out of the man, that defileth the man. 21 For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, 22 Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: 23 All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.

Romans 1:29 - 31 Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, **covetousness**⁴¹²⁴, maliciousness; full of **envy**⁵³⁵⁵, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, 30 Backbiters, haters of God, spiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, 31 Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:

Romans 13:13 Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and **envying**²²⁰⁵.

2 Corinthians 12:20 For I fear, lest, when I come, I shall not find you such as I would, and *that* I shall be found unto you such as ye would not: lest *there be* debates, **envyings**²²⁰⁵, wraths, strifes, backbitings, whisperings, swellings, tumults:

Galatians 5:19 - 21 Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are *these*; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, 20 **Idolatry**¹⁴⁹⁵, witchcraft, hatred, variance, **emulations**²²⁰⁵, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, 21 **Envyings**⁵³⁵⁵, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told *you* in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

2 Timothy 3:2 - 5 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, **covetous**^{5366/5365}, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, 3 Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, 4 Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; 5 Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

Colossians 3:5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and **covetousness**⁴¹²⁴, which is idolatry:

Wrath is fierce and anger is a flood,
But who can stand before jealousy?

-Proverbs 27:4

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Jealousy is a passion¹ that is spoken against in the bible since the days of the 10 commandments "Thou shalt not covet. (Exodus 20:17)" The scripture above tells us that it is more of a problem to deal with than wrath and anger. Eventually (in later lessons), we will discuss that jealousy comes from the same place as all our desires. Some desires are good and some are bad. At the very root of jealousy and coveting there is narcissism (i.e., a concern for one's self). Especially in the cases where a person desires to take the possession of another in order to satisfy his or her own desire. If you think about it, the individual that desires others' possessions is not thinking about what God can and will give them, they are concerned about: what they can get for themselves, what they look like to others with and/or without the thing that they are coveting or the owner of the coveted item and their hatred for them.

Jealousy does not have to be about material possessions. Some people covet clout, glory, fame and popularity. Another word related to jealousy is the word avarice.

Definition: Avarice: excessive or insatiable desire for wealth or gain :

GREEDINESS , CUPIDITY

The bible declares that when a person puts his desire towards coveting the possessions of others, it becomes idolatry. Why? Because the individual is putting his desire for possessions over his desire for the will of God.

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Colossians 3:5 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and **covetousness, which is idolatry:**

The following scriptures use the word covetous with the specific implication of self gain from others' possessions. The context here is the motivations of false teachers during the time of the early church. This was usually done through coercion rather than literally taking from the individual. The art of a con man is to convince his victim that they should give their valuables away willingly. Beware. Gain is *not* godliness.

¹ By passion we mean "a: the emotions as distinguished from reason b: intense, driving, or overmastering feeling"

1 Timothy 6:5-6 Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, **supposing that gain is godliness**: from such withdraw thyself. But godliness with contentment is great gain.

2 Peter 2:12-14 But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption; And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, as they that count it pleasure to riot in the day time. Spots they are and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you; Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: **an heart they have exercised with covetous practices**; cursed children:

These scriptures point out the dangers of living according to passions (fleshly desires). Even though we may have a better opinion of ourselves, these scriptures outline what we really were without Christ in our lives.

Ephesians 4:17-19 This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with **greediness**.

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Ephesians 5:3-5 **But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints**; Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks. For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, **nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God**.

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Luke 12:13-15 And one of the company said unto him, Master, speak to my brother, that he divide the inheritance with me. And he said unto him, Man, who made me a judge or a divider over you? And he said unto them, **Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.**

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Envy^{2205/5355} can tear up a congregation just as it did with the Corinthians.

1 Corinthians 3:3 For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you **envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?**

Sometimes good people can be envious of evil people. Because we have to constantly live our lives with other people, it is essential that we know the possibilities that can arise from our interactions. Ecclesiastes is filled with encouragement to achieve and accomplish in this life, especially in our youth. Ecclesiastes 4:4 tells us that even our accomplishments will be coveted by others. We must be prepared for this, also.

Prov 24:1 Do not be envious of evil men,
Nor desire to be with them;
2 For their minds devise violence,
And their lips talk of trouble. (NASU)

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Prov 24:19 Do not fret because of evildoers
Or be envious of the wicked;
20 For there will be no future for the evil man;
The lamp of the wicked will be put out. (NASU)

Psalms 37:1 Fret not thyself because of evildoers, neither be thou envious against the workers of iniquity.

Ecclesiastes 4:4 Again, I considered all travail, and every right work, that for this a man is envied of his neighbour. This is also vanity and vexation of spirit.

How do I stop being so jealous? Why am I driven by the possessions of others? What does it say about my self-perception that I feel these possessions necessary for my self-importance? Whatever the question we can ask ourselves the bible tells us how we can overcome: through the Spirit and through the Word.

Titus 3:3-7 For we ourselves also were sometimes foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving divers lusts and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful, and hating one another. But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

1 Peter 2:1-3 Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings, As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

The following scripture tells us that we can do righteous things for the absolutely wrong reason. Paul mentions here that there are people in prison with him who witness him preaching the gospel and begin to do the same. However, their motive is envy and strife. The motive that is behind our deeds is just as important as the act itself. Doing good deeds with good intentions is the way to be blessed by God. God wants us to do things in the right way.

Philippians 1:15-18 Some indeed preach Christ even of **envy** and strife; and some also of good will: The one preach Christ of contention, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my bonds: But the other of love, knowing that I am set for the defence of the gospel. What then? notwithstanding, every way, whether in pretence, or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice.

▼ Cloaked Envy^{5366/5365} or avarice is subtle and often employed by self righteous religious people.

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Luke 16:14 And the Pharisees also, who were **covetous**, heard all these things: and they derided him.

1 Timothy 6:10 For the **love of money** is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.

2 Timothy 3:2 For men shall be lovers of their own selves, **covetous**, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,

How does this affect my future?

In the future, if you are governed by passionate desires such as jealousy, your perception of reality is going to be tainted. Instead of putting efforts into things that make sense, you will be doing it to get what someone else has. One does not always coincide with the other. Keep a level head and good self-perception. You will be able to tell the difference.

In addition, when people find out that you are in fact jealous, they will undoubtedly lose respect for you. This can affect the number of opportunities you receive and therefore the likelihood of success. The more opportunities you have access to, the greater the likelihood of desired personal success.

How does this affect my faith?

All of a sudden you will find that your affections will be on things on the earth instead of things above.

Colossians 3:2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

Once you let fleshly desires take over, it's like a runaway freight train. Good luck putting on the breaks. Jealousy can lead to hatred. Remember King Saul and his jealousy for David? Remember, the source of jealousy is comes from the same place as lust, anger, wrath and contention.s

How does this affect my congregation?

Again, with jealousy we see a trend to division and not unity. Jealousy stops us from caring for one another. It stops us from seeing the togetherness that we have in Christ and we can start categorizing ourselves as the haves and the have nots.

Appendix E

Covetousness 4124/5365/5366

pleonexia²

4124 pleonexia {pleh-on-ex-ee'-ah}

from 4123; TDNT - 6:266,864; n f

AV - covetousness 8, greediness 1, covetous practice 1; 10

1) greedy desire to have more, covetousness, avarice

pleonektes

4123 pleonekthV {pleh-on-ek'-tace}

from 4119 and 2192; TDNT - 6:266,864; n m

AV - covetous 4; 4

1) one eager to have more, esp. what belongs to others 2) greedy of gain, covetous

philarguria

5365 filarguria {fil-ar-goo-ree'-ah}

from 5366;; n f

AV - love of money 1; 1

1) love of money, avarice

philarguros

5366 filarguroV {fil-ar'-goo-ros}

from 5384 and 696;; adj

AV - covetous 2; 2

1) loving money, avarice

COVET, COVETOUS, COVETOUSNESS

A. Verbs.

1. epithumeo NT:1937, "to fix the desire upon" (epi, "upon," used intensively, thumos, "passion"), whether things good or bad; hence, "to long for, lust after, covet," is used with the meaning "to covet evilly" in Acts 20:33, of "coveting money and apparel"; so in Rom 7:7; 13:9. See DESIRE, FAIN, LUST.

2. zeloo NT:2206 is rendered "covet earnestly," in 1 Cor 12:31, KJV; RV, "desire earnestly," as in 14:39 (KJV "covet"). See AFFECT, DESIRE, ENVY, JEALOUS, ZEALOUS.

² Pleonexia⁴¹²⁴ and philarguria⁵³⁶⁵ are Trench's Synonym pair 24.

3. orego NT:3713, "to stretch after," is rendered "covet after" in 1 Tim 6:10, KJV; RV. "reaching after." See DESIRE, REACH.

B. Nouns.

1. epithumetes NT:1938, "a luster after" (akin to A, No. 1), is translated in 1 Cor 10:6, in verbal form, "should not lust after." See LUST.

2. epithumia NT:1939 denotes "coveting," Rom 7:7-8, RV; KJV, "lust" and "concupiscence"; the commandment here referred to convicted him of sinfulness in his desires for unlawful objects besides that of gain. See DESIRE, LUST.

3. pleonexia NT:4124, "covetousness," lit., "a desire to have more" (pleon, "more," echo, "to have"), always in a bad sense, is used in a general way in Mark 7:22 (plural, lit., "covetings," i. e., various ways in which "covetousness" shows itself); Rom 1:29; Eph 5:3; 1 Thess 2:5. Elsewhere it is used, (a) of material possessions, Luke 12:15; 2 Peter 2:3; 2 Cor 9:5 (RV, "extortion"), lit., "as (a matter of) extortion" i. e., a gift which betrays the giver's unwillingness to bestow what is due; (b) of sensuality, Eph 4:19, "greediness"; Col 3:5 (where it is called "idolatry"); 2 Peter 2:14 (KJV, "covetous practices"). See EXTORTION.

Note: Cf. the corresponding verb pleonekteo, "to gain, take advantage of wrong." See ADVANTAGE, DEFRAUD, GAIN, B, Note (2), WRONG

C. Adjectives.

1. pleonektes NT:4123, lit., "(eager) to have more" (see B, No. 3), i. e., to have what belongs to others; hence, "greedy of gain, covetous," 1 Cor 5:10-11; 6:10; Eph 5:5 ("covetous man").

2. **philarguros** NT:5366, lit., "money-loving," is rendered "covetous" in the KJV of Luke 16:14 and 2 Tim 3:2; RV, "lovers of money," the wider and due significance

3. aphilarguros NT:866, No. 2, with negative prefix, is translated "without covetousness" in Heb 13:5, KJV; RV, "free from the love of money." In 1 Tim 3:3, the KJV has "not covetous," the RV, "no lover of money."

Note: Trench, Syn. Sec. 24, points out the main distinction between pleonexia and philarguria as being that between "covetousness" and avarice, the former having a much wider and deeper sense, being "the genus of which philarguria is the species." The "covetous" man is often cruel as well as grasping, while the avaricious man is simply miserly and stinting.

EXTORT, EXTORTION, EXTORTIONER

2. pleonexia NT:4124, "covetousness, desire for advantage," is rendered "extortion" in 2 Cor 9:5, RV (KJV and RV marg., "covetousness"). See COVET.

***Envy* 2205**

zelos

2205 ze1oV {dzay'-los}

from 2204; TDNT - 2:877,297; n m/n

AV - zeal 6, envying 5, indignation 2, envy 1, fervent mind 1, jealousy 1, emulation 1; 17

1) excitement of mind, ardour, fervour of spirit 1a) zeal, ardour in embracing, pursuing, defending anything 1a1) zeal in behalf of, for a person or thing 1a2) the fierceness of indignation, punitive zeal 1b) an envious and contentious rivalry, jealousy

ZEAL

zelos NT:2205 denotes "zeal" in the following passages: John 2:17, with objective genitive, i. e., "zeal for Thine house"; so in Rom 10:2, "a zeal for God"; in 2 Cor 7:7, RV, "(your) zeal (for me)," KJV, "(your) fervent mind (toward me)"; used absolutely in 7:11; 9:2; 3:6 (in Col 4:13 in some texts; the best have ponos, labor, RV). See ENVY, Note, FERVENT, C, Note (2), INDIGNATION, A, Note (3), JEALOUSY.

***Envy* 5355**

phthonos³

5355 fqonoV {fthon'-os}

probably akin to the base of 5351;; n m

AV - envy 8, envying 1; 9

1) envy 2) for envy, i.e. prompted by envy

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ENVY, ENVYING

phthonos NT:5355, "envy," is the feeling of displeasure produced by witnessing or hearing of the advantage or prosperity of others; this evil sense always attaches to this word, Matt 27:18; Mark 15:10; Rom 1:29; Gal 5:21; Phil 1:15; 1 Tim

³ Phthonos⁵³⁵⁵ and zelos²²⁰⁵ are listed as Trench's synonym pair 26. Zelos (ze1oV) can be used in a positive and negative sense. Phthonos (fqonoV) can only be evil.

6:4; Titus 3:3; 1 Peter 2:1; so in James 4:5, where the question is rhetorical and strongly remonstrative, signifying that the Spirit (or spirit) which God made to dwell in us was certainly not so bestowed that we should be guilty of "envy."

Note: Zelos, "zeal or jealousy," translated "envy" in the KJV, in Acts 13:45; Rom 13:13; 1 Cor 3:3; 2 Cor 12:20; James 3:14,16, is to be distinguished from phthonos, and, apart from the meanings "zeal" and "indignation," is always translated "jealousy" in the RV. The distinction lies in this, that "envy" desires to deprive another of what he has, "jealousy" desires to have the same or the same sort of thing for itself See FERVENT, INDIGNATION, JEALOUSY, ZEAL.

Idolatry 1495

eidololatreia

1495 eidololatreia {i-do-lol-at-ri'-ah}

from 1497 and 2999; TDNT - 2:379,202; n f

AV - idolatry 4; 4

1) the worship of false gods, idolatry 1a) of the formal sacrificial feasts held in honour of false gods 1b) **of avarice, as a worship of Mammon** 2) in the plural, the vices springing from idolatry and peculiar to it