

(ABC's that threaten Christian living)

Jealousy And Envy

By Dr. Gary M. Gulan, ©1986, (Rev. 99)

Timeless Truths (Why should I avoid jealousy and envy?)

1. Our jealousy may not have the same quality as God's jealousy (God is very jealous over worship and service, (Ex. 20:5; 34:14; Josh. 24:19; Ez. 39:25; Zech. 1:14; 1 Cor. 10:22; Ja. 4:5).
2. One of the activities of those who have not retained God in their knowledge was to exercise envy, (Rom. 1:29, i.e. life prior to conversion, Tit. 3:3).
3. Carnal Christians practice envy, (1 Cor. 3:3), because both jealousy and envy are a work of the flesh, (Gal. 5:20-21).
4. Pride can produce envy, (1 Tim. 6:3-4).
5. Envy is the result of earthly, sensual, and demonic wisdom, (Ja. 3:14).
6. Where envy is there is confusion and every evil work, (Ja. 3:16-17).
7. Envy causes poor health, Prov. 14:30; and jealousy is as cruel as the grave, (SS 8:6), and can turn into something uncontrollable, (Prov. 27:4).
8. Envy was the motive that was behind the betrayal Christ, (Mk. 15:10; Mt. 27:18).

Practical Prescriptions (How can I control jealousy and envy?)

1. Conduct yourself properly not allowing an opportunity for the flesh!

"Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts," (Rom. 13:13-14).

2. Counter envious thoughts over the wicked's apparent prosperity!

"For I was envious of the boastful, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked... until I went into the sanctuary of God, then I understood their end," (Ps. 73:3,17).
(Ps. 37:1; Prov. 3:31; 23:17; 24:1).

3. Cultivate friendships with those who do not practice envy!

"If anyone teaches otherwise... he is proud... from which come envy... who suppose that godliness is a means of gain. From such withdraw yourselves," (1 Tim. 6:3-5).

4. Cast away thoughts and emotions of envy!

"Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking," 1 Pt. 2:1