

Selected Scriptures July 23, 2025

#### Theme:

"Envy arises from discontentment, dishonors God's providence, and is defeated only through treasuring Christ supremely."

#### A. The Problem with Envy 1. The Meaning of Envy

"Envy is the painful and oftentimes resentful awareness of an advantage enjoyed by someone else." - Jerry Bridges in *Respectable Sins* 

#### Lexicon

- Qin'â (Hebrew) Burning.
- Phthónos (Greek) Feeling of ill will. Displeasure at another's good.

"A grudging regard for the advantages seen to be enjoyed by others." - The New Bible Dictionary

"Sorry at another's good."

- A. The Problem with Envy
  - 1. The Meaning of Envy
  - 2. The Source of Envy
    - a. Our Flesh (Gal. 5:19-21; 1 Cor. 3:1-3)
    - b. Our Discontent Spirit (1 Cor. 4:7; James 3:14)
    - c. Our Idolatrous Heart (Exo. 20:3-4,5; James 4:1-4)

- A. The Problem with Envy
  - 1. The Meaning of Envy
  - 2. The Source of Envy
  - 3. The Fruit of Envy
    - a. It Separates You from God (Gal. 5:19-21; Rom. 1:28-32)
    - b. It Harms Your Health (Prov. 14:30; Job. 5:3; Psalm 32:3-4; James 3:16)
    - c. It Destroys Relationships (Gen. 4:3-5,8; 1 Sam. 18:7-9; 1 Pet. 2:1)

- A. The Problem with Envy
- B. The Solution to Envy
  - 1. Repent of Envy (1 John 1:9; Prov. 28:13; Psalm 32:5)
  - 2. Remember, the Gospel Frees us of Envy (Rom. 8:32; 1 Cor. 6:20)
  - 3. Reflect on the Sovereignty of God (James 1:17; Rom. 11:36; Dan. 4:35)
  - 4. Practice Thankfulness (1 Thess. 5:18; Phil. 4:11; Rom. 12:15)
  - 5. Seek to Love (1 Cor. 3:4; Phil. 2:4)

## **Small Group Discussion**

- 1. How does envy distort your view of God's character, providence, and goodness?
- 2. Envy often hides behind comparison. What role does social media, culture, or even church life play in stirring up envy?
- 3. What does the gospel say to a heart that struggles with envy? How does the cross confront and heal it?