



**ENVY**

# What exactly is it...

...a feeling of discontent or covetousness with regard to another's advantages, success, possessions, etc...

# Commandment X

“Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that [is] thy neighbour's.”

**Exodus 20:17**

# Proverbs 14:30 (NIV)

<sup>30</sup> A heart at peace gives life to the body,  
but envy rots the bones.

# Proverbs 27:4 (NIV)

<sup>4</sup> Anger is cruel and fury overwhelming,  
but who can stand before jealousy?



phthonos

Greek for envy

## Galatians 5:19-21 (NIV)

<sup>19</sup>The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; <sup>20</sup>idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions <sup>21</sup>and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

# Matthew 27:18 (NIV)

<sup>18</sup>For he knew it was out of envy that they had handed Jesus over to him.

# Why is envy so bad?

All sorts of sinful and depraved acts  
can result from it...

# Desire?

- Sinful desire = Envy
- Desire can definitely be a good thing.

## Titus 3:3-5 (NIV)

<sup>3</sup>At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, deceived and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures. We lived in malice and envy, being hated and hating one another. <sup>4</sup>But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup>he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy...

# Ways to combat envy...

- Recognise it in your life and actively “lay it aside”  
(1 Pet 2:1-3)

# 1 Peter 2:1-3 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. <sup>2</sup>Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, <sup>3</sup>now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.

# Ways to combat envy...

- Recognise it in your life and actively “lay it aside” (1 Pet 2:1-3)
- Learn to REALLY love (1 Cor 13:4)

# 1 Corinthians 13:4 (NIV)

<sup>4</sup>Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

# Ways to combat envy...

- Recognise it in your life and actively “lay it aside” (1 Pet 2:1-3)
- Learn to REALLY love (1 Cor 13:4)
- Be content

# 1 Tim 6:6-9

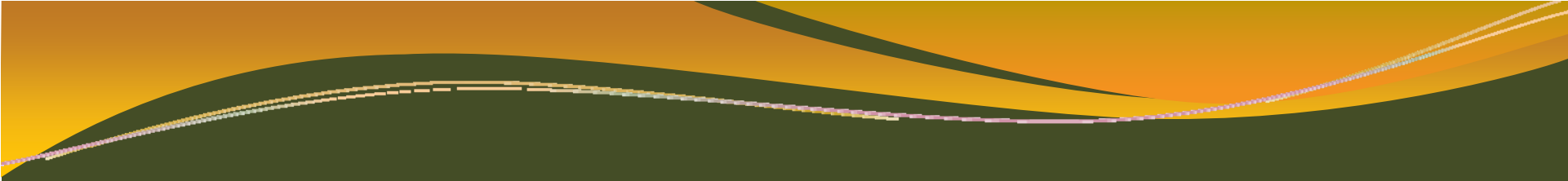
<sup>6</sup>But godliness with contentment is great gain.

<sup>7</sup>For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. <sup>8</sup>But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that.

<sup>9</sup>People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction.

# Envy

- It's SERIOUS
- Get rid of it, ask God for help
- Be content and thankful
- Desire Godly things



The Bible teaches us to have desires that are tempered by contentment.