

**Respectable Sins**  
Confronting the Sins We Tolerate  
Jerry Bridges

I. Ordinary Saints

A. Paul's use of the word "Saints"

1. *[Romans 1.7]- To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.*
2. *[Romans 16.15]- Salute Philologus, and Julia, Nereus, and his sister, and Olympas, and all the saints which are with them.*
3. *[1 Corinthians 1.2]- Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both their's and our's:*
4. *[2 Corinthians 1.1]- Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, unto the church of God which is at Corinth, with all the saints which are in all Achaia:*
5. *[Ephesians 1.1]- Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints which are at Ephesus, and to the faithful in Christ Jesus:*
6. *[Philippians 1.1]- Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:*
7. *[Philippians 4.21-22]- Salute every saint in Christ Jesus. The brethren which are with me greet you. All the saints salute you, chiefly they that are of Caesar's household.*
8. *[Colossians 1.2]- To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ which are at Colosse: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

B. Meaning of the word 'Saints'

1. Refers not to one's character.
2. Refers to one's state of being.
  - a. *[Acts 26.18]- To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.*
  - b. *[Colossians 1.13]- Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:*
3. One who is separated unto God.
4. One who is sanctified.
5. Separated by God for God.
  - a. *[Titus 2.14]- Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works.*
  - b. *[1 Corinthians 6.19-20]- What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.*

C. Means of becoming a Saint.

1. Not by our actions
2. By the immediate supernatural action of the Holy Spirit alone.
  - a. *[2 Corinthians 5.17]- Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*
  - b. *[Ezekiel 36.26]- A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.*

D. Saint's imperfections

1. Spiritual Warfare
  - a. *[Galatians 5.17]- For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.*
  - b. *[1Peter 2.11]- Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;*

## II. The Disappearance of Sin

- A. *“The very word ‘sin,’ which seems to have disappeared, was once a proud word. It was once a strong word, an ominous and serious word... But the word went away. It has almost disappeared-the word, along with the notion. Why? Doesn’t anyone sin anymore? Doesn’t anyone believe in sin?”-Whatever Became of Sin? by Karl Menninger*
- B. *“The barrier I have met is the almost total absence of from the minds of my audience of any sense of sin.”-C.S. Lewis*
- C. *“They know how to sin well enough, but they have no idea of what constitutes sin.”-D.A. Carson*
- D. In Conservative, evangelical churches sin has not disappeared but has been deflated.
  1. Slight misinterpretation of the Parable of the Prodigal Son
  2. Slight turning from the Publican to the Pharisee.
    - a. *[Galatians 5.22-23]- But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.*
    - b. *[Luke 18.11-13]- The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess. And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner.*
    - c. *[James 2.10]- For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.*
    - d. *[Ephesians 4.29]- Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.*
    - e. *[Matthew 5.21-22]- Ye have heard that it was said of them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment: But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Raca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire.*
    - f. *[1John 3.4]- Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.*
    - g. *[James 1.14]- But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.*
    - h. *[Philippians 4.6]- Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.*
    - i. *[Galatians 3.10,13]- For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them. Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:*
  3. The concept of sin among many conservative Christians has been essentially redefined to cover only the obvious gross sins of our society
  4. For many morally upright believers, the awareness of personal sin has effectively disappeared from their consciences.

## III. The Malignancy of Sin.

- A. Paul refers to as the flesh or sinful nature.
  1. *[Ephesians 4.29]-Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.*
  2. *[Romans 7.8-11]-But sin, taking occasion by the commandment, wrought in me all manner of concupiscence. For without the law sin was dead. For I was alive without the law once: but when the commandment came, sin revived, and I died. And the commandment, which was ordained to life, I found to be unto death. For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it slew me.*
  3. *[Galatians 5.17]-For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.*
- B. Every sin is as treason to God.

1. Transgression-Rebellion against authority and in this case, God's authority.
2. *[2 Samuel 12.9-10]-despising God's Law and also God.*
3. Grieving the Holy Spirit.
  - a. *[Ephesians 4.25-32]- Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another. Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: Neither give place to the devil. Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth. Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you. Presumption against God's grace.*
4. *[Ephesians 1.7]-In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;*
5. *[Psalm 139.1-4]- O lord, thou hast searched me, and known me. Thou knowest my down sitting and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off. Thou compasses my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether.*
6. *[1 Corinthians 4.5]-Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.*

#### IV. The Remedy for Sin

##### A. The great Savior

1. *"My memory is nearly gone; but I remember two things: that I am a great sinner, and that Christ is a great Savior."*-John Newton near the end of his life.
2. *[1 Timothy 1.13-15]-Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus. This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.*
3. *[Ephesians 3.7-8]-Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power. Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ;*
4. *[1 Corinthians 15.9]-For I am the least of the apostles, that am not meet to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.*
5. *[Ephesians 3.8]-Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ;*
6. *[1 Timothy 1.15]-This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.*

##### B. The Gospel Message

1. Christ saves us not only from the penalty of sin but also from its dominion or reigning power in our lives.
2. Gospel is for sinners.
  - a. *[1 Timothy 1.15]-This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.*
  - b. *[2 Timothy 3.16]-All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:*
    - c. To see sin
    - d. Frees one to see sin.
    - e. Motivates and energizes one to deal with sin.
      - 1.) *[Romans 8.13]-For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.*

- 2.) *[Colossians 3.5]-Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:*
3. Assurance that God no longer counts one's sin against them.
- God is for me, not against me.
    - [Romans 8.31]-What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?*
  - God no longer counts my sin against me, and that in my struggles with sin; He is for me, producing gratitude.
  - Duty (in dealing with sin) without desire soon produces drudgery.
4. ***“Preach the Gospel to yourself everyday.”***
5. Personalize the Gospel to us.
6. Realization that despite being a saint, we still sin every day in thought, word, deed and motive.
7. Generalize the Scripture's promises of God's forgiveness.
- [Psalm 103.12]- As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.*
  - [Isaiah 43.25]-I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins.*
  - [Isaiah 53.6]-All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.*
  - [Romans 4.7-8]- Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin.*
  - [Romans 8.1]- There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.*
  - [Psalm 103.3-4]-Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; Who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with lovingkindness and tender mercies;*
  - [Isaiah 1.18]-Come now, and let us reason together, saith the LORD: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool.*
  - [Isaiah 38.17]-Behold, for peace I had great bitterness: but thou hast in love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption: for thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back.*
  - [Micah 7.19]-He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us; he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.*
  - [Ephesians 1.7]-In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;*
  - [Colossians 2.13-14]-And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;*
  - [Hebrews 8.12]-For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.*
  - [Hebrews 10.17-18]-And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin.*
8. Remembering that the only basis of God's forgiveness is the blood of Christ shed on the cross for us.
- [Hebrews 9.22]-And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.*

## V. The Power of the Holy Spirit

### A. Cleansing in two stages

- Deliverance from the dominion or reigning power of sin that is decisive and complete for all believers.
- Freedom from the presence and activity of sin that is progressive and continues throughout our lives on earth.

3. *[Romans 6.2]-God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?*
4. *[Colossians 1.13]- Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:*
5. *[Romans 6.12]- Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.*
6. *[Galatians 5.17]-For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.*

B. Dependant responsibility

1. We are responsible before God to obey His word, to put to death the sins in our lives
2. We do not have the ability within ourselves to carry out this responsibility.
3. We are totally dependent upon the enabling power of the Holy Spirit. We are both responsible and dependent.
4. *[Philippians 1.6]- Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:*
5. *[1 Corinthians 6.19]- What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?*
6. *[Ephesians 3.16]-That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;*
7. *[2 Corinthians 3.18]- But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.*
8. *[2 Timothy 3.16]-All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:*

C. Enables and empowers us to deal with our sin.

1. *[Romans 8.13]- For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.*
2. *[Philippians 2.12-13]- Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.*
3. *[Philippians 4.13]- I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.*
4. *[Hebrews 13.20-21]- Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.*
5. *[Ephesians 4.30]- And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.*
6. *[James 1.13-14]- Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.*
7. *[Lamentations 3.37-38]- Who is he that saith, and it cometh to pass, when the Lord commandeth it not? Out of the mouth of the most High proceedeth not evil and good?*
8. *[Romans 8.28]- And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.*

VI. Directions for Dealing with Sin.

A. Address our sin in the context of the Gospel.

1. Remember that God already forgave us our sins
  - a. *[Colossians 2.13-14]- And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross;*
2. Remember that God also credited to us the perfect righteousness of Christ.

- a. *[Romans 3.21-22]- But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:*
  - b. *[Philippians 3.9]- And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: Rely on the enabling power of the Holy Spirit.*
3. By the Spirit we are able to put to death the sins in our lives.
    - a. *[Romans 8.13]- For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.*
- B. While depending on the Holy Spirit, recognize our responsibility to diligently pursue all practical steps for dealing with our sins.
    1. *“Work as if it all depends on you, and yet trust as if you did not work at all..”*
  - C. Identify specific areas of acceptable sins. Look for those subtle sins.
  - D. Bring to bear specific applicable Scriptures to each of our subtle sins.
    1. *[Psalm 119.11]- Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.*
  - E. Cultivate the practice of prayer over the sins we tolerate.
  - F. Involve one or more believers with us in our struggles against subtle sins.
    1. *[Ecclesiastes 4.9-10]- Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.*
  - G. Remember that your heart is a battleground between the flesh and the Spirit.
    1. *[Galatians 5.17]-For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.*

## VII. Ungodliness

- A. The root cause of our other sins
  1. *[Romans 1.18]-For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;*
  2. *[James 4.13-15]-Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.*
  3. *[Colossians 1.9-10]-For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;*
  4. *[Colossians 3.22-24]-Servants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh; not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but in singleness of heart, fearing God; And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.*
- B. Do all to the Glory of God.
  1. Desire all be pleasing to God
  2. Desire all be honoring to God
    - a. *[Matthew 5.16]-Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.*
    - b. *[Romans 2.23-24]-Thou that makest thy boast of the law, through breaking the law dishonourest thou God? For the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you, as it is written.*
    - c. *[Psalm 42.1-2]-As the hart panteth after the water brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O God. My soul thirsteth for God, for the living God: when shall I come and appear before God?*

- d. *[Psalm 63.1]-O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is;*
  - e. *[Psalm 27.4]-One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple.*
- C. Training for godliness
- 1. *[1Timothy 4.7]-But refuse profane and old wives' fables, and exercise thyself rather unto godliness.*
  - 2. *[1 Corinthians 10.31]-Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God.*
  - 3. *[Psalm 63.1]-O God, thou art my God; early will I seek thee: my soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh longeth for thee in a dry and thirsty land, where no water is;*
  - 4. *[Psalm 27.4]-One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple.*
  - 5. *[Psalm 139.1-4]-O lord, thou hast searched me, and known me. Thou knowest my downsitteing and mine uprising, thou understandest my thought afar off. Thou compasses my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways. For there is not a word in my tongue, but, lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether.*

## VIII. Anxiety and Frustration.

### A. Anxiety is sin

- 1. Anxiety is distrust of God.
- 2. Anxiety is lack of acceptance of God's providence.
- 3. *[Matthew 6.25-26]-Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?*
- 4. *[Matthew 10.31]-Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows.*
- 5. *[Luke 12.7]-But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows.*
- 6. *[Philippians 4.6]-Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.*
- 7. *[1 Peter 5.7]-Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.*
- 8. *[Matthew 26.39]-And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.*

### B. Worry synonymous with anxiety.

- 1. *[Matthew 6.34]-Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.*
- 2. *[Mark 9.24]-And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.*
- 3. *[Mark 6.5-6]-And he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them. And he marveled because of their unbelief. And he went round about the villages, teaching.*

### C. Frustration

- 1. Where anxiety involves fear, frustration involves anger
- 2. *[Psalm 139.16]-Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them.*

## IX. Discontentment

### A. Unchanging circumstances that are trials to one's faith.

- 1. Unfulfilling work.
- 2. Singleness in mid-life.
- 3. Inability to bear children.

4. Physical disabilities.
5. Continual poor health.

- B. *[Psalm 139.13]-For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb.*  
 C. Difference in acceptance and resignation

X. Unthankfulness

A. The nine lepers.

1. *[Luke 17.11-19]- And it came to pass, as he went to Jerusalem, that he passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee. And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off: And they lifted up their voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us. And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed. And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God, And fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan. And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine? There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger. And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole.*

B. The Israelites

1. *[Deuteronomy 8.11-14,17-18]-Beware that thou forget not the LORD thy God, in not keeping his commandments, and his judgments, and his statutes, which I command thee this day: Lest when thou hast eaten and art full, and hast built goodly houses, and dwelt therein; And when thy herds and thy flocks multiply, and thy silver and thy gold is multiplied, and all that thou hast is multiplied; Then thine heart be lifted up, and thou forget the LORD thy God, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage; And thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth. But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he swore unto thy fathers, as it is this day.*

C. Downward moral spiral of society

1. *[Romans 1.18-32]-For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.*

D. Thankful in all circumstances?

1. *[1 Thessalonians 5.18]-In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.*
2. *[Ephesians 5.20]-Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;*
3. *[Romans 8.28-29,38-39]-And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

## XI. Pride

### A. Great example of the Pharisee.

1. *[Luke 18.11]-The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican.*
2. *[Romans 2.21]-Thou therefore which teachest another, teachest thou not thyself? thou that preachest a man should not steal, dost thou steal?*
3. *[James 4.6]-But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.*
4. *[1 Peter 5.5]-Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.*

### B. Pride of moral self-righteousness.

1. *[Luke 18.9]-And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others:*
2. Guards against moral self-righteousness.
  - a. Seeking an attitude of humility.
    - 1.) *[Psalm 51.5]-Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me*
  - b. By identifying others before God with the sinful society we live in.
    - 1.) *[Ezra 7.10]-For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the LORD, and to do it, and to teach in Israel statutes and judgments.*
    - 2.) *[Psalm 51.12-13]-Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit. Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.*

### C. Pride of correct doctrine.

1. *[1 Corinthians 8.11-13]-And through thy knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? But when ye sin so against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, ye sin against Christ. Wherefore, if meat make my brother to offend, I will eat no flesh while the world standeth, lest I make my brother to offend.*

### D. Pride of achievement

1. Any success in any endeavor is under the sovereign control of God
  - a. *[1 Samuel 2.7]-The LORD maketh poor, and maketh rich: he bringeth low, and lifteth up.*
  - b. *[Psalm 75.6-7]-For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another.*
  - c. *[Haggai 1.5-6]-Now therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts; Consider your ways. Ye have sown much, and bring in little; ye eat, but ye have not enough; ye drink, but ye are not filled with drink; ye clothe you, but there is none warm; and he that earneth wages earneth wages to put it into a bag with holes.*
  - d. *[1 Corinthians 4.7]-For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?*
2. Guards

- a. *[Luke 17.10]- So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do.*
  - b. *[Psalm 75.6-7]- For promotion cometh neither from the east, nor from the west, nor from the south. But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another.*
  - c. *“All is grace.”*
- E. Pride of an independent spirit
- 1. *[Hebrews 13.17]-Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.*
  - 2. *[Proverbs 2.1]-My son, if thou wilt receive my words, and hide my commandments with thee;*
  - 3. *[Proverbs 3.1]-My son, forget not my law; but let thine heart keep my commandments:*
  - 4. *[Proverbs 4.1]-Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding.*
  - 5. *[Proverbs 5.1]-My son, attend unto my wisdom, and bow thine ear to my understanding:*
  - 6. *[Proverbs 7.1]-My son, keep my words, and lay up my commandments with thee.*
- F. *[Isaiah 66.2]- For all those things hath mine hand made, and all those things have been, saith the LORD: but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word.*

## XII. Selfishness

### A. Four areas selfishness manifests

- 1. Interests.
  - a. *[2 Timothy 3.1-5]-This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.*
- 2. Time
  - a. *[Galatians 6.2]- Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.*
- 3. Money
  - a. *[Romans 12.15]- Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep.*
  - b. *[1John 3.17]- But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?*
- 4. Inconsiderateness

### B. The Lord Jesus our great example of unselfishness

- 1. *[2 Corinthians 8.9]- For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.*

## XIII. Lack of Self-Control

### A. Old Testament warnings.

- 1. *[Proverbs 25.28]-He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls.*
- 2. *[Joshua 6.1-5,20]-Now Jericho was straitly shut up because of the children of Israel: none went out, and none came in. And the LORD said unto Joshua, See, I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, and the mighty men of valour. And ye shall compass the city, all ye men of war, and go round about the city once. Thus shalt thou do six days. And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams' horns: and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the trumpets. And it shall come to pass, that when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when ye hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city shall fall down flat, and the people shall ascend*

*up every man straight before him. So the people shouted when the priests blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.*

3. *[1 Kings 11.1-3]-But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, and Hittites: Of the nations concerning which the LORD said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love. And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart.*

B. New Testament exhortations.

1. *[Galatians 5.22-23]-But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.*
2. *[2Timothy 3.3]-Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good,*
3. *[Titus 2.2,5,6]-That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience. To be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed. Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded.*
4. *[Titus 2.11-12]-For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;*
5. *[1Peter 1.13]-Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;*
6. *[1Peter 4.7]-But the end of all things is at hand: be ye therefore sober, and watch unto prayer.*
7. *[1Peter 5.8]-Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:*
8. *[2Peter 1.5]-And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;*

C. Self-Control defined

1. *"It is a governance or prudent control of one's desires, cravings, impulses, emotions, and passions."*
2. *[1 Peter 2.11]-Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul;*

D. Areas of self-control.

1. Eating and drinking.
2. Temper.
  - a. *[Proverbs 14.17]- He that is soon angry dealeth foolishly: and a man of wicked devices is hated.*
  - b. *[Proverbs 16.32]- He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.*
  - c. *[James 1.9]- Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:*
3. Personal finances.
  - a. *[Ecclesiastes 2.10]- And whatsoever mine eyes desired I kept not from them, I withheld not my heart from any joy; for my heart rejoiced in all my labour: and this was my portion of all my labour.*

XIV. Impatience and irritability.

- A. *[1 Corinthians 13.4]- Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,*
- B. *[Galatians 5.22-23]- But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.*

- C. *[Ephesians 4.1-2]-I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;*
- D. *[Proverbs 19.11]-The discretion of a man deferreth his anger; and it is his glory to pass over a transgression.*
- E. *[1 Peter 4.8]- And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.*
- F. *[1 Peter 2.23]-Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously:*
- G. *[Matthew 18.15]- Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.*
- H. *[Numbers 12.3]- (Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.)*

XV. Anger

- A. *[1 Peter 2.18-20]-Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear; not only to the good and gentle, but also to the froward. For this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully. For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God.*
- B. *[Romans 8.28]-And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.*
- C. *[Hebrews 12.4-11]- Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin. And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. Furthermore we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live? For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness. Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.*
- D. Handling anger.
  - 1. Recognize and acknowledge anger.
  - 2. Repent of anger.
  - 3. Change attitude toward those who trigger anger.
    - a. *[Ephesians 4.32]- And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.*
    - b. *[Colossians 3.13]- Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.*
  - 4. Hand over to God the occasion of our anger.
- E. Anger toward God.
  - 1. Never ok to be angry with God.
  - 2. Anger is a moral judgment, accusing God of wrongdoing.
  - 3. Yet even in our anger toward Him, he is forgiving and patient.
  - 4. *[Jonah 4.4]- Then said the LORD, Doest thou well to be angry?*

XVI. The weeds of anger. The long-term results of anger.

- A. *[Ephesians 4.26]-Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath:*
- B. Weeds of anger.
  - 1. Resentment
  - 2. Bitterness
  - 3. Enmity and hostility.
  - 4. Grudge and revenge.

- a. *[Romans 12.19-21]-Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.*
5. Strife
- C. Rooting up weeds of anger.
1. Look to the sovereignty of God.
    - a. *[Genesis 45.7-8]-And God sent me before you to preserve you a posterity in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance. So now it was not you that sent me hither, but God: and he hath made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house, and a ruler throughout all the land of Egypt.*
    - b. *[Genesis 50.20]-But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive.*
  2. Pray that God will enable us to grow in love.
    - a. *[1 Peter 4.8]- And above all things have fervent charity among yourselves: for charity shall cover the multitude of sins.*
    - b. *[1 Corinthians 13.5]- Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;*
  3. Learn to forgive as God has forgiven you.
    - a. *[Matthew 18.21-35]- Then came Peter to him, and said, Lord, how oft shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? till seven times? Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven. Therefore is the kingdom of heaven likened unto a certain king, which would take account of his servants. And when he had begun to reckon, one was brought unto him, which owed him ten thousand talents. But forasmuch as he had not to pay, his lord commanded him to be sold, and his wife, and children, and all that he had, and payment to be made. The servant therefore fell down, and worshipped him, saying, Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. Then the lord of that servant was moved with compassion, and loosed him, and forgave him the debt. But the same servant went out, and found one of his fellowservants, which owed him an hundred pence: and he laid hands on him, and took him by the throat, saying, Pay me that thou owest. And his fellowservant fell down at his feet, and besought him, saying, Have patience with me, and I will pay thee all. And he would not: but went and cast him into prison, till he should pay the debt. So when his fellowservants saw what was done, they were very sorry, and came and told unto their lord all that was done. Then his lord, after that he had called him, said unto him, O thou wicked servant, I forgave thee all that debt, because thou desiredst me: Shouldst not thou also have had compassion on thy fellowservant, even as I had pity on thee? And his lord was wroth, and delivered him to the tormentors, till he should pay all that was due unto him. So likewise shall my heavenly Father do also unto you, if ye from your hearts forgive not every one his brother their trespasses.*

## XVII. Judgmentalism

- A. Danger in taking our convictions and elevating them to biblical truth.
- B. Bible teaches temperance, not abstinence.
- C. *[Romans 14.1-5,13]-Him that is weak in the faith receive ye, but not to doubtful disputations. For one believeth that he may eat all things: another, who is weak, eateth herbs. Let not him that eateth despise him that eateth not; and let not him which eateth not judge him that eateth: for God hath received him. Who art thou that judgest another man's servant? to his own master he standeth or falleth. Yea, he shall be holden up: for God is able to make him stand. One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind. Let us not therefore judge one another any more: but judge this rather, that no man put a stumblingblock or an occasion to fall in his brother's way.*

- D. *[1 Timothy 4.4]-For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving:*
- E. *[Matthew 7.1-5]- Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again. And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and, behold, a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye.*
- F. *Sinful Judgmentalism*
  - 1. *Doctrinal Judgmentalism.*
  - 2. *A critical spirit.*
- G. *[Romans 14.5]-One man esteemeth one day above another: another esteemeth every day alike. Let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind.*

XVIII. Envy, jealousy and related sins

- A. Envy-the painful and oftentimes resentful awareness of an advantage enjoyed by someone else.
  - 1. May lead to covetousness.
  - 2. Tendencies
    - a. To envy those whom we closely identify
    - b. To envy those we value most.
- B. Jealousy-an intolerance to rivalry.
  - 1. *[Acts 5.17-18]-Then the high priest rose up, and all they that were with him, (which is the sect of the Sadducees,) and were filled with indignation, and laid their hands on the apostles, and put them in the common prison.*
  - 2. *[Acts 13.44-45]-And the next sabbath day came almost the whole city together to hear the word of God. But when the Jews saw the multitudes, they were filled with envy, and spake against those things which were spoken by Paul, contradicting and blaspheming.*
  - 3. *[1 Samuel 18.7-9]-And the women answered one another as they played, and said, Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands. And Saul was very wroth, and the saying displeased him; and he said, They have ascribed unto David ten thousands, and to me they have ascribed but thousands: and what can he have more but the kingdom? And Saul eyed David from that day and forward.*
  - 4. *Dealing with envy and jealousy.*
    - a. *Remember the sovereignty of God.*
      - 1.) *[1 Samuel 2.7]-The LORD maketh poor, and maketh rich: he bringeth low, and lifteth up.*
      - 2.) *[Psalm 75.7]-But God is the judge: he putteth down one, and setteth up another.*
    - b. *[Romans 12.5,10]-So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another. Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;*
- C. Competitiveness-the urge to win
  - 1. Not the virtue of diligence or doing one's best.
    - a. *[2 Timothy 2.15]-Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*
    - b. *[Colossians 3.23]-And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;*
    - c. *[1 Corinthians 9.24]-Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.*
- D. Controlling-turn the will of others to our own advantage.
  - 1. *[Ephesians 5.21]-Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.*
  - 2. *[1Peter 5.5]-Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.*

XIX. Sins of the tongue.

A. Scriptural warnings

1. *[Matthew 12.36]-But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.*

B. Scriptural helps.

1. *[Ephesians 4.22-24,29]-That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness. Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.*
2. *“Will what I’m about to say tend to tear down or build up the person I’m about to talk to?”*

C. Related sins

1. Slander-making a false statement or misrepresentation about another person that defames or damages the person’s reputation.
2. Critical speech
3. Harsh words, sarcasm, insults and ridicule.

D. *[Psalm 19.14]-Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.*

XX. Worldliness

A. *[1 John 2.15-16]-Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.*

B. *[1 Corinthians 7.31]-And they that use this world, as not abusing it: for the fashion of this world passeth away.*

C. Worldliness defined

1. Being attached to, engrossed in, or preoccupied with the things of this temporal life.

D. *[Colossians 3.2]-Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.*

1. The Word, prayer, the gospel, obedience to God, the fulfillment of the Great Commission, and most of all, God Himself.

E. Three areas of worldliness that have become “acceptable”.

1. Money

a. Tithing

- 1.) *[Malachi 3.8]- Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.*
- 2.) *[Matthew 6.24]-No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.*
- 3.) *[1Timothy 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.*
- 4.) *[1Kings 17.8-16]-And the word of the LORD came unto him, saying, Arise, get thee to Zarephath, which belongeth to Zidon, and dwell there: behold, I have commanded a widow woman there to sustain thee. So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, the widow woman was there gathering of sticks: and he called to her, and said, Fetch me, I pray thee, a little water in a vessel, that I may drink. And as she was going to fetch it, he called to her, and said, Bring me, I pray thee, a morsel of bread in thine hand. And she said, As the LORD thy God liveth, I have not a cake, but an handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse: and, behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and dress it for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die. And Elijah said unto her, Fear not; go and do as thou hast said: but make me thereof a little cake first, and*

*bring it unto me, and after make for thee and for thy son. For thus saith the LORD God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the LORD sendeth rain upon the earth. And she went and did according to the saying of Elijah: and she, and he, and her house, did eat many days. And the barrel of meal wasted not, neither did the cruse of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD, which he spake by Elijah.*

- 5.) *[Deuteronomy 8.17-18]- And thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of mine hand hath gotten me this wealth. But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as it is this day.*
- 6.) *[2 Corinthians 8.9]-For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.*

2. Vicarious immorality

a. Secretly tolerating the immoral life of others either real or fictional.

b. Immodest dress.

- 1.) *[1 Timothy 2.9]- In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array;*
- 2.) *[Proverbs 27.20]-Hell and destruction are never full; so the eyes of man are never satisfied.*
- 3.) *[Romans 6.21]- What fruit had ye then in those things whereof ye are now ashamed? for the end of those things is death.*

3. Idolatry

a. Career or vocation.

b. Political or cultural issues.

c. Consuming passion for sports.

F. See Thomas Chalmers' [The Expulsive Power of a New Affection.](#)

XXI. Where do we go from here?

A. *[1 Peter 5.5]-Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.*

B. The Sermon on the Mount.

1. *[Matthew 5.3-7]- Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.*

C. The Pharisee and the Publican

1. *[Luke 18.9-14]-And he spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and despised others: Two men went up into the temple to pray; the one a Pharisee, and the other a publican. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week, I give tithes of all that I possess. And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner. I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other: for every one that exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be exalted.*

D. The Prodigal Son

1. *[Luke 15.28-32]-And he was angry, and would not go in: therefore came his father out, and intreated him. And he answering said to his father, Lo, these many years do I serve thee, neither transgressed I at any time thy commandment: and yet thou never gavest me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends: But as soon as this thy son was come, which hath devoured thy living with harlots, thou hast killed for him the fatted calf. And he said unto him, Son, thou art ever with me, and all that I have is thine. It was meet that we should make merry, and be glad: for this thy brother was dead, and is alive again; and was lost, and is found.*

E. The Two Debtors

1. *[Luke 7.42-43,47]-And when they had nothing to pay, he frankly forgave them both. Tell me therefore, which of them will love him most? Simon answered and said, I suppose that he, to whom he forgave most. And he said unto him, Thou hast rightly judged. Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little.*

F. *[2 Corinthians 5.14-15]-For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again.*

G. Subtle sins must be put to death.

1. *[Romans 8.13]- For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.*

2. *[Colossians 3.5]- Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry:*