

The Life and Death of Mr. Badman

April 2nd, 2017 - The Life and Death of Mr. Badman

Chapter 12 - Part 3 – Badman's Pride, Atheism, Infidelity and Envy (pages 91 - 94)

Envy is rooted in pride. We continue to see Mr. Badman's fallen nature in his pride as we studied last week and today we've read how his envy was as rottenness to his bones. But again, let's put the mirror up to our life and heart and see if envy is in our life. Let's read what the King James Version Bible Dictionary's definition of envied is:

"EN'VY, *n.* Pain, uneasiness, mortification or discontent excited by the sight of another's superiority or success, accompanied with some degree of hatred or malignity, and often or usually with a desire or an effort to depreciate the person, and with pleasure in seeing him depressed. Envy springs from pride, ambition or love, mortified that another has obtained what one has a strong desire to possess."

Wiseman says the following: *"This envy, for all its foulness, is reckoned among the worst of sins, in the company of such as adultery, murder, drunkenness, reveling, witchcraft, heresy, rebellion against lawful authority, etc. Yes, it is so malignant a corruption that it rots the very bones of the one in whom it dwells. "A sound heart is the life of the flesh; but envy the rottenness of the bones" (Prov. 14:30)."* Envy affects your physical health. If anyone suffers from an infirmity which attacks the bones ... you may want to see if envy is rooted in your life. Just go onto the internet and search out bone disease and you'll find a list of infirmities that affect the bone...it's quite extensive and worth taking note of! I would suggest also that bone diseases could also be from generational curses that have been passed on to the third and fourth generation as the Bible say in Numbers 14:18.

Vines Expository Dictionary says this about envy; *"envy" desires to deprive another of what he has, "jealousy" desires to have the same or the same sort of thing for itself".*

Exodus 20:17 says; *"You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his male servant, nor his female servant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that is your neighbor's."*

It is unacceptable to covet, be jealous or to envy anything that is someone else's. It's sin.

1 Corinthians 3:1-3; *"And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to carnal, as to babes in Christ. I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able; for you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men?"*

The Corinthians were in the flesh the Apostle Paul says, they were carnal and not walking in the Spirit. Are you walking in the flesh or are you continually giving room to the Holy Spirit to control your life? I would suggest too that you can't grow spiritually if you're walking in envy, strife and division. These early church believers were supposed to be more mature than what they were, but their carnal fleshly appetites dwarfed them in spiritual growth.

Galatians 5:16-26 ; *"I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. Now the works of the*

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*flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, **envy**, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another."*

If you want to willfully, consciously and knowingly walk in envy, it will have an eternal affect for you and you will not inherit the Kingdom of God. The Holy Spirit is our only Helper who can make it possible for us to bear His fruit in our lives. We cannot do it in our human ability - our flesh, it's impossible.

Proverbs 6:12-19; *"A worthless person, a wicked man, is one who walks with a perverse (corrupt, vulgar) mouth who winks with his eyes [in mockery], who shuffles his feet [to signal], who points with his fingers [to give subversive instruction]; who perversely in his heart plots trouble and evil continually; who spreads discord and strife. Therefore [the crushing weight of] his disaster will come suddenly upon him; instantly he will be broken, and there will be no healing or remedy [because he has no heart for God]. These six things the Lord hates; indeed, seven are repulsive to Him: a proud look [the attitude that makes one overestimate oneself and discount others], a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that creates wicked plans, feet that run swiftly to evil, a false witness who breathes out lies [even half-truths], and one who spreads discord (rumors) among brothers."* (Amplified Bible)

This scripture really sums up Mr. Badman's life. Badman has no heart for God at all! He never gave his life to Christ. He's isn't like a Christian going in and out of his communion and fellowship with Jesus. He has continually had his heart set against God.

Wiseman goes on to say this; *"He was an angry, wrathful, envious man, a man who had no idea what meekness or gentleness meant, nor did he want to learn. His natural temper was surly, huffy, and rough; and worse, he used to lose his temper, which made him furious and outrageous in everything, especially against goodness itself, and against other things too when he was displeased."*

Proverbs 27:3-4 says; *"Stone is heavy and the sand weighty, but a fool's [unreasonable] wrath is heavier and more burdensome than both of them. Wrath is cruel and anger is an overwhelming flood, but who is able to endure and stand before [the sin of] jealousy."* That is powerful!

Wiseman continues in his description of envy the following; *"What more can I say? It is envy that is the very nursery of whispering campaigns, debates, backbitings, slanders, reproaches, murders, etc."* Have you slandered, either verbally or under your breath, your brother in Christ or a neighbour, an associate, a friend lately? Out of the abundance of your heart...your mouth speaks. Ask Jesus to forgive you if you're walking in envy and slander and receive forgiveness to be set free and healed.

James 3:13-18 talks about heavenly and demonic wisdom! Did you know that there was such a thing as demonic wisdom?! James clarifies it really well in this scripture; *"Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth. This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, sensual, demonic. For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of*

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mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace."

This is so important to comprehend and not just skim over. If you walk in envy towards your neighbour, you open up the whole kingdom of darkness on your life with confusion and every evil thing! You can see the difference here between the spiritual person and the fleshly or worldly person. Always check and listen to what's coming out of your mouth and the thoughts that fly through your mind every moment of the day and night - what thoughts are you entertaining?

In Matthew Henry's Commentary, he says this about this scripture in James; "*Observe, 1. Envy and strife are opposed to the meekness of wisdom. The heart is the seat of both; but envy and wisdom cannot dwell together in the same heart. Holy zeal and bitter envying are as different as the flames of seraphim and the fire of hell. 2. The order of things here laid down. Envy is first and excites strife; strife endeavours to excuse itself by vain-glorying and lying; and then (Jas. 3:16) hereupon ensue confusion and every evil work. Those who live in malice, envy, and contention, live in confusion, and are liable to be provoked and hurried to any evil work. Such disorders raise many temptations, strengthen temptations, and involve men in a great deal of guilt. One sin begets another, and it cannot be imagined how much mischief is produced: there is every evil work."*

When life gets confusing for you, check and see if you're walking in envy. If every evil work is showing up at your door, look to see if the sin of envy dwells in your heart. This is ALL because of ENVY! Are you envying your neighbours wife or husband, his possessions, their job etc.? I'd urge you to repent of it and be set free from the fruit of this wickedness. Again remember, envy springs up from pride and as we read last week, that's why Lucifer - satan - was cast out of heaven. Don't think God is turning a blind eye towards envy in your life.

1 Peter 2:1-3; "*Therefore, laying aside all malice, all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and all evil speaking, as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious.*" Whenever envy or these other sins of evil want to creep up in your heart, lay them aside and press on to desire more of Jesus and His word.

Do you know that Jesus was envied? The multitude was taking a vote to either release Jesus or Barabbas. **Matthew 27:15-18** says; "*Now at the feast the governor was accustomed to releasing to the multitude one prisoner whom they wished. And at that time they had a notorious prisoner called Barabbas. Therefore, when they had gathered together, Pilate said to them, "Whom do you want me to release to you? Barabbas, or Jesus who is called Christ?" For he knew that they had handed Him over because of envy.*" Reread again the definition of envy at the beginning. Envy is accompanied by anger, hatred and every evil work. Everything that the Pharisees, Sadducees, Scribes, and leaders of the day were looking earnestly for and longing for ...was found in Jesus. Yet they couldn't humble themselves to receive him. They were filled with hatred because of envy.

This is a strong question: have you handed Jesus over in exchange for a criminal lately? Or for the criminal acts of the flesh, the world, for envy, for covetousness? Have you crucified him again by your falling away as **Hebrews 6:6** says; "*and then have fallen away - it is impossible to bring them back again to repentance, since they again nail the Son of God on the cross [for as far as they are concerned, they are treating the death of Christ as if they were not saved by it], and are holding Him up again to public disgrace.*" (Amplified Bible)

One of the patriarchs of the Old Testament, Joseph, was envied by his brothers. We read about it in **Genesis 37:1-11**; "*So Jacob (Israel) lived in the land where his father [Isaac] had been a stranger (sojourner, resident*

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alien), in the land of Canaan. These are the generations of Jacob. Joseph, when he was seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers [Dan, Naphtali, Gad, and Asher]; the boy was with the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's [secondary] wives; and Joseph brought back a bad report about them to their father. Now Israel (Jacob) loved Joseph more than all his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he made him a [distinctive] multicolored tunic. His brothers saw that their father loved Joseph more than all of his brothers; so they hated him and could not [find it within themselves to] speak to him on friendly terms. Now Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it to his brothers, and they hated him even more. He said to them, "Please listen to [the details of] this dream which I have dreamed; we [brothers] were binding sheaves [of grain stalks] in the field, and lo, my sheaf [suddenly] got up and stood upright and remained standing; and behold, your sheaves stood all around my sheaf and bowed down [in respect]." His brothers said to him, "Are you actually going to reign over us? Are you really going to rule and govern us as your subjects?" So they hated him even more for [telling them about] his dreams and for his [arrogant] words. But Joseph dreamed still another dream, and told it to his brothers [as well]. He said, "See here, I have again dreamed a dream, and lo, [this time I saw] eleven stars and the sun and the moon bowed down [in respect] to me!" He told it to his father as well as to his brothers; but his father rebuked him and said to him [in disbelief], "What is [the meaning of] this dream that you have dreamed? Shall I and your mother and your brothers actually come to bow down to the ground [in respect] before you?" Joseph's brothers were **envious** and **jealous** of him, but his father kept the words [of Joseph] in mind [wondering about their meaning]."

How many times have you ministered the gospel to your family, or shared your dreams and visions about your call in life and what God wants to do, and they were full of envy, arrogance, strife, judgment and every evil work toward you? It might directly affect their lives, so instead of receiving you, they turn on you as Joseph's brothers did to him, or as the religious leaders turned on Jesus because of envy. Can you imagine that they exchanged their whole eternal life in Christ Jesus because of envy towards him! Your family, friends, associates, or whomever...may exchange their eternal life out of envy towards you and the message you're preaching to them? Envy will rob people of their salvation.

Stephen, the first martyr in the New Testament, talks about Joseph also; **Acts 7:9**; "And the patriarchs, becoming **envious**, sold Joseph into Egypt. But God was with him." Have you been sold out for your faith by envious family, friends or church leadership? Keep your heart humble as Joseph did and God will also be with you.

So what is our response to envy when it stares us in the face? Love. **1 Corinthians 13:4**; "Love endures with patience and serenity, love is kind and thoughtful, and is not jealous or envious; love does not brag and is not proud or arrogant." This is what Jesus is asking us to do. Love as He loved and continues to love!

Titus 3:1-7 says; "Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to obey, to be ready for every good work, to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men. For we ourselves were also once foolish, disobedient, deceived, serving various lusts and pleasures, living in malice and **envy**, hateful and hating one another. But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life."

As we ended last week on **Zechariah 4:6** so again we confess; "... 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' Says the Lord of hosts." It's only the work of Holy Spirit in our lives that we'll be able to live a victorious Christian walk, fleeing the temptations of envy, covetousness and jealousy.