

~ENVY (334)

[Hebrew, *qin- 'ah'*, Greek, *phtho'nos*]

.. Danger Of Yielding To Envy

- A feeling of resentment and displeasure toward others by reason of their belongings, prosperity, advantages, position, or reputation. Envious persons want what others have and may feel that those possessing what is coveted are not entitled to it. While the Hebrew word *qin- 'ah'*, depending on the context, may refer to zeal, ardor, insistence on exclusive devotion, or jealousy and envying
- For out of Jerusalem a remnant will go forth, and those who escape from Mount Zion. The very **zeal** of Yehowah of armies will do this. (**2 Kings 19:31**)
- How long, O Yehowah, will you be incensed? Forever? How long will your **ardor** burn just like fire? (**Psalms 79:5**)
- Phinehas the son of Eleazar the son of Aaron the priest has turned back my wrath from upon the sons of Israel by his tolerating no **rivalry** at all toward me in the midst of them, so that I have not exterminated the sons of Israel in my insistence on **exclusive devotion**. (**Numbers 25:11**)
- And the spirit of **jealousy** has passed upon him, and he has become suspicious of his wife's faithfulness, and she in fact has defiled herself, or the spirit of **jealousy** has passed upon him, and he has become **suspicious** of his wife's faithfulness, but she in fact has not defiled herself. (**Numbers 5:14**)
- For the foolish one vexation will kill, and the one easily enticed **envying** will put to death. (**Job 5:2**)
- The Greek *phtho'nos* consistently has a **negative connotation** and denotes **envy**.
- Filled as they were with all unrighteousness, wickedness, covetousness, badness, being full of **envy**, murder, strife, deceit, malicious disposition, being whisperers. (**Romans 1:29**)
- One of the bad inclinations of sinful man is the tendency to **envy**.

- **Or does it seem to you that the scripture says to no purpose; It is with a tendency to envy that the spirit which has taken up residence within us keeps longing? (James 4:5)**
- **It is an expression of hatred. Because the Philistines envied Isaac's prosperity, they maliciously stopped up the wells upon which he depended for watering his flocks and herds. Finally, their king requested that Isaac leave the area.**
- **And he came to have flocks of sheep and herds of cattle and a large body of servants, so that the Philistines began to envy him. (Genesis 26:14)**
- **As for all the wells that the servants of his father had dug in the days of Abraham his father, these the Philistines stopped up and they would fill them with dry earth. (Genesis 26:15)**
- **Finally Abimelech said to Isaac; Move from our neighborhood, because you have grown far stronger than we are. (Genesis 26:16)**
- **At this Isaac said to them; Why have you come to me, seeing that you yourselves hated me and so sent me away from your neighborhood? (Genesis 26:27)**
- **In the case of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram, envy of the dignity and honorable position enjoyed by Moses and Aaron caused them to launch a vicious verbal attack.**
- **And Korah the son of Izhar, the son of Kohath, the son of Levi, proceeded to get up, together with Dathan and Abiram the sons of Eliab, and On the son of Peleth, the sons of Reuben. (Numbers 16:1)**
- **And they proceeded to rise up before Moses, they and two hundred and fifty men of the sons of Israel, chieftains of the assembly, summoned ones of the meeting, men of fame. (Numbers 16:2)**
- **So they congregated themselves against Moses and Aaron and said to them; That is enough of you, because the whole assembly are all of them holy and Yehowah is in their midst. Why, then, should you lift yourselves up above the congregation of Yehowah? (Numbers 16:3)**

- And they began to **envy** Moses in the camp, even Aaron the holy one of Yehowah. (**Psalms 106:16**)
- The earth then opened up and swallowed down Dathan, and covered over the assembly of Abiram. (**Psalms 106:17**)
- And a fire went burning among their assembly, a flame itself went devouring the wicked ones. (**Psalms 106:18**)
- The favorable response of the people to Jesus filled the chief priests and many Jewish elders with **envy**. Their **envy** reached a climax when they handed the Son of God over to Pilate in order to have the death sentence imposed.
- When it had become morning, all the chief priests and the older men of the people held a consultation against Jesus so as to put him to death. (**Matthew 27:1**)
- And, after binding him, they led him off and handed him over to Pilate the governor. (**Matthew 27:2**)
- For he was aware that out of **envy** they had handed him over. (**Matthew 27:18**)
- For he was aware that because of **envy** the chief priests had handed him over. (**Mark 15:10**)
- Advocating teachings that are not in line with those of Jesus Christ produces **envy**. The first concern of the person teaching them is, not the glory of God, but the promotion of his own doctrine.
- The resulting **envy** may find expression in efforts to misrepresent and malign true Christians, undermining their labors and wholesome influence.
- If any man teaches other doctrine and does not assent to **healthful words**, those of our Lord Jesus Christ, nor to the teaching that accords with godly devotion. (**1 Timothy 6:3**)
- He is puffed up with pride, not understanding anything, but being mentally **diseased over questionings and debates about words**. From these things spring **envy**, strife, abusive speeches, wicked suspicions. (**1 Timothy 6:4**)

- The apostle Paul had to contend with persons who were wrongly motivated, preaching Christ out of **envy**. Their intent was to discredit Paul's reputation and apostolic authority, of which they were **envious**.
- They tried to discourage and dishearten the imprisoned apostle. At his expense, they sought to build themselves up in order to further their selfish aims.
- True, some are preaching the Christ through **envy** and rivalry, but others also through goodwill. (**Philippians 1:15**)
- The latter are publicizing the Christ out of love, for they know I am set here for the defense of the Good News. (**Philippians 1:16**)
- But the former do it out of **contentiousness**, not with a pure motive, for they are supposing to stir up tribulation for me in my prison bonds. (**Philippians 1:17**)

.. Danger Of Yielding To Envy

- People who gain their ends by fraud and violence may for a time enjoy prosperity, security, and good health. Even the death of wicked ones may be peaceful, not accompanied by great anguish.
- When a servant of God looks at his possibly less favorable circumstances, he may allow **envy** of the circumstances of wicked ones to erode his appreciation of the value of doing the divine will, as did the psalmist Asaph.
- As for me, my feet had almost turned aside, my steps had nearly been made to slip. (**Psalms 73:2**)
- For I became **envious** of the boasters, when I would see the very peace of wicked people. (**Psalms 73:3**)
- For they have no deathly pangs, and their paunch is fat. (**Psalms 73:4**)
- They are not even in the trouble of mortal man, and they are not plagued the same as other men. (**Psalms 73:5**)
- Therefore haughtiness has served as a necklace to them, violence envelops them as a garment. (**Psalms 73:6**)

- **Their eye has bulged from fatness, they have exceeded the imaginations of the heart. ([Psalms 73:7](#))**
- **They scoff and speak about what is bad, about defrauding they speak in an elevated style. ([Psalms 73:8](#))**
- **They have put their mouth in the very heavens, and their tongue itself walks about in the earth. ([Psalms 73:9](#))**
- **Therefore he brings his people back hither, and the waters of what is full are drained out for them. ([Psalms 73:10](#))**
- **And they have said; How has God come to know? And does there exist knowledge in the Most High? ([Psalms 73:11](#))**
- **Look! These are the wicked, who are at ease indefinitely. They have increased their means of maintenance. ([Psalms 73:12](#))**
- **Surely it is in vain that I have cleansed my heart and that I wash my hands in innocence itself. ([Psalms 73:13](#))**
- **And I came to be plagued all day long, and my correction is every morning. ([Psalms 73:14](#))**
- **That is why the Scriptures repeatedly set out sound reasons for neither **envying** bad men nor adopting their ways. Practicers of unrighteousness are as transitory as grass that quickly dries up under the intense heat of the sun.**
- **Do not show yourself heated up because of the evildoers. Do not be **envious** of those doing unrighteousness. ([Psalms 37:1](#))**
- **For like grass they will speedily wither, and like green new grass they will fade away. ([Psalms 37:2](#))**
- **Regardless of the prosperity of those who gain their objectives by violence, they are detestable to Yehowah and under his curse.**
- **Do not become **envious** of the man of violence, nor choose any of his ways. ([Proverbs 3:31](#))**
- **For the devious person is a detestable thing to Yehowah, but His intimacy is with the upright ones. ([Proverbs 3:32](#))**

- **The curse of Yehowah is on the house of the wicked one, but the abiding place of the righteous ones he blesses. (Proverbs 3:33)**
- **Theirs is a life without a future.**
- **Let your heart not be **envious** of sinners, but be in the fear of Yehowah all day long. (Proverbs 23:17)**
- **For in that case there will exist a future, and your own hope will not be cut off. (Proverbs 23:18)**
- **Do not be **envious** of bad men, and do not show yourself craving to get in with them. (Proverbs 24:1)**
- **Do not show yourself heated up at evildoers. Do not become **envious** of wicked people. (Proverbs 24:19)**
- **For there will prove to be no future for anyone bad, the very lamp of wicked people will be extinguished. (Proverbs 24:20)**
- **The pathetic lot of the **envious** person is set forth in the inspired Proverb: A man of **envious**, literally, **bad evil** eye is bestirring himself after valuable things, but he does not know that want itself will come upon him.**
- **A man of **envious** eye is bestirring himself after valuable things, but he does not know that want itself will come upon him. (Proverbs 28:22)**
- **The person with an envious eye is actually heading for want. While struggling to raise himself to the level of those he **envies**, he degrades himself morally, sacrificing right principles.**
- **Even if he succeeds in acquiring riches, these are but temporary and must be left behind at death. Thus he has struggled or bestirred himself for nothing. Jesus included an **envious**, literally, **wicked**, eye among the wicked things that issue forth from within a man and defile him.**
- **Adulteries, covetings, acts of wickedness, deceit, loose conduct, an **envious** eye, blasphemy, haughtiness, unreasonableness. (Mark 7:22)**

- All these wicked things issue forth from within and defile a man. (**Mark 7:23**)
- **Envy** is a despicable work of the flesh that stands in the way of one's inheriting God's Kingdom.
- Now the works of the flesh are manifest, and they are fornication, uncleanness, loose conduct. (**Galatians 5:19**)
- Idolatry, practice of spiritism, **enmities**, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, contentions, divisions, sects. (**Galatians 5:20**)
- Envies, drunken bouts, revelries, and things like these. As to these things I am forewarning you, the same way as I did forewarn you, that those who practice such things will not inherit God's kingdom. (**Galatians 5:21**)
- All who persist in it are deserving of death.
- Filled as they were with all unrighteousness, wickedness, covetousness, badness, being full of **envy**, murder, strife, deceit, malicious disposition, being whisperers. (**Romans 1:29**)
- Although these know full well the righteous decree of God, that those practicing such things are deserving of death, they not only keep on doing them but also consent with those practicing them. (**Romans 1:32**)
- With the help of God's spirit, however, the tendency to **envy** can be resisted.
- But I say; Keep walking by spirit and you will carry out no fleshly desire at all. (**Galatians 5:16**)
- For the flesh is against the spirit in its desire, and the spirit against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, so that the very things that you would like to do you do not do. (**Galatians 5:17**)
- Furthermore, if you are being led by spirit, you are not under law. (**Galatians 5:18**)
- If we are living by spirit, let us go on walking orderly also by spirit. (**Galatians 5:25**)

- Let us not become egotistical, stirring up competition with one another, **envying** one another. (**Galatians 5:26**)
- For even we were once senseless, disobedient, being misled, being slaves to various desires and pleasures, carrying on in badness and **envy**, abhorrent, hating one another. (**Titus 3:3**)
- However, when the kindness and the love for man on the part of our Savior, God, was manifested. (**Titus 3:4**)
- Owing to no works in righteousness that we had performed, but according to his mercy he saved us through the bath that brought us to life and through the making of us new by Holy Spirit. (**Titus 3:5**)
- Accordingly, put away all badness and all deceitfulness and hypocrisy and envies and all sorts of backbiting. (**1 Peter 2:1**)