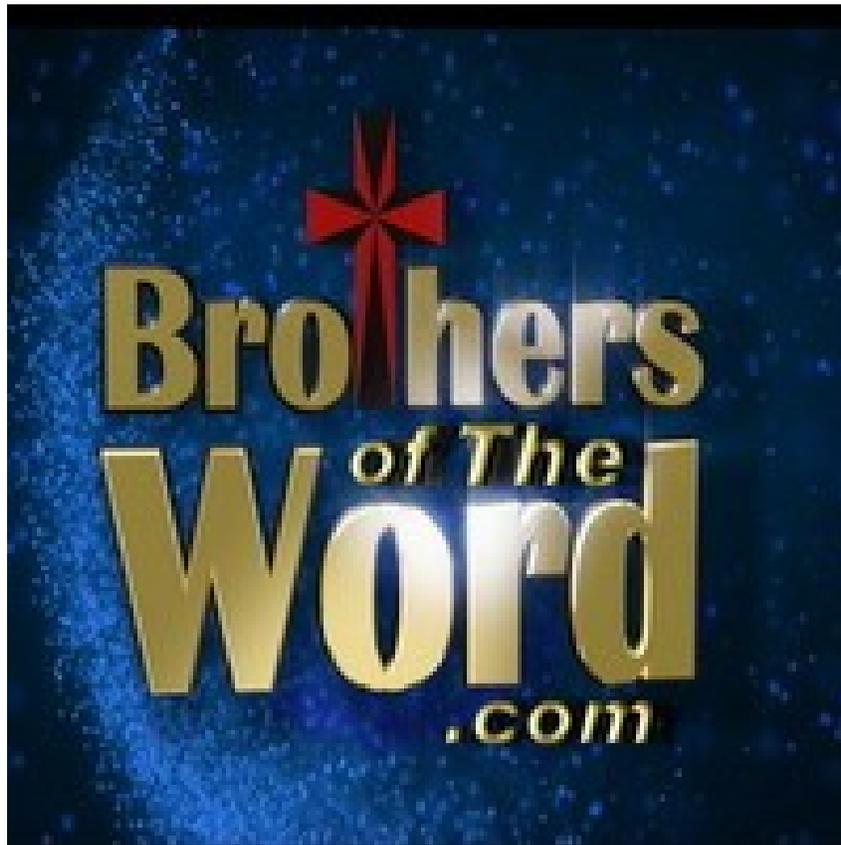


Envy – Seeing With Green Eyes

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Welcome to Brothers of the Word because brother you need the Word. And today I will be doing one of the messages in the series that's in the 40-day Miracle which is a spiritual program to deal with The Seven Deadly Sins in our lives. And it's a subset of the 42-day program at www.Do42.com and I will be dealing today with the seventh deadly sin of Envy. And my subject is, "Seeing With Green Eyes". Envy is called the Green-Eyed Monster for a good reason. It's effect is monstrous on the mind and the spirit.

I had an experience this past week with envy in my own house and it was a few days ago, my son Joseph which is 10 years old. He had been bugging me for a long time about getting this video game. He said, "Daddy, we played this game at camp. If we played it at camp why can't we play it at home?" And I said, "Son, I don't rent your camp but I rent in this house. So just because you play it at camp, don't mean you can play it here." And then he just went on and said, "Well, you do the other thing but at all other kids. Jake got that thing at home and they can play it at home – Well, you don't live with them. So what they do at their houses is their business. And he's just – I mean in every occasion he would just ask me about this game. He just loved this game and I said, when you get older I don't like the violence in it at this age. And he kept on bugging me. He was looking at what other kids were able to do with their houses with that game. And it was bugging him when he went to camp and then in school when other kids – Woo! That game was good last night, Joseph, you're missing out.

And an envy was just growing in him, he was just on me. So this past week, I got ready to play with him and he asked me. He said, let's go play some pool, little that I know he had been practicing on me. He said – Daddy, I know you don't want me to get the game right now, but he said what about if I beat five games of pool in a row? I don't like to bet with my kids but I said – Five, do you know how good a player I am? He's 10 years old. I said, you mean you can't lose one game? He said, yes – this is a sure bet. I said – yes, if you beat me five games in a row, you deserve to have that game. I said, are you man enough – if you're man enough to beat Daddy five games in a row, you're man enough to play this game. So I played in the first game playing around and he beat me but I wasn't playing too hard. The second game I got a little more serious, he beat me that game. So when I got to the third game, this boy hit it, this boy got his vision set on something. So the third game I got serious and I messed around and scratched off the eight ball.

For you none pool players that means a loss. I had a shot that made me lose. So I said, I've got two games left, now my chances are still good because he's got to beat me two games in a row and Daddy is not going to play around now. I told him – Boy, I've been playing with these first three games but I'm going to get serious now. I said, you're my son and all but I've got to get serious now. So that fourth Game, I put everything out of my mind, I said I'm going to focus on this pool game, I've got

to deal with this current situation. I know there's a lot going on in the world, I know that there's Presidents who can't pay, I know Bill could do but I've got to focus on this pool game here now, unless this ball fool around and beat me. So I used all the geometry I had been taught in school. I got a trophy out of geometry in school, I got a hundred average, so I said there's no way this boy is going to beat me in this game.

So he fooled around and he hit some crazy shots, he was making bank shots and all, taco stuff, I don't know where he got it. He beat me in that fourth game. So I said, this must just be a fluke here, something is going on. And I looked into his eyes and saw the green of envy saying – I want this game. He said – Daddy, I'm coming after you, that's four down. And I've got to admit, he put a little fear in myself. I said, I can do it on this one – oh, you just can't win five in a row on a player like that because I'm a much better player than him normally. So that fifth game, I did all that I can do, focusing my mind on every single shot, imagining the angles coming in, in each way. I said, I've got to focus on this thing. I've made a foolish bet and I've got to... and that boy beat me that fifth game.

I've never seen him so excited, he ran out through the house yelling – Mama, I beat Daddy, I beat him five in a row. He went telling all of his brothers and I just – I mean like just a heart dropped out. I just stood there holding my stick for about 10 minutes, I just couldn't move, I just couldn't believe it. I said – Lord, I know they shouldn't have this game but I've got to honor my word. I said, they shouldn't be planning – due to the violence but if I told them something I've got to honor my word, that's another principle. So I said Lord help, please get me out of this thing. I don't know how to get out of it. It just hadn't fathom in my mind that he could possibly even do it. And a few minutes later my next son John came down – he had told them what happened and he saw me he said – Daddy, that really disappointed you didn't it? I said – Yeah, he said – I can look at your face and tell your nut is not right. So he said – Daddy, I feel bad for you because I know you shouldn't have made that bet. He said, what I'll do, he said, I'll play you one game and if you beat me that game, I won't play the game for a week when it comes in.

So I said, that won't going to do much for me. So I went ahead and did it and I beat him that game. Then he started thinking about it, I looked him in his eyes, well my brothers are going to be playing and I won't – I'm not doing that. So he said, what about double or nothing Daddy? So he said, if I win, I play it when it comes in, if you win, I'll go two weeks without playing. I said, it doesn't much different now because you're going to get it. So played him and beat him the second time so he was up the two weeks. This time Joseph came back down stairs, and he said, what's going on down there, I said John made his little bet on him, he can't play with it for two weeks. Joseph said, he didn't mind – wanted to play with. So I said, well all the kids at school, they got it to play with, you can't play with John. I said, the only way you can play actually, I said, I will let you play and if you win he can play with you, if I

win, it's double or nothing and go to a month. And I played Joseph and I beat him for the first time so they went to a month. And they said – Woo! That's a long time. So I said, you know that's 30 whole days, I'm Daddy do-double or nothing again. And he said, well I beat him five in a row, I can beat him again, it will wipe everything out. So we played the next time, it went from one month to two months. I beat him again. Now this time, John got mad, he said – let me come back in and redeem myself. Daddy, do double, I need one more time. So I said, I'd do double again. John came back in and lost again, it went from two to four months. Now this time, they owed his brother Joshua came now, he's a teenager. His voice – move out of there, let Joshua handle it. So I said, huh. So he said, double or nothing again with me Daddy, I bet you want to do it. I said, all right. Joshua played and I beat him, it went to four months then Joseph said let me back in and they double-teamed and strategized. He lost again and went to eight months and then – I said – Boys, you all realize it will be Christmas for you all to play that and it was just eating them up with envy. And I said – I'll go again on it. And they went again with Joseph and they went to 16 months losing again.

And I said – Lord, I thank you for letting me out of this thing and I sat with them down after that and I used it as an object lesson. I said, that's the danger of gambling. I said, first of all Daddy should have never made this bet but I let that as a guaranteed thing. Don't make bets you can't afford to lose and then I told them, I said – Now imagine Joseph, you're ten years old, you've beat a pool player that's pretty good and I said that when you focused your mind in on something it caused you to do something you ordinarily wouldn't have been able to do. It caused your ability to go to another level and you've done this off of something you didn't need in the first place. You've done this focusing your mind and energy. Now imagine if you did this of a violent game, imagine how your life would change if you did this off of God's mission and purpose for your life, if you took this same intensity, this same focus and focusing in on the will of God and what he had wanted you to do in your life.

And I began to teach them with the principles of this game. And I said the other reason I think God let this happen so that Daddy need this for his message on Sunday on 'Envy'. Amen.

So that was what happened in my house. And there's another story that portrays the dangers and the power of envy a lot. And it involves a monk that was out in the wilderness and he lived in this cave and his reputation of his serenity and his righteousness, just pray all over the world. He was an awesome monk. People would come by and look at him just praying and meditating and take a look at his face and just see just the piece of God exuding off of him and there were newspapers who write about him and his reputation went all over. His reputation became so great, it even spread down to hell and the devil heard about it. And the devil got mad about it. He said, this man is providing too good of an example of peace and he said – we

need to do something about this. So he got three of his best demons and they came up to see the man and they got there and the man was just meditating and praying what a peaceful serene look upon his face. And the devil turned to one of his demons. And he said you go in and break this man's peace. The demon came in and planted visions of power on the man's head and he saw kingdoms and stuff that he could have. He dismissed it and remained in peace. The devil turned to the second demon and said – You need to do better than that. You go in and throw this man's mind off. He's providing too good of an example. So he went in. He flashed in the man's mind visions of wealth – what money could buy – houses, land, and cars. The man dismissed it. He said, I have all that I need right here. The joy of the Lord is all I need and he remained in a state of peace and tranquility.

He turned to the third demon with him. He said – the first two have failed. I need you to do better. The demon said, I've got it. So he went in and he flashed these images of dancing half naked girls in his mind. He said, you want to take this – he's been out there all by himself meditating and praying and he tried to put lust in his heart and he dismissed it and strengthened his spirit more than his flesh. So finally the devil said – you're all amateurs move out of the way. I know what to do, I've been doing this longer than you all and he just went in with all of the grandeur with all of the hoopla and grand visions. He just went in and leaned into the man's ear as he sat and meditated. He said, have you heard the news, your classmate from school Macarius, they voted them in as Bishop and Alexandria. And all of a sudden, the man's face frowned up. It showed the power of envy – where wealth and power and sensual pleasure couldn't affect him. Him thinking about somebody else that got a position messed with his piece. All throughout the Bible envy coved chaos.

The first murder in the Bible, it rooted in envy when Cain killed Abel. Jacob envied Esau's birthright and it caused a rift between brothers. Ishmael envied his brother Isaac being the promised son and their descendants are still that – to this day because of envy. In the Middle East, King Saul – he envied David and tried to kill him over and over again, no matter how much David showed and that he loved him and respected him. Matthew 27:15 says, "Now at that feast the governor was wont to release unto the people a prisoner, whom they would." And they had then a notable prisoner called Barabbas. Therefore, when they were gathered together, Pilate said unto them, whom will ye that I'll release unto you, Barabbas or Jesus which is called Christ, for he knew that for envy they had delivered him seeing through green eyes.

This passage tells us here that this was the very sin of the heart that even caused Jesus' death – Envy it wasn't the truth that he spoke, there was enough flow in his character that caused him to get turned off. It wasn't his race, but it was envy. The chief priest, they envied Jesus because they wanted his power. They wanted his wisdom to be able to confound. They wanted the people to follow and marvel after them as they did Jesus. They wanted their relationship with God that he

maintained. They envied what Jesus had and had in key order. And I heard a preacher one time talking about claiming things in faith. I didn't particularly agree with the way he was teaching it because I said – this thing can cause envy in people the way they latch on to this like this and it can lead to some bad emotional states. And he was telling the people – you've got to have faith and you need to be the name and claim these things in faith. And he was talking about – that people out here has got stuff you're supposed to have – that God intended for you.

He said there are some people driving on the road riding there in the car that you're supposed to have. He said there is somebody living in your house you're supposed to be living in. He said somebody's got the job you're supposed to be working in everyday. He went on; he said somebody's got the husband that you're supposed to be with. There's some folk shouting out 'Amen' – I'm just kidding on that loud, see if you're all paying attention but it showed how envy can enter in, looking good with somebody else has and wanting it.

And even our kids again, one of our daughters, she went over friend's house and the mother of the friend took them and all of this fun stuff. And because of this fun day and even though we have a good household they have nothing but because of this one fun day she came home and said, I wish that was my Mama, and it hurt my wife so much because we have done all we could for these children – fun activities don't make – give us all up. And that showed us one side of it, now we saw the other side, the same mother. She brought her son over our house to play with our kids one day and when she came back later that day to get the son. He said, Mama – I don't want to leave, this is the best house in the world over here. So she said, alright I'll let you stay for a sleep over. She came back the next day. She said – Mama, I'm not ready to come home yet. It's too good over here. They are having too much fun. She said, I'm going to let you stay one more day but you've got to come home to your Mama and Daddy.

It took us three days to get the son back home from over our house. And she tried to bribe her, she said – let's go to the store now. Let's go to – no it's more fun over here than there. And this was the same house that the daughter had complained about that she wanted to live in and it showed her, because of a something different, because of a something somebody else had, it made it look better and it made them wanting even though they both were from great homes. James 3:16 says, for where envying and strife is, there is confusion in every evil work. And James was Jesus' younger brother. He knew something about envy.

Just imagine how it would be to grow up with a brother that can touch and open a blind eye. Imagine if you had a brother that may have done better in school than the teachers compare to again. But imagine if you had a brother that can go touch some lame legs and make them straight, what that will do to your envy. Imagine how popular your brother would be if he could go to a party – how many people would

invite him back if he could stir up his finger in some vats of water and turn it into wine. Imagine how many people would want him to come to the party and how popular he could be. So that's why James wrote this passage because he understood envy from his brother being so awesome and he wrote this warning about the evil that envy can cause and people would see Jesus all of this and they were wondering – James, can you open those blind eyes? Can you open those dumb mouths? They were wondering if he could do any of them, and it caused envy.

John the Baptist, he could have easily gotten envious of Jesus when his disciples started leaving him and following Jesus. Or when Jesus started displaying power that he had never displayed. But John's response to Jesus on the scene really showed me at heart why Jesus said that he was the greatest prophet that ever lived, that there was none greater. It was in his heart. It wasn't the mighty things that he did. It wasn't the eloquent speech that he gave but it was his heart what he could have envy. John 3:26 says, And they came unto John, and said unto him, Rabbi, he that was with thee beyond Jordan, to whom thou barest witness, behold, the same baptizeth". Keep in mind this is what John had been doing. He was known as the baptizer and now here stands this other man that you baptized now baptizing and all men come to him now. John answered and said, A man can receive nothing, except it be given him from heaven. Ye yourselves bear me witness, that I said, I am not the Christ, but that I am sent before him. He that hath the bride is the bridegroom: but the friend of the bridegroom, which standeth and heareth him, rejoiceth greatly because of the bridegroom's voice: this my joy therefore is fulfilled. He must increase, but I must decrease.

And here in his heart when his disciples came back with this report it shows you why he was the greatest prophet. Let me now clearly define envy for you. Vines Expository Dictionary says: Envy is the feeling of displeasure produced by witnessing or hearing the advantage or prosperity of others. This evil sense always attaches to this word. Envy desires to deprive another of what he has. Dr. Gary Colon said, to envy is to want something which belongs to another person, in its simplest definition envy says: I like what you've got. I don't like the fact that you have it and I want it for myself. And you may think – Well, I don't think that way and I don't have envy but I think that envy is part of all of us at some point. I think it's kind of engrained in our flesh as a sin and it's something that we have to with our spirits and minds overcome on a constant basis. It's something you have to keep and check and in control.

Most of us have experienced envy and didn't even realize it. In fact, I even experienced envy while I was doing this message. Now you all will probably say, you know, you study and everything. No, I experienced it in myself while I was writing this thing at the computer and it was a live example of envy by that very definition. And while I was there, the Spirit of the Lord when my Bible opened, studying this message and preparing it. I got a text on my phone and the text said – that

somebody in your city has just won the mega-millions for 72 million dollars. If you got any tickets, go check them now. And I thought – I said well – My wife did mention she had a ticket, I said I better stop and check these thing. So I put my Holy Bible down and check this lottery winnings of 72 million dollars and I looked it up and it said that a woman nearby had already claimed it, and then I said – Uhm, I wish that had been my ticket. And that was envy right there because my numbers were different from her numbers. So, for me to win it, she had to lose and I wanted what she had and that was a feeling of displeasure that she had won it and not myself.

Now, you all are in this area too. Now I know some of you all looking at me – Oh you're a preacher you shouldn't – God I wish that was my ticket. I wasn't the only one that felt envy on that ticket and you all know that. The other reason that I say that envy is just part of the flesh and not just learned is because, if you observe a child, no matter how young, even if the child can't talk yet. If another child or sibling comes along, starts playing with a toy and the toy maybe filled up with dust, spider webs, has not been playing with it all year long. But if they see another child playing with this toy having fun, you all know what the child is going to do. They are going to try to get that toy and start crying and that toy all of a sudden will be like the best toy that ever been made in the history of toy making and they will cry and put up a fit to get that toy.

And I've seen it with all seven of my children display this phenomenon even before they could talk. And even I could be eating my food, Mama could have given them the same thing on their plate. When they looked over and see Daddy eating – they want to come over and ask for some of mine and it will be some stuff on their plate like green beans and I wouldn't think they would want. I look at their plate and like they hadn't touched it. They see me just umm and enjoying that green but they said – Daddy let me taste your beans and they say, yeah your beans are better. This is better here, Mama made you a different batch of beans. But it was the envy that they saw on Daddy's plate that they wanted his food and there's something about it. No matter how she fixes their plates, Daddy's food always like tastes better even though they're out of the same pot.

This emotion doesn't stop in the baby or toddler stage. Women can see another woman get engaged and the emotion will hit them that it should have been me. Two best male friends can be out fishing and not catching anything all day long and all of a sudden if your good buddy – I mean you could have gone 20 years back. Your good buddy that you grew up with can catch a 10-pound bass and all of a sudden you look in that bass wiggling and saying – Oh, that should have been my hook.

Envy, envy, envy it can creep in on us all. Exodus 20:14 says, Thou shalt not commit adultery. Thou shalt not steal. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy

neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbor's. And these three commandments that are talked about here, adultery, theft and coveting – Envy is at the heart of all three of these commandments. Adultery is envying someone else's spouse. Stealing is taking that which you envy by physical means. Coveting is envy in the heart. All three of this involves envy at their root and I tell you, they've taken envy to another level today.

It's one thing when you see something somebody wants and think about taking it or wanting it for yourself. But I just think in this current society, we've got a new level of envy that has never been before that I've seen. And that's called identity theft. They not only want to have what you have, they want to be you. And even right now, I've got a tax refund check that is six months late because when we went to file the taxes, the accountant said that I went to put it in and they say – you've already filed. I didn't file no taxes, I need that money now. And she called the IRS to get the details and they said, somebody by the name of Stephanie Bronner has already filed and got the money. So I said – Maybe my wife got this money and spent it. So I called my wife and said – You didn't tell me you filed these taxes – she says – I had not filed any taxes. And they traced it and someone out in another state, out in Alabama, sent out – on our refund check, they got the check. They've cashed the check and the only thing that really got to me... Now, that was one thing, steeling our identity. That was one level.

The other level that they did, sent it to them and they cashed it. That was the second level. But the third straw really got me. When I looked, I asked – Well how much did they get, they got an amount we couldn't get ourselves with legitimate records. So I said the IRS is giving them an amount I can't even get. So the thief took her identity and got multiples of what we were even expecting back on our own taxes. So that's the ultimate level of envy. They are actually taking your identity now, and using it to get stuff in your own name. And envy makes us dissatisfied with what we have.

Dwain Moody once told that fable of an eagle that was envious of another eagle. This eagle looked down and saw this sportsman archer and he said – Well, maybe I can do something about this eagle that's keep flying high and prettier than me and he went out and told the archer – Why don't you shoot this other eagle up there that keeps treading his stuff all over the sky. And the archer said – All right, I can do that but in order for my arrow to go that high, I need a feather on the back of it. He said, all right I'll give you one of my feathers to shoot this eagle now. Then he gave him a feather and the archer pulled back and shot at the other competitive eagle and it reached a little short of him and the eagle kept flying and the other eagle gave him another feather and he said – Try it again. And he tried it again and he kept going to finally – the eagle realized he has given away more feathers than he

needed to fly. The archer sees the opportunity and killed the eagle that could fly. We all have to watch this green-eyed monster called envy.

Another reason envy is so dangerous is, it's the opposite of love. Love seeks the good of others for their sake. Envy is total selfish and wants to remove something good that is giving another joy and have it for one's own sake. God is love, so envy is dangerous because it's totally opposite with the nature and the character of God. And I want everybody under the sound of my voice, close your eyes right now and just I want you to look through the eyes of imagination as I talk and observes the response of your heart and mind as you imagine these different situations and be honest with yourself. I'm not going to ask you to write it down or share this publicly. Just be honest, be true to thy own self right now.

The first situation I want you to imagine is, to see the person that works next to you getting a promotion and a raise but you're not getting one. The second situation that you'll imagine – See you pulling up in your driveway at home and your neighbor – you down and want to show you their new car and all of the features and tell you about the deal that they got on this vehicle. Third situation, imagine your friend telling you that their boyfriend just asked them to marry them. Fourth situation, imagine you run into an old classmate in home-depot and they tell you that they were in there picking up some things for their new house that they were moving into. Fifth imagination, imagine you are out a restaurant and you see a happy affectionate couple that looks like they may have been married for a while but they are still madly in love with each other. Sixth situation, imagine you are at work and someone is coming in to change the water jug in the water cooler. They're just whistling this happy sounding tune as they work.

And I want you to just be honest with your own heart right now, with your own self and ask what was your initial feelings when you imagine each one of these scenarios. Was your heart happy for them or did your happiness go up or down – Or did you just seem happy but your heart felt heavier? Did you wish that they would keep their blessing or deep down that you want something bad to happen to change the situation that they were rejoicing about? Did you start to nitpick something negative about them as you imagined? Did you think about positive things on them? Did you think about thanking God for their happiness and what they had been blessed with? You can open your eyes. And one sign of envy is when it's easier to show sympathy and weep with those who weep than it is to exhibit joy and rejoice with those who rejoiced.

There were two shopkeepers that demonstrated this was – they were rivals. They were right across the street from each other and they would look at each other's custom just coming in and out and kind of add up to see who was doing the best each day. And whenever one will have a customer, after the customer would come out, they would just kind of look at the other shopkeeper and just put a smirk, like

saying yeah I got one. And they would just compete back and forth. So one of the shopkeepers at night, an angel came to visit them in a vision and he said – Dear merchant I want to bless you but he said – there's a catch. He says, I want to bless you with whatever you ask but the catch is, your shopkeeper across away from you, you all are connected and he said that whatever you get he'll get double. So he said – you can ask for money, I'll double your customers but the only catch, he'll get double the customers. He said, you can ask for health and long life, the only catch, he'll live longer. You can ask for a beautiful wife, happy, enjoying this money, the only catch is, his wife will be prettier.

So it was a good sounding deal. And the shopkeeper thought for a while – he said be careful about this, you only get one now. So he thought about what he would ask to this angel that could get anything he wanted – money, women, prestige, power. And the thought about the other shopkeeper his buddy and he came back with this careful answer. He said, - My request from you is this one thing, blind one of my eyes. And it shows the power of envy. He was willing to go through pain in himself, willing to go through lack of vision in himself so that his buddy could get two blinded eyes – The power of envy.

Listen to how Dr. Garry Collins distinguishes jealousy from envy. He said to envy is want something that belongs to another person; you shall not covet your neighbor's house, his wife or his servant, his ox or donkey or anything that belongs to your neighbor. In contrast, jealousy is the fear that something which we possess will be taken away by another person. Although jealousy can apply to our jobs, our possessions or our reputations, the word more often refers to anxiety, which comes when we are afraid that the affections of a loved one might be lost to a rival. We fear that our mates or perhaps our children will be lured away by some other person, who when compared to us seems to be more attractive, capable and successful.

The philosopher John Ross distinguishes between jealousy and envy on the ground that jealousy involves the wish to keep what one has and envy the wish to get what one does not have. So to give you a clear example of this, you can imagine. Let's say if I was at the grocery store and I say, I was with my wife. And you say we are going to get separate things and we split up. And I'd say, after a little shopping I came back to find her. And imagine that I came to an aisle and found her from a distance and she was hugging this guy and they were just talking and just laughing with each other. And I didn't know the guy and imagine this was one of her classmates but I didn't know that, that could be jealousy that could rise up at that point. I would be jealous of what I see is an affection between them.

By contrast let's say my wife didn't go to the store with me, went to the same store and let's say that I was walking now on the grocery store aisle. And let's say, I ran into one of my old classmates and she was just looking beautiful to me and just in

great shape looking like a model and let's say that she was with her husband. Now, if I had the thought – Wow, I wish I had gotten and married her. That would be envy because I want that which is another man's. But jealousy is getting jealous of that which I already have, worrying about somebody else trying to take from me. So that will help you see the difference because they can be easily be confused and their terms are used interchangeably at times.

The commandments, they tell us not to envy by coveting your neighbor's belongings and wife but God says – he's a jealous God because he doesn't want the affection that is meant for him to be given to other gods. Children, they are often jealous of their siblings because they are afraid of losing the affection of the parents but if they see a new red bicycle that the neighbor has, then they envy them for that bicycle. It's something that they don't possess. Well, in conclusion, you'll ask – Well, how do I get over this envy? I've looked at my own heart and I do see some envy there or I know situations where I've envied and I recognized that it shouldn't be there.

I'm going to give you two things that will help you and they both involve doing the opposite of what caused the envy and forming the habit on doing the opposite. And once you get used to having the opposite response form in your mind and your heart then you'll gravitate towards that new feeling as a new habit and you have to make a conscious effort that whenever you see somebody with something that you want. Just begin to praise and thank God on their behalf for it – for what he has given them. And the second thing is – You thank God for what he has given you already in that same area. And it is easy to pray for someone who is in need of help. And then praying for God to bless them. But after they have been blessed and you see it come through and you don't get the blessing, then it's hard to go back and pray, thanking God for blessing them when envy sets in.

So to give you an example, if you see someone you know get a new house or a car. Praise God for their house or car, thanking God. Even if you don't really feel it at first, now it takes some time. You just – like the world says – Fake it 'til you make it. You just keep praising him and thanking him for it until you're feeling changes in your heart. So you thank him for that and then after you get to where it can become genuine in your heart. Thank him for the house or car that you already have. Same thing, if you see a friend get a new job or a better job making more money. Thank God for blessing them with that job or promotion. Then thank him for the work that he has allowed you to do. You'll have to make a conscious effort to push your emotions through this and you can form a new habit to allow your heart to get out of envy and become pure in heart.

This time since this is youth Sunday, I'm going to ask my daughter Jaime to come up and she is going to do a dance for us and afterward I asked her – Jaime, would you be willing to do the altar call for us. So she is going to the altar call after she

dances and I asked her because of what God has been doing in her personal life. God has really been speaking to her. He has been really ministering to her heard and she's been on fire for the Lord. She ministers at home to her little brothers and sisters. And she would lay hands on them and just minister the word so she's really stirring something on the inside of her even at a young age. So I just thank God for what He's doing in her life; and I just pray that her ministry can be shared with you. This is the first time doing something like this so just bear with us. She's only on the fourth grade, 9 years old but I believe if you'll just open your hearts that God can even speak through a child. Amen.

(Hymn)

Jaime Bronner: As the song said, 'He is sovereign'. Sovereign means he is king of our everything, forget about your bills because he is sovereign. Forget about what your doctor said because he is sovereign. Forget about your relationship because he is sovereign. Now is there anybody who needs to be prayed over? I will pray with you. Come on up. Don't be scared. And he told me there is a lady in the back who needed to be prayed over. Don't miss out on your blessing. Come on up. Don't you think I was scared to come up here?

You are Lord over my life. You are king over my hell. You are king over my money. You are king over my family. You are king over my health. You are king over my heart. Thank you Jesus for dying on the cross for our sins, I love you Lord and I give myself away. Lord I just pray over these people Lord. Lord I pray that you bring blessings to them. I pray that you'll give them money for their family, their bills, their car. Lord I pray that anybody who's in need of a relationship and they have been broken over what they have done. Lord I pray that Jesus enter their body Lord. Lord I pray that – God you will let go of everything that they need. Lord I pray that you let them bow down to your feet Lord. Lord I pray that you bring them through anything that they need to go through Lord.

Lord I pray that anything that they need – Lord I pray that you bring them through. Lord I pray that anybody who needs help they will get help. Lord I pray that you get these people out of what the devil has got them into Lord. Lord I pray that you release them into what the devil has got them into. Devil release them, God has his hands on you. Release them devil, release them, release, release, release! Just release them. They don't want to be with your devil so release them. They want to be with God. Release them, they want to go to heaven.

Nathaniel Bronner Jr.: Amen, I've got to admit, it's her first time. It's hard to come behind a little child. Amen. Truly it's a powerful message from both the father and the mother and the child. And the reason I said 'and the mother', because this is the result of home life. This doesn't just – nothing arbitrarily happens. Everything in the earth, if you understand the whole picture, has a

reason. Good or bad, divine or demonic, everything has a reason. The curse nor the blessing does not cause for this to come. So this child is a result of the father and the mother. The heavenly father but often times, the heavenly father cannot get in if the father and mother are not open to even let the heavenly father in. so what you have just heard is just the blessing of a child and the message that was spoken today is so profound. People will go battle with envy all of our lives. Even this child creates envy in some people. Because some people will say – Well, it ought to be my child. Oh yeah, there's no question about that. See anytime one person's child rises up there is the inherent part of a parent who instantly thinks and often times their first thought is not - Oh how beautiful. No, their first thought is, that ought to be my child.

So envy is a spirit that is inherent in flesh from the day we are born and it is a difficult thing to kill and keep dead. It's inherent even in ministry, even with the disciples, they themselves argued among themselves of who was the greatest. And Jesus said : Those among you who would be great, you can't be so high and mighty. Those among you who would be great must be a servant of all. So – the child and even with the spirit that this will bring up in parents.

Envy is a rough thing to deal with but when you follow some of the keys that he gave, just be thankful for someone else's blessing. Just truly be happy when someone else is doing well. Don't compare, don't compete, don't complain. And when you do those things – I finished the book called, "The Secrets of the Millionaire Mind", yesterday. And it was interesting when the man talked about The Secrets of the Millionaire Mind, there were three keys that he gave that all millionaires have.

First key was, Millionaires don't complain, they don't complain. They figure out a way. Second, they don't justify. They don't say – Well, the reason for this is... No. They get it done. The third thing is they don't blame other folk. Don't compare, Don't compete, Don't complain – it will help us tremendously in reading us of the spirit of envy. The first murder in the Bible was a brother jealous of another brother. Do you know among the Brothers of the Word – there is ample reason for us to be jealous of each other? When James gave the example of Jesus and his brothers, I know that some of my brothers are destined for greatness. And yet in order to remain at peace with that – and these are real emotions that you have to deal with. It's different when it comes out of the book and gets into your life and gets into your work.

Some of you have brothers and you have sisters, you have classmates, you have friends and they are destined in the eyes of the world to be greater than you. And that's a hard – because some of you all don't want anybody who you know going above you and yet it's going to happen. And when it happens, your joy or sadness will depend upon whether or not you can get the envy out of your heart. And if you can't get the envy out of your heart, you're going to end up being miserable. You're

going to end up at night soaking, fussing, complaining about why that wasn't you. And you never thank God when bad stuff happen – wouldn't you. And it's a whole lot more negative stuff often times – see, we never sit down and thank God. Lord, this could have been me, thank you. So when you see others who will become elevated, them or their children when they elevate, be joyous, be glad, be thankful because you'll never know when their child may have to turn around and save your child and you'll never know who this child may save who could turn around and save you or save your household.

So for the spirit of jealousy that is inherent, that has a grip on all of us, cast that thing out and don't let it get a grip and destroy your joy and your peace because you think someone else has something better than you. And the other part of it is, you don't know what they had to go through to get that thing. You don't know what sacrifices will be necessary. You don't know what pain and what turmoil and what road they will have to travel to get the end result of what you see. You don't know, and if you knew, you might say – Well Lord. I remember what T.D. Jakes said when people said he wanted to be able to preach like – he would say – yeah you can preach like me but you've got to go through what I went through. And when Jakes tells them that and tells them of the road and pain he had to go through. He said, that's all right.

We want the glory, but often times we don't want the gut to that blood that's necessary to go through. Suppose God told you, you've got to have seven kids. So if you want the child to come down and be – but suppose God told you, you got to have seven kids. We want the glory but often times we don't want to have to go through, the guts is required to get the glory. And suppose you had to have seven to get one or to get two. Suppose you did, we don't want to do that. So often times the road is not as easy to the palace and to the kingdom as it may appear. You know the world has a word for that and actually it's a slang term but it's very accurate, "Don't be hating". It's really accurate, that simply means, in eloquent terms, 'Don't be jealous, don't have the envious spirit of another person'. The word just put it really plain and simple, 'don't be hating'. And that's really what it means, don't be jealous, don't be envious of what another person has. The heights of which they have or evolved to.

I thank for you for this message. I thank you for my brothers. And I know with my brother James, we've recently had a get together with my mother on her birthday and each one of us had to write something. To James, I wrote the shortest sentence, it simply says, "I see in you that which is greater that what is in myself". And I can see in him the destiny and the heights of where he shall rise.

And the training that he gets to train his own children. He's bringing to the youth development program and that same program will make me shoot a video but we can take the same thing out to the entire world absolutely free of charge and not

just help the youth within the Ark but help develop children all the way on the other side of the world. So just his diligence within his own home and own family will transfer and transform other families around the world. So when you see his children rise up, don't be hating, don't be hating, don't be hating but praise and thank God and let it inspire you to make yours better. There's no reason – see one reason why your child may not be speaking like this because they have heard you speak like this. And the children will do exactly what they see done in that house. And whatever you see the child do, when you boil that stuff down, it's right back what they've seen Mama and Daddy do.

And even Jesus said – he said – I can't do anything, I don't see my Daddy do. That's a human function. And Children as a general principle cannot go in spirit beyond what they see parents do.

So if we want our children to rise to another level we have to rise to another level and show them the way, show them how it's done and show them in the house. So I thank Jamie for what she is doing. I have seen her dance in the Spirit and the Fire that's on her and the destiny that she'll follow her life. Lord I just pray that you just empower her even more and she's going to change thousands. And let one of those be you or your child.

I thank all of you for being here today and for those who have come down. Just bow your heads. Dear Heavenly Father we just pray again over these people who have come to dedicate and to re-dedicate again their lives unto you. Father, I pray thy blessing upon them. And father as they profess you, let it open the door to all of the glorious things that you should have entered into their lives. And let it be blessed bountiful beyond measure – their abode, in thy Son Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

And it is such a blessing to have – Jorge opened us up in prayer today yet a very simple and short prayer and Jorge prayed for the homeless and sometimes as I hear his words they become deeper as I analyze it. And my revelation was this as Jamie danced and prayed and spoke, it's out of the home. The correct terminology for the people is really not homeless, it's houseless. Because there is a difference between a home and a house, a house is a building, a four-walled structure that is physical that you dwell in. A home is a unit of togetherness and we have a lot of people who are in a house but homeless. And Jorge prayed for the homeless and some have houses that are small medium and large. You've got a house but you're homeless.

And Father we just pray again to just reiterate that prayer of the children who come out of the home. Father we pray to strengthen the homeless. For those who are homeless – got brick, got sheet rock, got insulation, got electrical and plumbing and all of the material things that go into a house – got house – but the homeless... We pray for everything that the homeless need to make a home in thy Son Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

I'm just going to ask little Jamie to come back and just dismiss us for today, she has a powerful spirit and did you notice how her spirit is bold? She's bold, I mean I think we have to just turn the mike, I don't even think she needs a mike. Jamie, just go ahead and dismiss, I don't even think – now she's nine years old but I don't even think she needs a mike.

Jamie Bronner: (Thanking the Lord) [00:57:05 – 00:58:45] (Jamie, without mike)
(Instruments playing louder than Jamie's voice)

Nathaniel Bronner Jr.: Amen, amen, amen. Now I know it was difficult for some of you to hear in the back, but as she was praying I was just hearing God speak. Sometimes you've got to strain to hear my voice, It's not going to come to you in – sometimes you have to strain to hear the voice of God. Amen.

James Bronner: I thank you today for listening to this message and for doing the program at www.Do42.com. I pray, this will help you deal with the emotion and the feeling of envy in your life. Thank you for watching Brothers of the Word because brother you need the Word.