

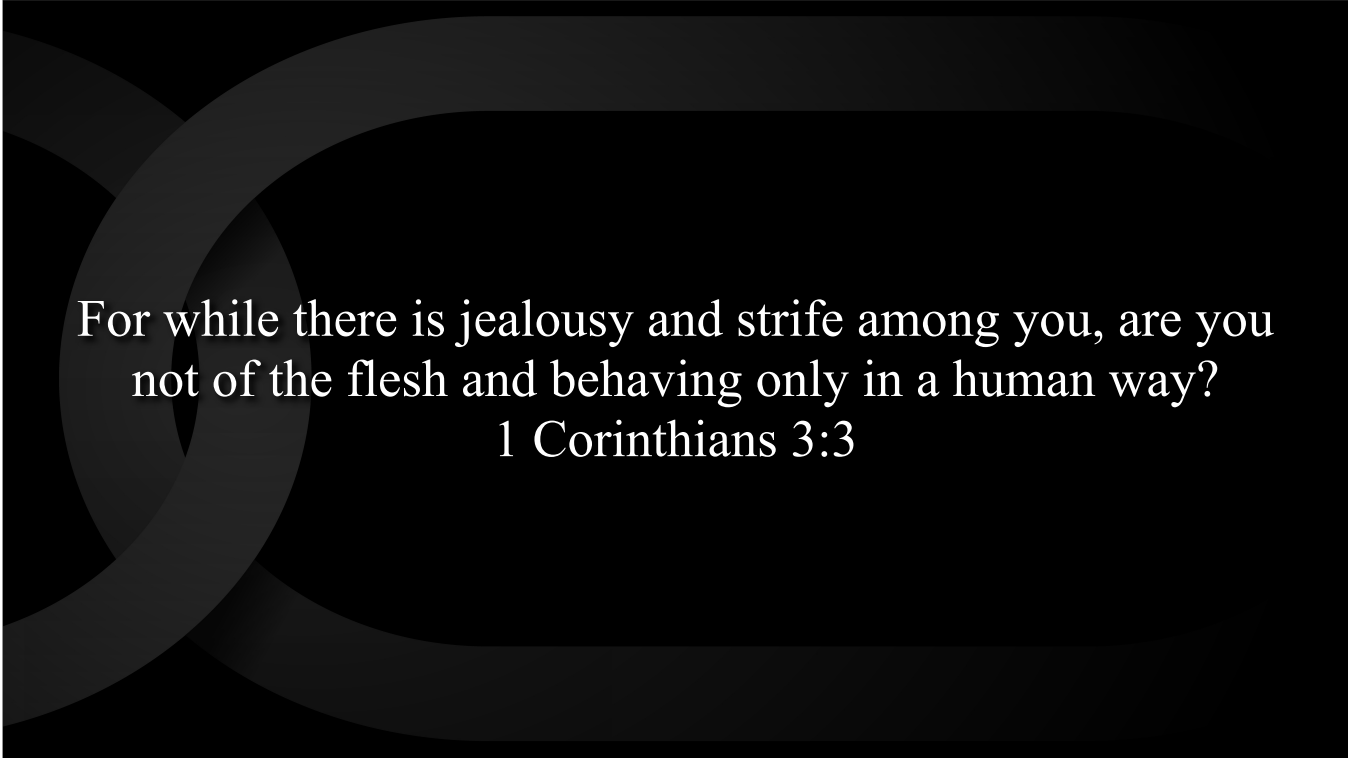


LOVE DOES NOT
E N V Y

1 CORINTHIANS 13:4

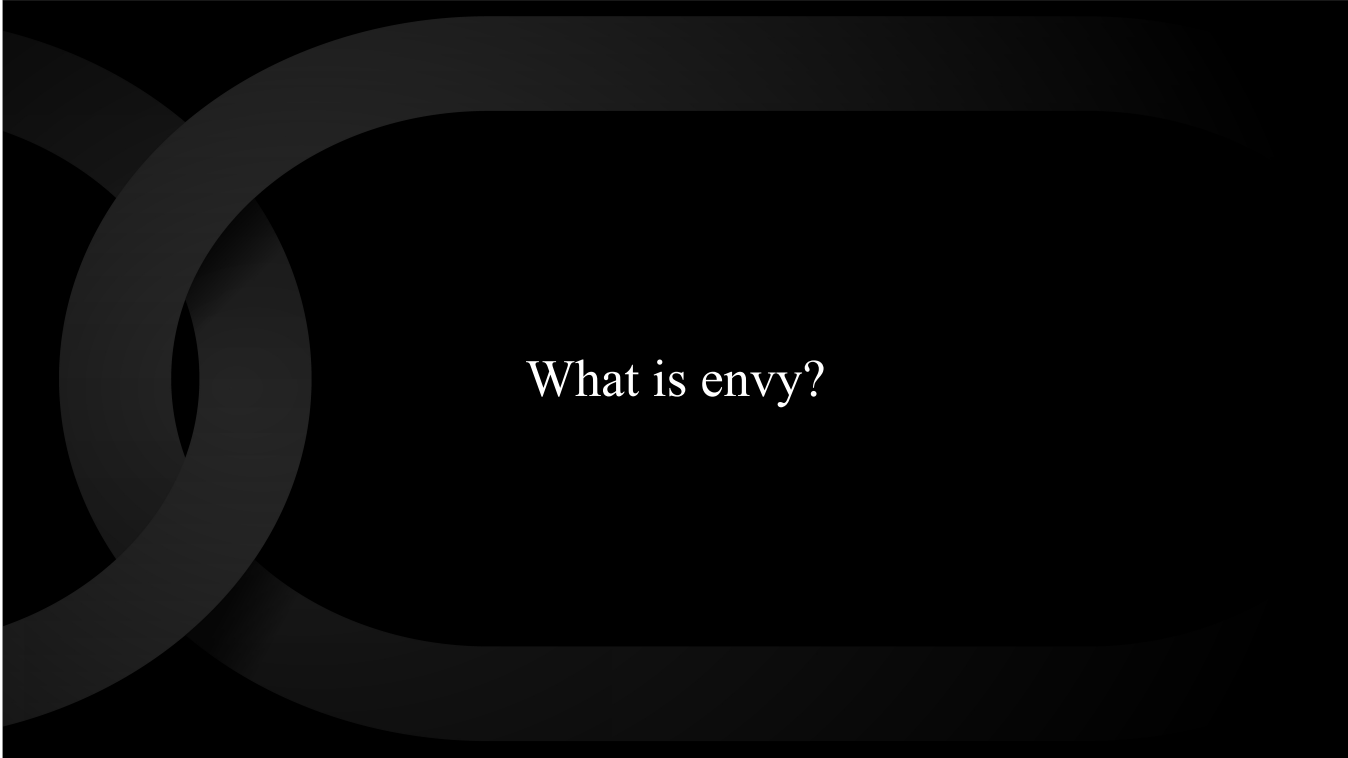
Love		
IS ...	DOES NOT ...	IS NOT ...
patient	envy	arrogant
kind	boast	rude
rejoices with the truth	insist on it's own way	irritable
	rejoice at wrongdoing	resentful

- patient: choosing what is best for others when provoked
- kind: doing good no matter whether the object is deserving
- > Envy
 - Love does not envy
- Why does Paul list envy first among all the things love does not do?
 - Context matters, and likely this was one of the issues Paul saw underneath all of the struggles in Corinth.
- Next slide: 1 Corinthians 3:3 For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way?



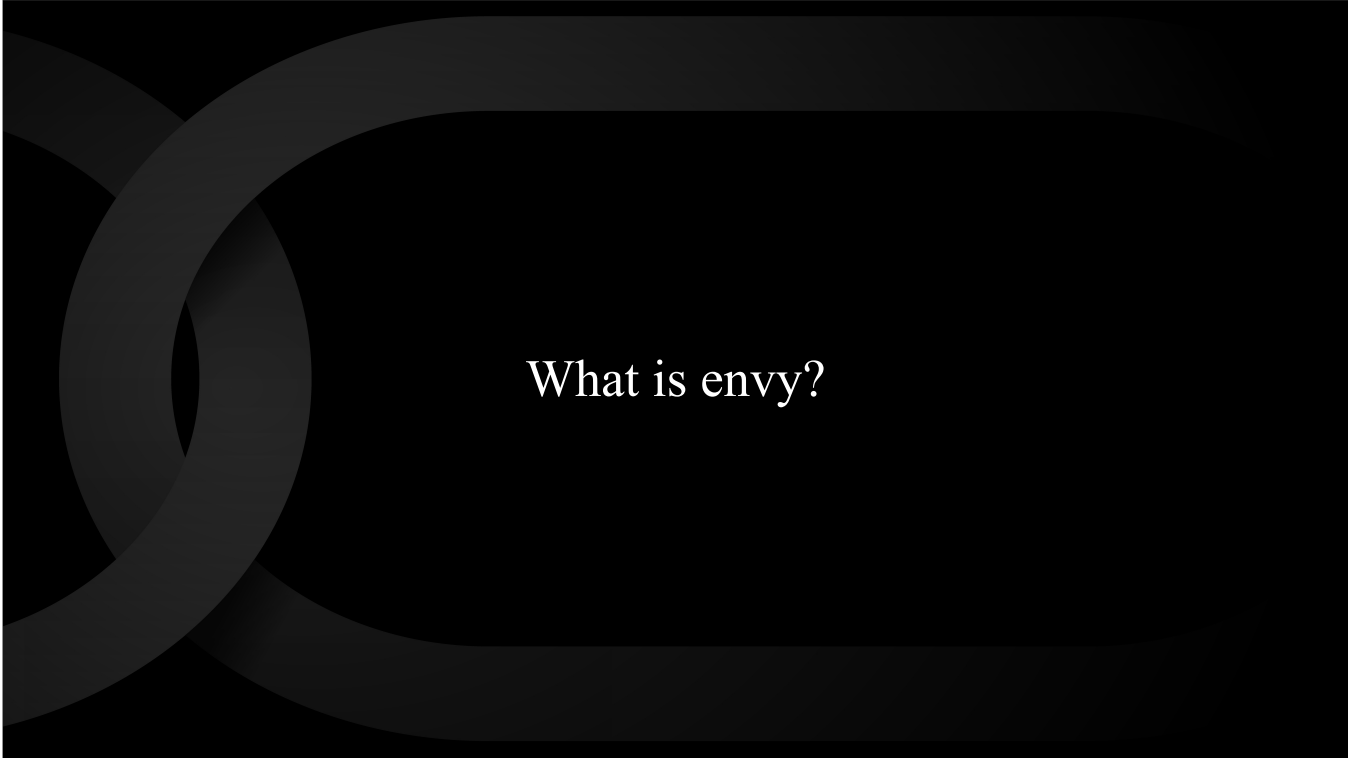
For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you
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1 Corinthians 3:3

- 1 Corinthians 3:3 For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way?
- Love is hard, and demands hard things from us.
- This church had allowed jealousy and strife to define their relationships.
 - This is not following the way of Jesus,
 - Rather it is following the world
- What is envy?



What is envy?

- TDNT: jealousy, envy, competition, contention
- Vine: The distinction lies in this, that “envy” desires to deprive another of what he has, “jealousy” desires to have the same or the same sort of thing for itself.



What is envy?

- Trench:
 - either that of desire to make war upon the good, and make it less
 - there may be at the least the wishing of it's less,
 - with such petty carping and faultfinding as it may dare to indulge in.
- “jealousy is active and energetic”



Envy in Action

- Envy in Action (in Acts 3 times)
- Acts 5:17-18 (ESV)

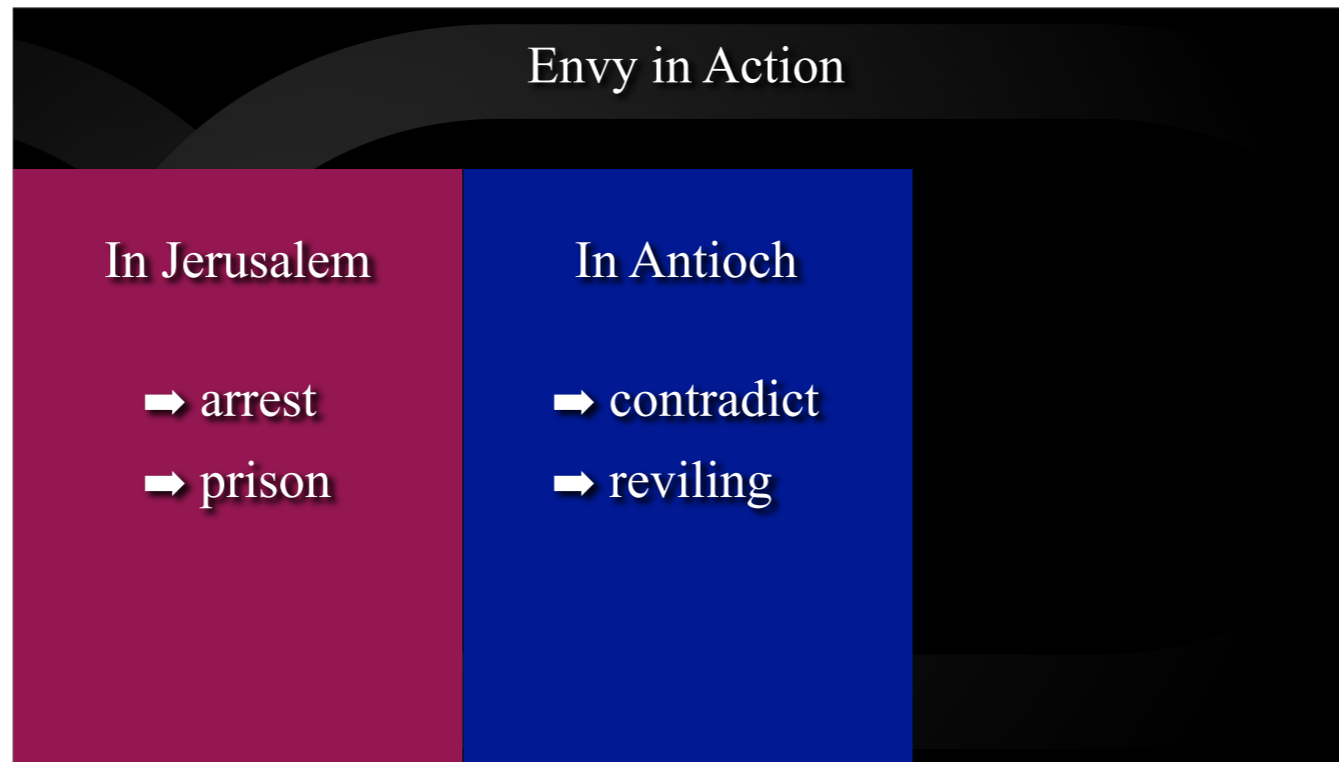
Envy in Action

In Jerusalem

→ arrest

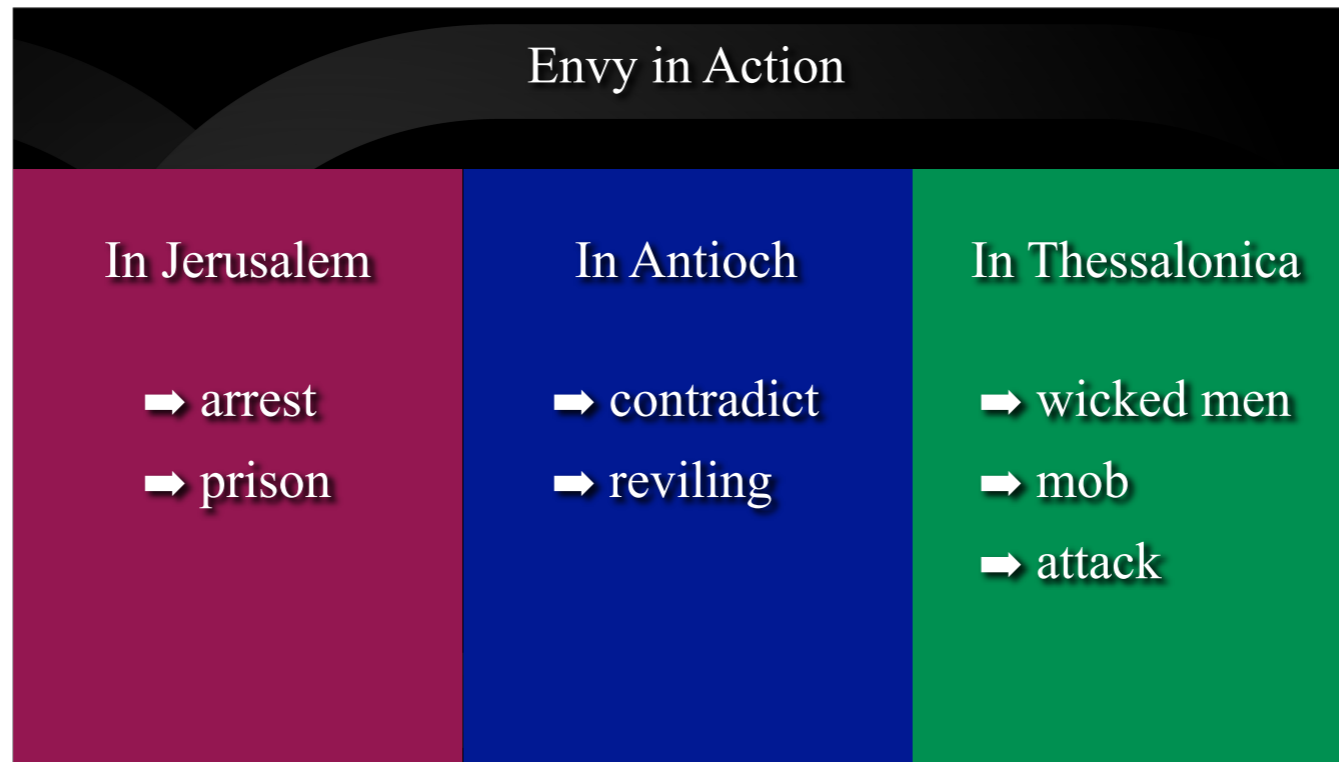
→ prison

- Acts 5:17-18 (ESV)
 - Apostles were doing miracles
 - people held them in high esteem, multitude of believers
 - Jealousy
 - They saw the power, the respect, and effectiveness
 - They didn't want this to be happening, wanted it for themselves
 - Arrest and prison



- Acts 13:44-45: Antioch of Pisidia

- Contradict and Reviling because of crowds who came to hear Paul and Barnabas
- 44 The next Sabbath almost the whole city gathered to hear the word of the Lord. 45 But when the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy and began to contradict what was spoken by Paul, reviling him.



• Acts 17:5 (ESV)

- Thessalonica: Jews, Greeks, and women joined Paul
- Jew jealous: wicked men, mob, attack Jason
- 5 But the Jews were jealous, and taking some wicked men of the rabble, they formed a mob, set the city in an uproar, and attacked the house of Jason, seeking to bring them out to the crowd.

Envy in Action

In Jerusalem

- arrest
- prison

In Antioch

- contradict
- reviling

In Thessalonica

- wicked men
- mob
- attack

- Paul, however, in 1 Corinthians is not talking about how the world acts.
 - He's teaching Christians what love is and how love behaves
 - How does envy affect love between brethren?
- Consider another example

The Envy of Joseph's Brothers

- Acts 7:9 “And the patriarchs, jealous of Joseph, sold him into Egypt; but God was with him

The Envy of Joseph's Brothers

At the beginning

- Beginning:
- Favoritism of Jacob, coat of many colors and dreams
 - Genesis 37:3-4 Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his sons, because he was the son of his old age. And he made him a robe of many colors. 4 But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peacefully to him.
- Joseph's two dreams: brothers and parents bowing down to him

The Envy of Joseph's Brothers

At the beginning

→ kill

→ sell into
slavery

- Envy
 - Kill Him
 - Genesis 37:18 They saw him from afar, and before he came near to them they conspired against him to kill him.
 - Sell him into slavery
 - Genesis 37:27 Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and let not our hand be upon him, for he is our brother, our own flesh.” And his brothers listened to him.

The Envy of Joseph's Brothers

At the beginning

- kill
- sell into slavery

Reunion

- distressed
- angry with yourselves

- Reunion
 - Genesis 45:5 And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life.
 - Distressed
 - Angry with yourselves

The Envy of Joseph's Brothers

At the beginning

- kill
- sell into slavery

Reunion

- distressed
- angry with yourselves

After death of Jacob

- Joseph hate us
- Joseph pay us back
- fear

- After the death of Jacob
 - Genesis 50:15 When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him."
 - Joseph hate
 - Joseph payback
 - Tell Joseph that Jacob commanded that he forgive
 - 19: do not fear
 - 21: do not fear: comforted and spoke kindly to them

The Envy of Joseph's Brothers

At the beginning

- ⇒ kill
- ⇒ sell into slavery

Reunion

- ⇒ distressed
- ⇒ angry with yourselves

After death of Jacob

- ⇒ Joseph hate us
- ⇒ Joseph pay us back
- ⇒ fear

- How did envy affect Joseph and his family?
 - Instead of love, they hated him (Gen. 37:4)
 - Couldn't speak peacefully with him.
 - They were ready to kill him to remove the problem, but settled for selling him.

The Envy of Joseph's Brothers

At the beginning

- kill
- sell into slavery

Reunion

- distressed
- angry with yourselves

After death of Jacob

- Joseph hate us
- Joseph pay us back
- fear

- Envy also corrupted the hearts of the brothers long-term
 - distressed when they found him alive, angry, fearful
 - they assumed Joseph was like them: hatred and vengeance
- Joseph, who didn't envy, didn't condemn them, but rather comforted them and spoke kindly to them
- Jacob, their father, was broken hearted and inconsolable for years as they lied to him about the death of Joseph.

The Envy of Joseph's Brothers

At the beginning

- kill
- sell into slavery

Reunion

- distressed
- angry with yourselves

After death of Jacob

- Joseph hate us
- Joseph pay us back
- fear

- Envy caused Joseph's brothers to completely change their relationship with him.
 - They sought his harm, not his good.
 - They sought separation, not unity.
 - They betrayed instead of building up.

The Envy of Joseph's Brothers

At the beginning

- kill
- sell into slavery

Reunion

- distressed
- angry with yourselves

After death of Jacob

- Joseph hate us
- Joseph pay us back
- fear

- They denied both their brother (except in word) and their responsibility for their actions, even lying to their father.
- They were unconcerned about the damage done, until it might affect them.
- This is what happens when envy replaces love in our hearts.



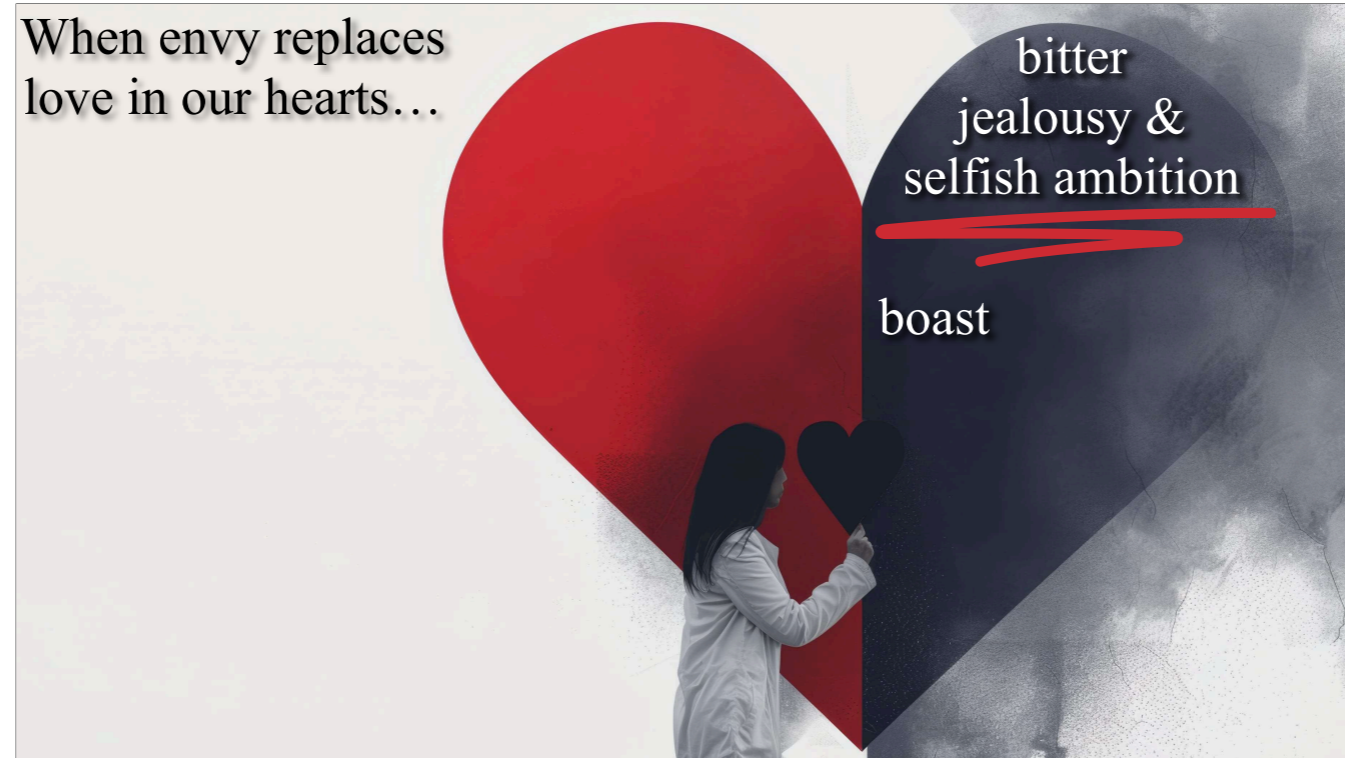
- What happens when envy replaces love in our hearts?
- James 3:14 - 16
 - 14 But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts,
 - do not boast and be false to the truth.
 - 15 This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic.
 - 16 For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice.



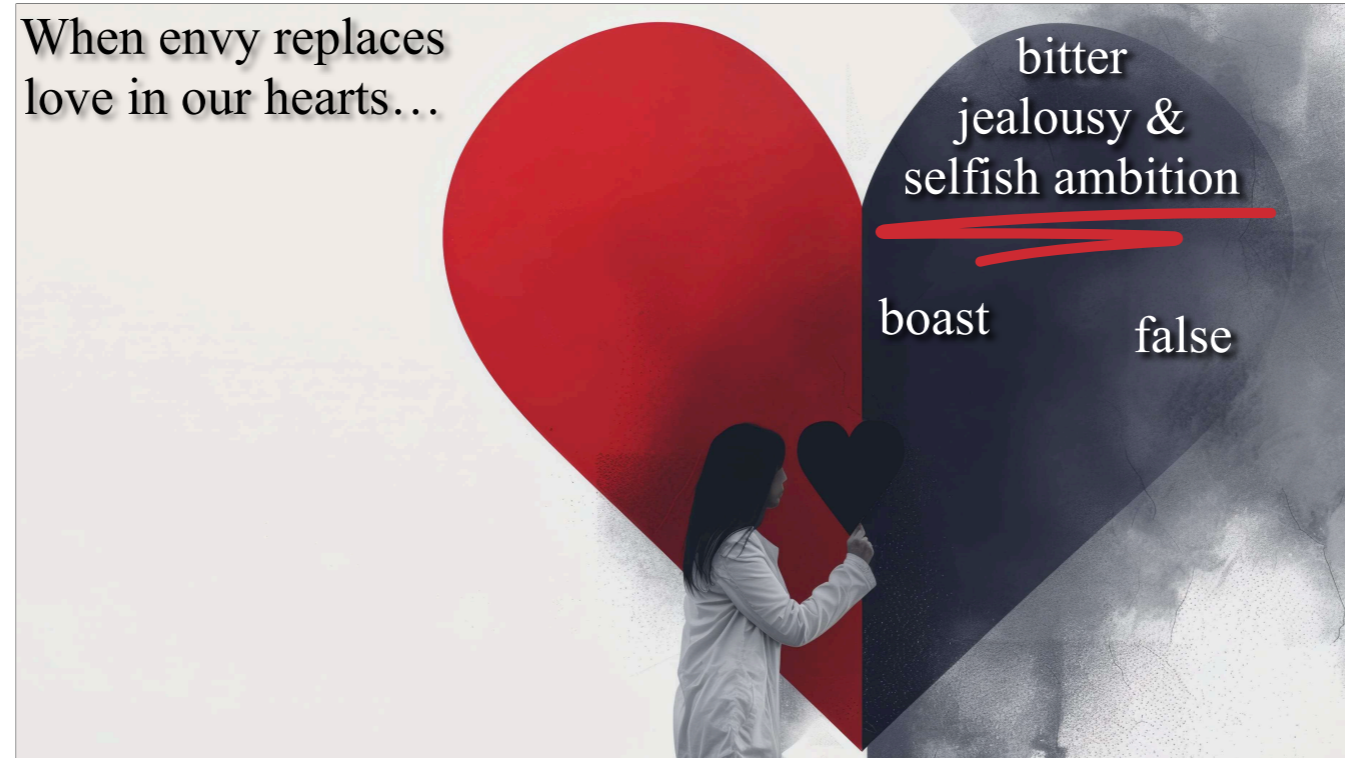
- Paul connected envy and boast together in 1 Corinthians 13
- James brings together jealousy and selfish ambition twice
- Why are these two things connected?
 - selfish ambition is about those who seek to put themselves forward for gain; they are not seeking higher things; who seek to gain others to their side



- Together they depict person is both
 - trying to destroy others because they envy them and
 - putting themselves forward for their own benefit
 - trying to gain the approval of others
 - and build a base that follows them



- boast
 - rejoice against
 - comparative superiority (TDNT)



- false to the truth
 - deceiving one's self; lying
 - A manifest failure to realize the envy and selfishness in our hearts



- there will be disorder
 - confusion, instability, disarray, disturbance
 - disruption
 - exaggeration
- there will be turmoil amongst the saints
 - People will be confused and unsure of what is happening
 - Not knowing the truth, not knowing who is leading, not knowing why things are happening.
- unstable
 - therefore cannot move forward, cannot grow



- 16 every vile practice
 - This instability leads evil, wicked behavior toward one another
 - Things are done to please one's self
 - And to harm others
- Hatred, strife, anger, rivalries, dissension, divisions



- Proverbs 14:30 A tranquil heart gives life to the flesh, but envy makes the bones rot.
- Envy corrupts me
- Tranquil heart: healing, curing, healthy

When envy replaces
love in our hearts...

Wrath is cruel, anger
is overwhelming,
but who can stand
before jealousy?
Proverbs 27:4



bitter
jealousy &
selfish ambition

boast false
disorder

every vile
practice

- Proverbs 27:4 Wrath is cruel, anger is overwhelming, but who can stand before jealousy?
 - Don't minimize the impact of an envious heart.
 -

Love does not envy.

For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you
not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way?

1 Corinthians 3:3

- Why did the Corinthian brethren need to understand the dangers of envy?

Love does not envy.

For when one says, “I follow Paul,”
and another, “I follow Apollos,” are
you not being merely human?

1 Corinthians 3:4

- 1 Corinthians 3:4 For when one says, “I follow Paul,” and another, “I follow Apollos,” are you not being merely human?
 - Paul, inspired by the Spirit, identifies this aspect of their division as being rooted, in part, in envy.
 - And maybe you find that a little surprising?

Love does not envy.

For when one says, "I follow Paul,"
and another, "I follow Apollos," are
you not being merely human?

1 Corinthians 3:4

- How is claiming to follow Paul or Apollos (or Jesus or Peter) envy?
 - 1:11: quarreling
 - 1:13: Is Christ divided?
 - 1:13: Was Paul crucified for you?
 - 1:13: Were you baptized in the name of Paul?

Love does not envy.

For when one says, “I follow Paul,”
and another, “I follow Apollos,” are
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1 Corinthians 3:4

- By choosing their favorite teachers
 - They were failing to follow Jesus
 - They were arguing about something that shouldn't matter.
 - But in choosing sides, they apparently were also disparaging those who didn't follow their choice.

Love does not envy.

For when one says, "I follow Paul,"
and another, "I follow Apollos," are
you not being merely human?

1 Corinthians 3:4

- Assigning a superior and inferior choices
 - They, of course, are superior
 - And desire to be recognized as superior
 - Desiring honor from men rather from God

Love does not envy.

For when one says, “I follow Paul,”
and another, “I follow Apollos,” are
you not being merely human?
1 Corinthians 3:4

- Envy, then, is rooted in a certain amount of insecurity and arrogance.
 - It elevates oneself and attempts to lower others
 - It focus' on self
 - It leads to quarreling and strife that is intended to show one's superiority, exalt one's self and one's party while claiming to exalt another.
 - It has a deep aspect of denial
 - It excuses poor and evil behavior in the name of being right.

Love does not envy.

For when one says, "I follow Paul,"
and another, "I follow Apollos," are
you not being merely human?

1 Corinthians 3:4

Servants

- Paul clarifies the proper way of seeing ourselves and others.
 - 3:5: Apollos and Paul are servants
 - Be humble

Love does not envy.

For when one says, "I follow Paul,"
and another, "I follow Apollos," are
you not being merely human?

1 Corinthians 3:4

Servants

Worth of
others

- 3:6: Paul planted, Apollos water
 - Different rolls, both are vital!
 - Seeing the worth in others and what they do.

Love does not envy.

For when one says, "I follow Paul,"
and another, "I follow Apollos," are
you not being merely human?

1 Corinthians 3:4

Servants

Worth of
others

God gives
growth

- 3:7: neither he who plants or sows are anything
 - only God who gives the growth
 - Understanding that God is the power behind all things.
 - We are helping in his plan.

Love does not envy.

For when one says, "I follow Paul,"
and another, "I follow Apollos," are
you not being merely human?

1 Corinthians 3:4

Servants

Worth of
others

God gives
growth

Fellow
workers

- 3:9: We are God's fellow workers.
 - Choosing to unite and work together instead of separate
- The church in Corinth needed to choose love, not choose sides.



Love does not envy.

- Examining ourselves
 - What do we see among ourselves?
 - Do we see strife and envy?
 - Is there quarreling?
 - Are you thinking about yourself or your brethren?
 - Are you a servant and fellow worker?

We implore you
on behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.

2 Corinthians 5:20

Call to Action

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The Greatest of These

#06

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Love Does Not Envy

1 Corinthians 13:4

Synopsis: Envy destroys relationships between brethren and is evident in quarreling, strife, boasting and disorder. Paul reminds the Corinthians to love as demonstrated in being servants, understanding the worth and work of others, recognizing God's power and plan and to be fellow workers who unite together.

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“Let all that you do be done with love.”