

“THAT HIDEOUS THING”
It Came From Within, Part 4
September 12th, 2010

There are some people in our life that we don't like; truth is we're jealous of them

The truth is we don't really want what's fair - if got it, we take steps backwards

I want more - I want is to be even or a little ahead of you

With jealousy even if you had more it wouldn't solve the issue because it's a heart problem

Even if you “pulled ahead,” it wouldn't resolve the issue. You would shift it to something or someone else

We often see jealousy as a people problem which raises a sense of insecurity in us

Often I think you are the problem, but you're not because you can't solve my problem

The only thing you can do to make me feel better is fail

I think, “I shouldn't feel that way.” “Where did those feelings come from?” My sick heart

Your real issue with jealousy is with God

Jealousy says “God owes me”

As long as you think the problem is with people, you'll never address the real issue

You think God ripped you off. But “God could have...”

God never claimed to be fair

When it comes to distributing gifts, talents, & skills God has decided to do whatever He chooses

Daniel 4:35 (NIV) “[King Nebuchadnezzar, a pagan king learned about God] He does as He pleases with the powers of heaven and the peoples of the earth. No one can hold back His hand or say to Him: ‘What have you done?’”

1 Chronicles 29:12 (NIV) “Wealth and honor come from You; You are the ruler of all things. In Your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all.”

Ephesians 4:11 (NCV) “And Christ gave gifts to people—He made some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to go and tell the Good News, and some to have the work of caring for and teaching God's people.”

1 Corinthians 12:11 (NCV) “One Spirit, the same Spirit, does all these things, and the Spirit decides what to give each person.”

When we begin to understand God gives & does what He does for His purposes, & this becomes the new lens or filter through which we process our jealousy, God starts cleaning out our heart

If we don't deal with our jealousy, it begins to reach into all kinds of relationships

John 13:34-35 (NIV) "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another."

You can't obey this command with envy because you can't have a heart of love and envy/jealousy at the same time

1 Corinthians 13:4-8 (NIV) "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails..."

Going Forward In Dealing With Jealousy/Envy

1. **Acknowledge & embrace this truth – Your problem is with God. "I think God owes me."**
2. **Confess your jealousy to those impacted by it**
3. **Celebrate the people you tend to be jealous of – verbally, out loud**

Refuse being upset at God over something He choose to do and have it effect other relationships

How are things in your heart?

My Next Step Today Is:

- When I am jealous/envious, I will acknowledge I am mad at God
- There is a relationship I have hurt because of my jealousy. I will go & confess this to him/her
- I will celebrate those I tend to be jealous of
- I will memorize 1 Chronicles 29:12