

Message: The stumbling blocks to prayers

Day 12: Covetousness

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Hymn: When we walk with the Lord

Another stumbling block to prayers is Covetousness which is craving to have at all means and cost another man's possessions, or wealth. The Bible warned us in the ten commandments that we must not covet as seen in **Exodus 20:17 KJV** Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's.

Covetousness is not appreciating your own but others

- It is eager to have the things of others
- An act of lack of personal satisfaction

Covetousness will drive a man into debt, ungodly engagement, some into money rituals and some to kill their neighbours as seen in **1 Kings 21:1-20 KJV** And it came to pass after these things, that Naboth the Jezreelite had a vineyard, which was in Jezreel, hard by the palace of Ahab king of Samaria. [2] And Ahab spake unto Naboth, saying, Give me thy vineyard, that I may have it for a garden of herbs, because it is near unto my house: and I will give thee for it a better vineyard than it; or, if it seem good to thee, I will give thee the worth of it in money. [3] And Naboth said to Ahab, The Lord forbid it me, that I should give the inheritance of my fathers unto thee. [4] And Ahab came into his house heavy and displeased because of the word which Naboth the Jezreelite had spoken to him: for he had said, I will not give thee the inheritance of my fathers. And he laid him down upon his bed, and turned away his face, and would eat no bread. [5] But Jezebel his wife came to him, and said unto him, Why is thy spirit so sad, that thou eatest no bread? [6] And he said unto her, Because I spake unto Naboth the Jezreelite, and said unto him, Give me thy vineyard for money; or else, if it please thee, I will give thee another vineyard for it: and he answered, I will not give thee my vineyard. [7] And Jezebel his wife said unto him, Dost thou now govern the kingdom of Israel? arise, and eat bread, and let thine heart be merry: I will give thee the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite. [8] So she wrote letters in Ahab's name, and sealed them with his seal, and sent the letters unto the elders and to the nobles that were in his city, dwelling with Naboth. [9] And she wrote in the letters, saying, Proclaim a fast, and set Naboth on high among the people: [10] And set two men, sons of Belial, before him, to bear witness against him, saying, Thou didst blaspheme God and the king. And then carry him out, and stone him, that he may die. [11] And the men of his city, even the elders and the nobles who were the inhabitants in his city, did as Jezebel had sent unto them, and as it was written in the letters which she had sent unto them. [12] They proclaimed a fast, and set Naboth on high among the people. [13] And there came in two men, children of Belial, and sat before him: and the men of Belial witnessed against him, even against Naboth, in the presence of the people, saying, Naboth did blaspheme God and the king. Then they carried him forth out of the city, and stoned him with stones, that he died. [14] Then they sent to Jezebel, saying, Naboth is stoned, and is dead. [15] And it came to pass, when Jezebel heard that Naboth was stoned, and was dead, that Jezebel said to Ahab, Arise, take possession of the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, which he refused to give thee for money: for Naboth is not alive, but dead. [16] And it came to pass, when Ahab heard that Naboth was dead, that Ahab rose up to go down to the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite, to take possession of it. [17] And the word of the Lord came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying, [18] Arise, go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, which is in Samaria: behold, he is in the vineyard of Naboth, whither he is gone down to possess it. [19] And thou shalt speak unto him, saying, Thus saith the Lord, Hast thou killed, and also taken possession? And thou shalt speak unto him, saying, Thus saith the Lord, In the place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth shall dogs lick thy blood, even thine. [20] And Ahab said to Elijah, Hast thou found me, O mine enemy? And he answered, I have found thee: because thou hast sold thyself to work evil in the sight of the Lord.

What then are the signs of Covetousness in a life

- Loss of peace and sleep over another man's progress
- Losing interest in own life and achievement and celebrating others
- Wanting to have what others are having at all cost

Beloved if we want God to answer our prayers we must endeavour to conquer Covetousness and live a life of personal satisfaction and fulfilment....

Prayer

1. Blessed father I thank you for you are worthy and greatly to be praised accept my thanks in the name of Jesus.
2. Loving and merciful God I thank you for the blood of Jesus that was shed for the remission of our sins accept our thanks in the name of Jesus.
3. O lord my father have mercy upon me a sinner and create in me a new heart in the name of Jesus.
4. Fill me O Lord with Holy Ghost, fire and power in the name of Jesus.
5. I receive the anointing to overcome Covetousness in the name of Jesus.
6. Demon of Covetousness in me be bound and cast out into the put of hell in the name of Jesus.
7. O lord my father help me to be contentment with what you have given me in the name of Jesus
8. Separate me O Lord from the association of the wasters, destroyers and emptiers in the name of Jesus.
9. Power of God to go from glory to glory, power to power, celebration to celebration come upon me in the name of Jesus
10. Whatever I'm doing that will hinder and block my prayers, Lord remove such from my life in the name of Jesus.

