

#12

KILLER SINS

The sinful form of "I Crave" (1)

As we look at the sinful form of "I CRAVE"



If you are following Jesus,
REMEMBER THESE THINGS:

- ✓ Who you were.
- ✓ Who you are now.

In Christ ...

- We do not have to be a slave to sin!

Sin is no longer your master, ...

Now you are free from sin, your old master, and you have become slaves to your new master, righteousness.

Romans 6:14a, 18 (NLT); see also v. 22.

- When SIN wants to master us, we can respond differently!

But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord.

1 Peter 3:15a (NIV)

THIS WORD "LORD" MEANS "MASTER"!

✦ Yes, it's an ongoing fight with an OLD nature that doesn't want to give up.

- One of the "battle fronts" involves our desires.

But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire.

Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

James 1:14-15 (ESV)

This refers to the sinful form of "I CRAVE."

✦ EVEN SO...

- We don't have to give in! (But we do have to fight.)

The sinful form of "I CRAVE" is a **KILLER SIN.**

YOU CAN IGNORE KILLER SINS, IF YOU WANT...

BUT KILLER SINS WILL NOT IGNORE YOU.
THEY WILL KILL YOU. **FOREVER.**

(You won't be "Resting in Peace.")

Scripture warns us about "temporary Christians."
(Also called "fakes.")



Quite often, their DESIREs are what Satan uses to keep them FAKE.
(= "I CRAVE" as a KILLER SIN)



- **FOR A WHILE** – They may look good... as though they actually are following Jesus.
- **EVENTUALLY** – They either depart from Christ, or get distracted from actually following him.

• **EXAMPLE** from the parable of the sower... the **THIRD** type of response:

They are those who hear the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches and the **desires** for other things enter in and choke the word, and it proves unfruitful.

Mark 4:18b-19 (ESV)


• Even those involved in church leadership roles can prove to be false. (Example: DEMAS, one of Paul's co-workers.)*

Demas has deserted me because he loves the things of this life ...

2 Tim. 4:10a (NLT)

The end result of following his **DESIRES**.


*(See Philemon 1:24.)



The first example of
"I CRAVE" ... as a "KILLER SIN"...

↓

The SINFUL CRAVING that most clearly resembles one of the "Seven Deadly Sins"



★ The SINFUL CRAVING that most clearly resembles one of the "Seven Deadly Sins" is: ★

SEXUAL LUST.


• It might not seem as bad as adultery (and in some ways, it isn't) ...

But GUESS WHAT JESUS SAYS!

But I can guarantee that whoever looks with lust at a woman has already committed adultery in his heart.

Matthew 5:28 (GW)

(Once it kills you, you won't be "Resting in Peace.")



Sexual lust... the starting point for adultery (whether or not it actually gets to that final point).

• Adultery begins in the heart.

For from the heart come ... adultery, [and] all other sexual immorality, ...

Matthew 15:19a (NLT)

• And (often) with the eyes ...


... whoever looks with lust at a woman ...

... having eyes full of adultery ...

Matthew 5:28b (GW) ; 2 Peter 2:14a (NASB)

THIS DESCRIBED SOME "FAKES" WHO CLAIMED TO BE CHRISTIAN LEADERS!

(Once it kills you, you won't be "Resting in Peace.")



The WORLD may pretend that sexual lust is

♥ "love." ♥

But GOD describes it honestly.


WHAT IS IT? → ... passionate lust ...

WHO DOES IT? → ... the pagans, who do not know God; ...

1 Thes. 4:5 (NIV11)

★ We also are to describe it honestly. ★

(Once it kills you, you won't be "Resting in Peace.")



What is the end result of those who practice such sins?


WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO SUCH PEOPLE? → The Lord will punish all those who commit such sins, as we told you and warned you before.

WHY? BECAUSE OF THE NATURE OF SALVATION! → For God did not call us to be impure, but to live a holy life.

WHAT HAPPENS IF WE IGNORE THIS? → Therefore, anyone who rejects this instruction does not reject a human being but God, the very God who gives you his Holy Spirit.

1 Thes. 4:6-8 (NIV11)

(Once it kills you, you won't be "Resting in Peace.")



God requires us to describe these issues honestly.

NOT LIKE THIS...

I DON'T THINK
LUST IS THAT BAD!

I DO IT ALL THE TIME...
I ENJOY IT...

AND I HAVEN'T DONE
THE ACTUAL THINGS
I'M LUSTING ABOUT!

LIKE THIS...

IN YOUR HEART YOU
HAVE DONE THOSE
THINGS!



(Once it kills you, you won't be "Resting in Peace.")

THIS is describing it honestly.

But I can guarantee that whoever looks with lust at a woman has already committed adultery in his heart.

Matthew 5:28 (GW)

- Though this verse describes it in terms of a man's conduct (and heart), the principle can also be applied to women.



(Once it kills you, you won't be "Resting in Peace.")

(PARENTHESIS)

- Scripture also says much about those who tempt others to sin (though that is not our focus here).

I CAN DRESS ANY WAY I
WANT; I CAN DO
ANYTHING I WANT...

AND IF YOU LUST... IT'S
NOT MY FAULT.

THAT'S NOT WHAT
GOD SAYS!

ACCORDING TO JESUS:

How terrible it will be for anyone who causes others to sin. Temptation to do wrong is inevitable, but how terrible it will be for the person who does the tempting.

Matthew 18:7 (NLT)

THIS IS REFERRING TO
ETERNAL PUNISHMENT!

IS IT OK FOR
CHRISTIANS
TO LUST ...

... AS LONG AS
THEY KEEP IT HIDDEN
IN THEIR HEARTS?

THAT'S A CONTRADICTION!

SUCH PEOPLE'S
HEARTS ARE NOT WITH
CHRIST!

JUST LIKE THE PEOPLE IN JESUS' DAY:

... you do not have the love of God in your hearts.

John 5:42b (NIV)

These people honor Me with their lips,
but their heart is far from Me.
They worship Me in vain, ...

Mk 7:6b-7a (HCSB)



(Once it kills you, you won't be "Resting in Peace.")



The **KEY ISSUE** is this:

**SINFUL CRAVING IS A
SERIOUS MATTER!**

(Just like all other killer sins.)

- We have looked at only one example... but the principles described here apply to all sinful forms of "I CRAVE."
- God willing, we will look at more examples next time.



(Once it kills you, you won't be "Resting in Peace.")

YES...

KILLER SIN ➤ IS HORRIBLE
➤ HAS A HORRIFYING
END RESULT.

BUT WE (WHO ARE FOLLOWING JESUS)
CAN FOCUS ON THE ONE WHO REDEEMED US
FROM SUCH A WAY OF LIFE!



(Once it kills you, you won't be "Resting in Peace.")

But we do not need to end today with a dismal focus on SIN.

We can focus on the one who started
and will complete our salvation!

... Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, ...

Hebrews 12:2b (NIV)

... God, who began this good work in you, will carry it
through to completion on the day of Christ Jesus.

Philip. 1:6 (GW)

JESUS MAKES
THE TOMBSTONE
APPLY TO SIN,
NOT US!



THIS WEEK:

Focus your attention on who your MASTER is.

Remind yourself, frequently...

So that the sinful form of

"I CRAVE"

won't overcome you!

YOU MUST
OBEY ME!



YOU DO NOT HAVE TO
OBEY
THE "OLD MAN," SIN!

NO I DON'T!
I HAVE A NEW MASTER
WHO BOUGHT ME
WITH HIS OWN BLOOD.

HE WILL PROTECT
ME FROM YOU!

Credits (1)

SCRIPTURE

- Scriptures marked "NLT" - Scripture quoted from the Holy Bible, New Living Translation, copyright ©1996. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., Wheaton, Illinois 60189. All rights reserved. (www.newlivingtranslation.com)
- Scriptures marked "NIV" - Scripture quoted from the HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®, Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984 International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan. All rights reserved. (www.zondervanbibles.com)
- NIV11 (2011 version) - Scripture quotations taken from The Holy Bible, New International Version®, NIV®, Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™ Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide. (www.biblica.com)
- Scriptures marked "GW" - Scripture is taken from GOD'S WORD®, Copyright 1995 God's Word to the Nations. Used by permission of Baker Publishing Group. All rights reserved.
- Scriptures marked "ESV" - Scripture quotation from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version® (ESV®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. (www.gpcb.org)
- Scriptures marked "NASB" - Scriptures quoted from the New American Standard Bible®, Copyright © 1960, 1962, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1977, 1995 by The Lockman Foundation Used by permission. (www.Lockman.org)
- Scriptures marked "HCSB" - Scripture quotations marked HCSB are taken from the Holman Christian Standard Bible®, Copyright © 1999, 2000, 2002, 2003, 2009 by Holman Bible Publishers. Used by permission. Holman Christian Standard Bible®, Holman CSB®, and HCSB® are federally registered trademarks of Holman Bible Publishers.

PICTURES (original sources; modifications may have been made)

- Skull and crossbones - Pearson Scott Foresman [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons; https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Skull_and_crossbones_vector.svg

Credits (2)

PICTURES (original sources; modifications may have been made)

- Notepad - GDJ [Public domain]; via [opencart.org](https://opencart.org/detail/250578/remember-remixed); <https://opencart.org/detail/250578/remember-remixed>
- Tombstone - cyberscooty [Public domain]; via [opencart.org](https://opencart.org/detail/171351/tip); <https://opencart.org/detail/171351/tip>
- Heart - pixabeta [Public domain]; via [opencart.org](https://opencart.org/detail/21411/red-stylised-heart-with-smaller-hearts); <https://opencart.org/detail/21411/red-stylised-heart-with-smaller-hearts>
- Key - Various [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons; [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Die_Gartenlaube_\(1887\)_b._795_2.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Die_Gartenlaube_(1887)_b._795_2.jpg)
- Old man with whip - Joseph Morewood Stanforth [Public domain], via Wikimedia Commons; https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:A_Welsh_Picture_by_an_American_Artist_-_J.M._Stanforth.jpg
- Presentation - Dennis Hinks © 2018.
- DISCLAIMER: The use of a picture does not imply that the author of that picture agrees with the views of this presentation. Some might agree, some might not.