

#16

**KILLER SINS**

The sinful form  
of "I Crave"  
– it kills.

**WARNING!**

Stop loving this evil world and all that it offers you,  
for when you love the world, you show that you do not  
have the love of the Father in you.

For the world offers only the lust for physical pleasure, the  
lust for everything we see, and pride in our possessions.  
These are not from the Father. They are from this evil  
world.

And this world is fading away, along with everything it  
craves. But if you do the will of God, you will live forever.

1 John 2:15-17 (NLT)

**THE DEVIL WANTS TO KILL YOU.**



**HE WILL USE ANY TECHNIQUE HE CAN.**

I CRAVE  
... DESIRE  
... WANT  
... LUST FOR  
... "NEED"



**HE LOVES TO USE YOUR OWN DESIRES  
TO DO THE KILLING.**

WE CRAVED  
... DESIRED  
... WANTED  
... LUSTED FOR  
... "NEEDED"



**YOU ARE IN A WAR...  
AND YOUR RESPONSE MATTERS.**

**YOU ARE IN A WAR**

For the sinful nature\* **desires** what is contrary to  
the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the  
sinful nature. **They are in conflict with each  
other**, so that you do not do what you want.

Galatians 5:17 (NIV)

✓ **IT'S "KILL OR BE KILLED."**

Those who belong to Christ Jesus have **crucified**  
the sinful nature\* with its passions and **desires**.

Galatians 5:24 (NIV)

\* ("SINFUL NATURE," also translated as "FLESH" – referring to the  
physical impulses, desires and interests that tend to control our lives.)

HOW SERIOUS IS THIS MATTER?

IT'S  
**REAL SERIOUS!**

- ⇒ for those doing it.
- ⇒ for those who encourage others to do it.

If you enjoy  
**SINFUL CRAVING ...**



## 1 IT'S THE SAME AS SAYING, "I REJECT GOD." 1

- ✓ You do NOT have God's love in you.

... you show that you do not have the love of the Father in you.

1 John 2:15b (NLT)

- ✓ Your love is focused on things that OPPOSE\* God.

These are not from the Father. They are from this evil world.

1 John 2:16b (NLT)

\* (The opposition may be DIRECT, or INDIRECT. The sin may be caused by what you DO, or what you DON'T DO. In any case, it's still opposition.)

## YOU HAVE OPPOSED GOD

When you love sinful craving, it's the same as saying:

**"I REJECT GOD AND HIS LOVE.  
I HAVE CHOSEN TO NOT HAVE HIS LOVE IN ME."**

## THEREFORE: GOD HAS OPPOSED YOU

- ✓ He may abandon you to your sin.

(HERE, THE EXAMPLE INVOLVES SEXUAL IMPURITY)

Therefore God delivered them over in the **cravings** of their hearts to sexual impurity, ...

Romans 1:24a (HCSB)

- ✓ He may prevent you from attaining what you desire.

(THIS MAY APPLY EVEN TO CRAVINGS THAT LOOK "GOOD.")

... he refuses to satisfy the **craving** of the wicked.

Proverbs 10:3b (NLT)

- ✓ OR: He may give you what you desire, as well as what you deserve.

In the desert they gave in to their **craving**; in the wasteland they put God to the test.

So he gave them what they asked for, but sent a wasting disease upon them.

Psalms 106:14-15 (NIV)

## 2 THE **WICKED** WILL ENCOURAGE YOU TO PURSUE YOUR CRAVINGS. 2

(Since you have chosen to oppose the truth.)

- ✓ False teachers will tell you what you want to hear.

Instead, to suit their own **desires**, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears **want** to hear.

2 Tim. 4:3b (NIV)

- ✓ They will encourage you to sin.

For by uttering boastful, empty words, they seduce, with fleshly **desires** and debauchery, people who have barely escaped from those who live in error.

2 Peter 2:18 (HCSB)

✓ They will do this, because:

- 1) THEY are going after their own desires.
- 2) They want OTHERS to join them in sinning.

(ABOUT THEMSELVES)

... those who follow the polluting **desires** of the flesh and despise authority.

Scoffers will come in the last days to scoff, living according to their own **desires**, ...

2 Peter 2:10b; 3:3b (HCSB)

(WHAT THEY TRY TO DO TO OTHERS)

... they seduce, with fleshly **desires** and debauchery, ...

2 Peter 2:18b (HCSB)

The DEVIL will do  
anything he can  
to ENCOURAGE  
SINFUL CRAVING.

**SOMETIMES THE DEVIL'S  
ATTACKS ARE QUITE VISIBLE.**

GRR-R-R-R!  
I'M GOING TO  
ATTACK YOU!

**LIKE THE PERSON  
IN THIS PICTURE.**

**BUT SOMETIMES, THE OBVIOUS  
IS JUST A DISTRACTION FROM  
THE REAL ISSUE.**

YOU'LL NEVER  
KNOW WHAT  
KILLED YOU.

AND YOU THOUGHT  
I WAS THE MAIN  
PROBLEM!

**THE DEVIL USES DISTRACTIONS TO WIN  
OVER MANY CHURCH-GOERS**

(God's Word has no opportunity to  
produce genuine salvation.)

They hear the word, but the worries of life, the deceitful pleasures of riches, and the **desires** for other things take over. They choke the word so that it can't produce anything.

Mark 4:18-19 (GW)

SO-O-O-O BUSY  
DOING GOOD  
THINGS!

NO TIME TO  
FIND OUT WHAT  
THE BIBLE SAYS...

**EVEN RELIGIOUS LEADERS GET  
DISTRACTED!**

This happened even in  
Paul's day...

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

2 Tim. 4:10a (NLT)

SOMETHING  
ISN'T RIGHT!

HE SURE LOOKED  
"SAVED" FOR A  
WHILE!

# What about YOU?

It's the *"innocent-looking" cravings* that tend to be the most dangerous.

**Do YOU watch out for them?**  
(More about this next time.)

## THIS WEEK:

*Consider...*

***How serious do you consider this issue?***

*Do you take serious John's warning about the cravings that the world offers you?*



## WARNING!



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For the world offers only the lust for physical pleasure, the lust for everything we see, and pride in our possessions. These are not from the Father. They are from this evil world.

And this world is fading away, along with everything it craves. **But if you do the will of God, you will live forever.**

1 John 2:15-17 (NLT)

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