

#33

KILLER SINS

A renewed mind
and Obedience

POWER

FOR VICTORY
over "I CRAVE"
(and other killer sins).

GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY

✓ The changes God is making in our nature.

HUMAN RESPONSIBILITY

✓ The changes we are making in our conduct.

WE WILL BE LOOKING AT OUR RESPONSIBILITY
TO FIGHT KILLER SINS

→ GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY

→ HUMAN RESPONSIBILITY

BE AWARE: This focus does NOT negate the truthfulness of God's role in our lives. (Both are equally true.)

WARNING: We cannot work on isolated sins of our choice, and ignore the rest!

- ✓ Life is not divided into separate compartments.
- ✓ Though our focus is on the killer sin "I crave," many of the principles will apply to all sin.

SINCE: 1) Sovereignty and responsibility ALWAYS work together, and 2) God helps us to do our part...

WE CAN CONCLUDE: God's people will be WILLING to OBEY Scripture and fight killer sins.

☀ SALVATION DOES NOT COME TO THE LAZY! ☀

We do not want you to become lazy, but to imitate those who through faith and patience inherit what has been promised.

Hebrews 6:12 (NIV)

"Try hard to enter through the narrow door. I can guarantee that many will try to enter, but they won't succeed."

Luke 13:24 (GW)

And,
"If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?"

1 Peter 4:18 (NIV)

Z-Z-Z-Z-Z-Z

BEWARE

THE DIFFERENCE
BETWEEN

REPENTANCE & REMORSE

- BOTH can be expressions of sorrow.
- But REPENTANCE leads to change... and salvation.

Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.

2 Cor. 7:10 (NIV)

- **REPENTANCE** has good results – as seen here:

See what this godly sorrow has produced in you: what earnestness, what eagerness to clear yourselves, what indignation, what alarm, what **longing**, what concern, what readiness to see justice done. At every point you have proved yourselves to be innocent in this matter.

2 Cor. 7:11 (NIV)

A STRONG DESIRE OR CRAVING

IN THIS CASE, THE DESIRE/CRAVING WAS **NOT** A KILLER SIN

IN CONTRAST...

- People can have **REMORSE** without changing their ways.
➤ Such People are no better than Judas:

When Judas, who had betrayed him, realized that Jesus had been condemned to die, he was filled with **remorse**. ... Then Judas threw the money onto the floor of the Temple and went out and hanged himself.

Matthew 27:3a, 5 (NLT)



If we are following Jesus...

- We have the **POWER** and the **MOTIVATION** to fight killer sins.

I can do everything **through Christ** who strengthens me.

Philip. 4:13 (GW)

"If you **love** me, you will **obey** my commandments."

John 14:15 (GW)

★ **BECAUSE OF LOVE, GOD'S COMMANDS WON'T BE A BURDEN TO US!** ★

This is **love** for God: to **obey** his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, ...

1 John 5:3 (NIV)

It will require: 1) **OBEDIENCE** and **EFFORT**...

- It involves "WORK." We must **DO** the things that are a part of salvation.

Therefore, my dear friends, ... work out your own salvation ...

Philip. 2:12a (CSB)

– NOT to "earn" salvation, but to "live it out."

PLUS: 2) Awareness that **GOD IS AT WORK** in us, giving us **our willingness to obey!**

- It involves a reverent attitude, and a willingness to admit that **GOD** alone makes it possible.

... with fear and trembling. For it is God who is working in you both to will and to work according to his good purpose.

Philip. 2:12b-13 (CSB)

WHERE?
DO WE START?

AS WE LOOK AT VICTORY OVER KILLER SINS, WHAT TYPE OF FOCUS WILL WE FIND?

- **GOD'S ROLE** in salvation – his sovereignty (God at work in our lives, as we change). → some verses
- Our **UNION WITH CHRIST** (the "starting point" that must influence all that we think and do). → many verses
- Our **THINKING** (and its connection to behavior). → **most verses** *
- The necessary **BEHAVIOR** (which requires a changed, renewed mind). → **a few verses** *

GOD'S ROLE
(SOVEREIGNTY)

HUMAN RESPONSIBILITY (with God helping us!)
UNION → THINKING → BEHAVIOR

* (These focus on **OUR** responsibility.)



victory over sin

- It BEGINS with a renewed mind.
- This makes it possible for us to know and do God's will.

As we learn about our RESPONSIBILITY to deal with sin...

- We will see that A CHANGED WAY OF THINKING is the starting point for obedience.
- Even so, our LOVE for Jesus will empower us to OBEY what we learn.

THE PURSUIT OF A RENEWED MIND

It's the **ONLY** way we can have the **OBEDIENCE** that **LOVE** for God desires.

- Replacing OLD ways of thinking with NEW ones

Do not be conformed to this world, but continually be **transformed** by the **renewing** of your minds ...

Romans 12:2a (ISV)

- This change in **THINKING** will enable a change in **VALUES**, **ATTITUDE** and **CONDUCT**.

... so that you may be able to determine what God's will is—what is proper, pleasing, and perfect.

Romans 12:2b (ISV)

2 Action Passages

If you are following Jesus...

- ✓ Certain things must be avoided, stopped, shoved aside, etc.



- ✓ Certain things must be pursued, started, lived in daily life, etc.



Other passages will remind us that doing this requires a changed mind.

‡ 1—**AVOIDED** vs. **A PART OF LIFE**

BECAUSE YOU ARE FOLLOWING JESUS...

YOU MUST AVOID

YOU MUST LIVE

Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world,

to abstain from **sinful desires**, which war against your soul.

Live such **good lives** among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your **good deeds** and glorify God on the day he visits us.

1 Peter 2:11-12 (NIV)

"SINFUL DESIRES"

- These are the killer sin "I CRAVE."
- THEY WILL KILL YOU if they get the chance!

‡ 2—**RUN AWAY** vs. **CHASE AFTER**

RUN AWAY FROM

CHASE AFTER

WARNING: THOSE YOU ASSOCIATE WITH WILL INFLUENCE HOW YOU LIVE.

But keep away from **youthful passions**, and pursue **righteousness, faithfulness, love, and peace**,

in company with others who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

2 Timothy 2:22 (NET)

Do not be misled: "Bad company corrupts good character."

1 Cor. 15:33 (NIV)

"YOUTHFUL PASSIONS"

- These are the killer sin "I CRAVE."

Both of these

action passages



Can be obeyed **ONLY** if we have:

- ✓ a right way of thinking,
- ✓ a right attitude,
- ✓ a right relationship to Jesus Christ,
- ✓ etc.

(Next week) We will look at some passages that focus on these issues.



BUT FOR NOW...



THIS WEEK

THINGS TO REMEMBER:

The devil may fight us.

He will try to hinder us from obeying these instructions
(using the sinful tendencies and habits of our old ways).

But God...



But God...

#1 – He has given us the **instructions** for doing these things. ➡ **The Bible.**

#2 – He has given us the **power** to do them. ➡ **The Holy Spirit.**

#3 – He has given us the **motivation** to do them. ➡ **Love for God.**

#4 – ➡ **AND...**

But God...

#4 – He also tells us to **encourage** each other to do these things. ➡ **His people.***

But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.

Hebrews 3:13 (NIV)

And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.

Hebrews 10:25 (NLT2015)

* (**GOD'S** PEOPLE, SINCE THOSE WE ASSOCIATE WITH WILL INFLUENCE HOW WE LIVE.)

Credits (1)

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