

Christian, why harm yourself with your secret sin of envy?

Definition of Envy: It is spiteful jealousy. Jealousy covets the advantages it sees others have, like their looks, possessions, intimacy with God or respect by others. Envy is worse for it secretly wants those seen as advantaged to be brought down and to suffer loss.

Envy by family members: Gen 37:11 **Joseph's brothers envied him** (and so sold him)

Envy by one once anointed of God: 1 Sam 18:9-10 **Saul was envious and suspicious of David from that day on. The next day an evil spirit...took control of Saul...**TEV

James 3:14-15 **If you have piercing envy...in your hearts...this wisdom does not descend from above, but is of the world, of human nature, and of the devil.**

Envy will cause harm to the physical body of the Christian who envies: Prov 14:30
A sound (sin-free) heart (spirit) is life to the body, But envy decays the body.

Prov 27:4 **Wrath is cruel and anger overwhelms, But who can survive envy?**

Envy reveals I'm in the flesh, and still a spiritual baby: 1 Cor 3:1-3 **...As spiritual babies ...For where there's envy...you are carnal and behaving like the unconverted.**

Envy another Christian tells God I do not trust Him to take good care of me: Rom 8:32
He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? (The envious don't believe this.)

What is God's remedy for the deadly sin of Envy? Love, God's love, for it never envies:

1 Cor 13:4 **Love...does not envy**; (where do we get this love that doesn't envy?)

1 John 4:7-8 **Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God; and everyone who loves is born of God and (currently) knows God** (in their spirit).

8 **Those who do not love do not** (currently) **know God** (in spirit), **for God is love**.

How does God impart to our hearts His love? By His words and Spirit and our living in Him:

1 John 2:5 **Whoever retains His word** (in their hearts) **the love of God is perfected in them. By this we know that we are living in Him** (and currently know Him).

Ro 5:5 **...The love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit**

2 Thes 3:5 **May the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God** (His word)...

Rom 8:39 **...Nothing can separate us from the love of God** (that never secretly envies) **which is in Christ Jesus our Lord** (unless, by our will we choose to leave the ownership control of God's Spirit and go back into our envious human nature).

1 Cor 12:26 **...If one Christian is honored, all the (loving) others rejoice with it.**