"The Christian Work Ethic: *Envy Kills* Christian Zeal" (Part 8)
Psalm 73:1-28

"Envy is the great unsought sin."

"It is far more valuable to be godly than to seem godly. It is also far more important to care about reality than perception. For reality is a private matter and perception a public one. We must remember the Almighty will not judge us based on what men thought of us but what He knew of us. This is why we must fear God and not man." — Richard Baxter

"Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides You." (Psalm 73:25)

- Envy 101:
 - "Love is patient and kind; **love does not envy** or boast; it is not arrogant." (1 Corinthians 13:4)
 - "A tranquil heart gives life to the flesh, but **envy makes the bones rot**." (Proverbs 14:30)
 - "Let not your heart envy sinners, but continue in the fear of the Lord all the day." (Proverbs 23:17)
 - "So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. (1 Peter 2:1)
- Psalm 73:1-28:
 - The Issue: "For I was envious of the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked." (Psalm 73:3). "Behold, these are the wicked; always at ease, they increase in riches." (Psalm 73:12)
 - "They always get what they want."; "They never have to go through anything hard."; "God, why don't You love me?"; "Am I being punished?"
 - The Heart Condition: "All in vain have I kept my heart clean and washed my hands in innocence. For all the day long I have been stricken and rebuked every morning." (Psalm 73:13-14)
 - "But Jesus on His part did not entrust Himself to them, because He knew all people and needed no one to bear witness about man, for He Himself knew what was in man." (John 2:24-25)
 - The Solution: "But when I thought how to understand this, it seemed to me a wearisome task, until I went into the sanctuary of God; then I discerned their end." (Psalm 73:16-17)
 - "Whom have I in heaven but You? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides You." (Psalm 73:25)
- Proper Mindsets to Fight Envy:
 - "Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for **one's life does not consist** in the abundance of his possessions." (Luke 12:15)
 - "Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep." (Romans 12:15)
 - Envy: "Rejoice with those who weep, weep with those who rejoice."
 - "For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be **disorder and every vile practice**." (James 3:16)
 - "For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way?" (1 Corinthians 3:3b)

Worship: Crown Him With Many Crowns — Norton Hall Band

How Great Thou Art — Various Artists

Closing Song: Sovereign Over Us — Aaron Keyes

Announcements:

- ★<u>MEMBERS' MEETING:</u> We are having a Members' Meeting TODAY, immediately following the worship service. This meeting will be to vote on the items presented at the October Members' Meeting. If you are currently a Church Member, please plan on staying for this important meeting.
- ★CHRISTMAS DECORATING: **This announcement has changed slightly from what is in the November Newsletter!**
 We will be decorating the church for Christmas in TWO weeks, on Sunday, November 30th, immediately following the worship service. We would love for everyone to stay to help us with this, as many hands make light work! We will be buying pizza for lunch for anyone who is volunteering to help us decorate. If you are planning on staying to help decorate, please let Kathleen know so that we are sure to get enough pizza for everyone!
- ★For all other announcements, please see the screen before the worship service starts or the November Newsletter!