Study # 25

Y Yearning(Affections) Lesson Commenced\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Lesson Completed\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

When it comes to the letter Y in the Bible it is hard to find a topic to discuss and study. However, there is one topic that is only mentioned in your Bible twice. That is the word Yearn (mentioned only once in ***Genesis 43:30***) and Yearning (mentioned only once in ***1 Kings 3:26***). The one in ***Genesis 43:30*** concerns Joseph when “his bowels did ***yearn*** upon his brother” Benjamin. The other is one of two harlots that appear before King Solomon in ***1 Kings 3:26*** to fight over the ownership of a child, and when King Solomon passes judgment to divide the child between them, the scriptures say the true mother of the child said, “O my lord, give her the living child, and in no wise slay it because “her bowels ***yearned*** upon her son”. Both scripture references above show us a deep, inner most yearning or (affection). The bowels would lead us to know that it was in the “center” of the people’s beings, like “the bowels of the earth” meaning the center of the earth.

***Yearning*** is defined as: To long for; to desire greatly and incessantly (without interruption); to be filled with compassion; to desire strongly or persistently; to have a desire for something or someone; to feel tenderness for; ache; hanker (Southerners); languish; long; pant; pine; yen (Yankees); have an ***affection*** for.

***Affection*** is defined as: A feeling; fondness; tenderness; warm-heartedness; emotional (feeling) or cognitive (thinking, learning and reasoning) impact upon; ***the heart***.

This is becoming more interesting as we go. Considering our Scriptures above and definitions, we can understand that there is something working in these individuals that is very strong and is even ***affecting*** the ***heart***. "The Heart is the '*spiritual*' seat of out affections." ~PSR~

Now that we have an idea of what we want to study, as we seen before, the Bible does not mention the word ***yearn*** much, however the topic of ***affection*** is something that the Scriptures have a lot to teach us. The Lord Jesus Christ himself taught on affection. So, let’s begin, and study what our Bible has to say!

Jesus said; "For where \_ \_ \_ \_ t \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ is, there \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ h \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

\_ \_ \_ \_."***Matthew 6:21***

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Look up ***Proverbs 4:23*** and fill in this verse;

"K \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ with a \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_; for \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ are the I \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

\_ \_ L \_ \_ \_.”

 ***“Warning”, “Warning”, “Warning”, Everything stems from that heart!!!***

So, when the Lord in His word speaks of the heart, He is speaking of something that is of great importance and should be attended to with a degree of seriousness. We see that our heart ties to our affections, and our affections with the emotions(feelings), thinking, learning, and reasoning tie to our yearning with its longing, great and strong desires. Whew! No wonder it is called the

***heart***!

Probably every one of us have heard the expression, "Be careful what you wish for, you might just get it." What we are really saying when we say this is what the Lord said isn't it, and that is to be careful what we allow to be our treasure. Be careful what we allow our heart to become affectionate towards. Be careful what we hanker (southern again), Yen (Yankee again) or long for.

Have a look at these verses and fill them in; ***Jeremiah 17:9,10***

"The \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ is d \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ above \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_, and d \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

w \_ \_ \_ \_ \_: who can know it? I the LORD search the \_ \_ \_ \_ \_, I try the reins, even to give every man according to his w \_ \_ \_, and according to the fruit of his d \_ \_ \_ \_ \_."

Now look at what the LORD said about the heart. He says that this thing called the heart that longs for, greatly desires, has yearnings, has affections and involves our feelings and thinking, is deceitful above all things, desperately wicked, and affects our control (reins), ways, and doings. Is it ever going to end? It must be truth, the LORD said these things! So now we know that our heart is the innermost us (the RRREEEAAALLL you), that it can be both good and evil.

Have you ever heard somebody cry? No, I mean really cry! Cry from their heart? Sure, you have. Can you tell that there is a difference and it is coming from the heart? Sure, you can. What does this kind of weeping tell us? That whatever it was making them cry, they were affectionate towards, right? Have you ever heard someone curse? No, I mean really curse! Curse from their heart? Sure, you have.

***Matthew 15:18***: "But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man."

We can see by now that our yearnings (affections) do matter and are very important.

Let's look at some truths, and what the word of God says about them.

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 **What are some of the *kinds* of Yearnings (Affections) taught in the Bible?**

***Romans 1:25-32*** {N \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_} ***Luke 15:17-24*** {P \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_}

***1 Kings 3:16-27*** {M \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_}

***Genesis 43:29-34*** {F \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_} ***Genesis 49:29-33*** {F \_ \_ \_ \_ \_}

***Romans 9:1-4*** {R \_ \_ \_ \_ \_}

***Psalms 137:1-6*** {N \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_} ***Ephesians 5:25-33*** {For W \_ \_ \_ \_}

***Titus 2:1-5*** {For H \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_}

***Romans 12:4-21***{C \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_} ***Colossians 3:1-4*** {H \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_}



" …the words I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life."***John 6:63***

**What are some *Good Characteristics* of Yearnings (Affections)?**

A. Good affections can be intensely ***LOYAL Ruth* *1:14-18; 2:11-12***

 One of the highest spoken of women of the Bible is Ruth, and her loyalty to God and her

 Mother-in-law. Notice what Ruth answers to Naomi in ***verse 17***.

"Where thou diest, \_ \_ \_ \_ die, and there \_ \_ \_ \_ be buried: the LORD do so to me, and

more also, if aught but death part thee and me."

 If there is anything that proves how much a person's affections are toward something or

 somebody, it is loyalty. Loyalty is a good yearning. Can you think of anything we should

 have affections of loyalty towards? Name something you are loyal to (honestly, from the

 heart, remember?) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ***Psalms 1:6; 15:1-5; 37:18; 138:6***

"He that i \_ f \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ in that which is least i \_ f \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ also in much: and

he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much." ***Luke 16:10***

B. Good affections can be ***MEMORABLE 1 Samuel Chapter 1; 2:1-11***

 Here we see in God's word that Hannah had good memories of affections and yearnings

 that she had. Hannah was a good woman that loved and feared GOD. She was being

 persecuted by both the devil and Peninnah that she could not bear children. It becomes

 unbearable and in ***vs. 11*** she makes a deal with the LORD. In ***vs. 19-20*** the LORD

 remembers their agreement and gives Hannah conception.

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 In ***vs. 25-28*** she keeps her part of the agreement and turns over her child (Samuel) to the

 LORD to Eli the priest. After everything is done, look at Hannah's response in ***2:1-10***.

 Fill in ***vs.1***

"AND Hannah p \_ \_ \_ \_ \_, and said, M \_ h \_ \_ \_ \_ r \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ in the LORD, (Good

memories of her affections) mine h \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ e \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ in the LORD: my m \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

e \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ over mine enemies; because \_ r \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ in thy salvation."

 Hannah's memories of her affections were pleasant for her. Affections can be memorable.

 Also, see King David's memories of affections he had over King Saul and Jonathan in

***2 Samuel 1:17-27****.* David had good memories in so much he missed them.

C. Good affections can be ***NATURAL 2******Samuel 13:30-39***

(***Vs. 39***) "And \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ of king David l \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ to go forth unto Absalom: for he was

comforted concerning Amnon, seeing he was dead."

 King David yearned for his son Absalom that had ran away and wanted to go get him.

 Affections can be natural affections. It is a good and natural thing for a father to love and

 miss his children. List some other affections that you would think to be natural: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

D. Good affections can be ***TESTED*** and ***TRIED*** ***Genesis 22:1-19***

 One thing that the LORD himself does is tests or tries our affections, to see what are the

 most important to us. We may say that we love the Lord more than anything else, but when

 put to the test, what then? Even Abraham's affections had to be put to the test. God tested

 Abrahams heart (affections) to see who was most important to him. Fill in the verses and

 see the truths that the LORD found out by testing Abrahams faith. ({faith} What was most

 important to Abraham in his heart.)

*(****Vs. 12****)* "And he said, Lay not thy hand upon the lad, neither \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

unto him: for \_ \_ \_ I \_ \_ \_ \_ that \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ God, seeing thou hast not

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_, thine only son from me. *(****Vs. 18b****)* … because thou

hast \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_."

 It is a good thing for our affections to be tried, (even though not always a pleasant thing),

 that our true hearts may be seen by the Lord, and not only by Him, but also that we may

 know what is really in our hearts.

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E. Good affections can be ***EMOTIONAL John 11:33-36***

 In this passage of Scripture, it is evident that there were some emotions. First, we see Mary

 the sister of Lazarus in *(****vs. 32-33****)*, who was at the feet of Jesus when he came, expressing

 her affections for her brother Lazarus, by weeping. Also, we see in the same verses the Jews

 that followed Mary showing their affections for Mary's grief by weeping with her. Then, we

 see in *(****vs. 35****)*, that our Lord Jesus showed His emotions by weeping also. Emotions are to

 our affections as leaves are to the wind. The visible revealing the invisible. Proof of this is

 in *(****vs. 36****)*. See what the conclusion of Jesus' weeping was in the eyes of the Jews. Fill in this

 verse: Then said the Jews, B \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_! *(****vs. 36****).* You see

 emotions can be good characteristics of our affections. Praise the Lord!

F. Good affections can be ***GRATEFUL Luke 7:36-50***

 Christians should without a doubt be grateful to the Lord for what He has done for them

 personally. Remember when you were first saved? Remember the first love you had with

 Lord? Remember the gratitude you had toward Him? Remember knowing that He has

 forgiven those terrible things? When we remember, our affections will cause us to be

 grateful. The woman in this passage was known by all only as a sinner. Jesus himself said

 "Her s \_ \_ \_, which \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_, are f \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_; for she l \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_; but to whom

 little is forgiven, the same l \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_." *(****vs. 47****)*. Jesus said whoever appreciates

 the most, their affections will show the most gratitude. Our gratitude can be wonderfully

 affectionate! See also ***Luke 17:10-19*** with the leper's gratitude.

G. Good affections can be ***JOYOUS Psalms 126:1-6***

 When we think of joy, we see it defined as (great happiness; to make glad or happy; to

 delight; gladden; pleasure; or rejoice). But when it comes to the kind of joy that the Bible

 speaks of, there is a difference in the world’s kind of "happy" and the "joy" of the child of

 God. The affections that bring joy are more lasting affections of happiness and many times,

 have to do with things we have not yet reaped.

 *(****vs.5-6****)* "They that s \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ shall r \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_. He that goeth forth and

 w \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again w \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_,

 bringing his sheaves with him." Even our Lord Jesus showed us what true joy was.

 ***Hebrews 12:2*** "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who f \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

 \_ \_ \_ that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at

 the right hand of the throne of God."

 A child of God has affections that the world cannot know. When we yearn for the thing

 that our Lord yearns for it brings a joy that has strength. ***Nehemiah 8:10c*** "…neither be ye

 sorry; for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

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We can know that our affections and the longings that we have are right ones, when they bring forth joy that is of the truth and that doesn't fade away like the joy the world has.

***Job 20:5*** "That the triumphing of the wicked is short, and t \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_?"

The affections that the Holy Ghost teaches us to have are wonderful and good. Did you know that one of the fruits of the Spirit is JOY?

** ***Galatians 5:22*** "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy…" Praise the Lord!

H. Good affections can and should be ***CHRIST-CENTERED Matthew 10:37-42***

***John 3:30*** "H \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_, but \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_."

 It doesn't get much plainer than the Scripture above say's it. The centrality of Christ.

 The world is going to do what the world has always done and that is "Me First you last."

 The Lord Jesus said that the world hated Him. ***John 7:7****;* ***John 15:10-25****;* ***1 John 3:9-18****.*

 He also said that the world hates the ones that believe on Him. ***1 John 3:13-14****.* However,

 when speaking to us, the born-again believers, He gives us different instructions when it

 comes to our affections and the things that we should long for. Fill in the verses below.

***Colossians 3:1-4***: "If ye then be r \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ C \_ \_ \_ \_ \_, seek those things w \_ \_ \_ \_

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. S \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ on t \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_, n \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_.

 For ye are dead, and your l \_ \_ \_ is h \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ C \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ in God. When Christ,

who \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory."

 If you are born again, then your life should be transforming into the image of Christ.

***Romans 12:2***. This meaning that everything about you and your life here on earth is making

 a change, whether you understand it or not. God the Holy Ghost is tuning you into the

 image of Jesus Christ. ***Romans 8:29***. Making you like Him. This includes your affections.

 Your affections should be changing. The things of this world that you once yearned for

 ought to be fading away, and new affections taking place. New desires! ***1 Peter 2:1-3***. All

 that should matter to us now is pleasing Him and knowing Him. ***Philippians 3:10***. Praise

 Him!

 Now some of our affections change easily, but some with a little more difficulty,

 nevertheless, still changing. If you have no evidence at all of God the Holy Ghost trying to

 instill Jesus Christ's affections in you, YOU ARE IN DANGER! What you should do is after

 class, go to your teacher privately and discuss it with him. He will not embarrass you but

 help you. Whatever you do, don't put it off. If you are saved, there should be evidence

 somewhere. ***Luke 6:46****.* The God of the Bible does not try to trick us, nor embarrass us for

 seeking truth. ***James 1:5****.* Developing the affections of our Savior is a wonderful thing. Some

 of it won't be easy, but all of it will be rewarding. ***1 Corinthians 15:58****.* Praise Him!

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**What are some *Evil Characteristics* of Yearnings (Affections)?**

A. Evil affections can be ***UNNATURAL Romans 1:18-32***

***Proverbs 28: 14***: "H \_ \_ \_ \_ is the man that f \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_: b \_ \_ he that

h \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ shall fall into mischief."

**Proverbs 28: 26**: "He that t \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ is a \_ \_ \_ \_: but whoso

w \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ w \_ \_ \_ \_ \_, he shall \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_."

 The Lord teaches us in His word that there is natural and there is unnatural. He also tells us

 that he has put within each of us the ability to tell the difference, (***vs.18-20***). God says that

 He made invisible things. He says that when we look at the things that are made, we can

 see and understand the invisible things. (For instance, the wind). Then, the Lord teaches us

 that it is possible (if we don't watch out) for our hearts to become darkened and turn away

 from the truth, and become fools, (***vs. 21-22***). After this, all kinds of evil will come into our

 lives, (***vs. 23-32***). This is to include developing unnatural affections; things that we yearn

 and long for that are evil, and we should not long for naturally. Fill in (***vs.31***). The Lord

 named it specifically, in His word for us to read.

(***vs.31***) "Without understanding, covenant-breakers, w \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ n \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

a \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_, implacable, unmerciful:"

 Don't ever say, "Well, I would never do or be that." Our hearts are wicked, and us straying

 from God's truth (His word), we are capable of heinous evils. One thing when it comes to

 yearning (affections), is to keep them natural. Name some things you know to be unnatural:

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

B. Evil affections can be ***PRETENDED Matthew 26:47-49***; ***Luke 22:47-48***

 Here is probably one of the scariest statements that our Lord Jesus spoke. Look how our

 Lord Jesus responded to this pretended affection from Judas Iscariot.

*(****vs.47-48****)* "And while he yet spake, behold a multitude, and \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

J \_ \_ \_ \_, one of the twelve, went before them, and d \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ J \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

k \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_. But Jesus said unto him, J \_ \_ \_ \_, b \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ the S \_ \_ \_ \_

\_ \_ \_ with a k \_ \_ \_?"

 To pretend means to "make believe". It not only means to make believe, but to make

 believe, in order to "deceive". Pretended affections are evil affections.

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Look also in this verse and see what our Bible says. ***Jeremiah 9:8***

"Their tongue is as an arrow shot out; it speaketh deceit: one s \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ p \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ to his neighbour w \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_, but \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_." "…with a KISS????? Evil!

C. Evil affections can be ***FLESHLY Romans 13:12-14***

 Here is one area that we can without a doubt, know that the affections that we have are

 evil. If the affection is catering to the flesh it is evil. The Lord has made provision in all

 ways for us to provide the needs of the body in a clean and upright manner. There is a

 difference in having the necessities needed for the body, and providing for the lusts that the

 flesh wants and craves.

***Romans 7:18a*** "For \_ k \_ \_ \_ that \_ \_ \_ \_ (that is, \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_,) d \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_:" How much good is in our "flesh?" \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

*(****vs.14****)* "But p \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ the Lord Jesus Christ, and m \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ p \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ for

the f \_ \_ \_ \_, to fulfil the lusts thereof."

 At no time, should the Christian trust his or her affections to the flesh. The flesh will turn a

 pure affection into a lust and cause us to sin. ***James 1:13-16****.*

 Provision- Measures taken or means made ready in advance.

D. Evil affections can be ***WORLDLY*** ***2 Timothy 4:10; 1 John 2:15-17***

*(****vs.10****)*"For Demas hath f \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_, having l \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_,"

 It is apparent to us that yearnings can be so powerful, that they can cause us to pick to love

 something worldly above our love for Christ. Demas was one of the few that was around

 the Apostle Paul and when he had to make a choice, he chose the world! The world is a

 dangerous attraction for the Bible believer and should not ever be toyed with. We are not

 given a suggestion to "Love not the world", but a command!

*(****vs.15-17****)* "L \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_, neither the things that are \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_.

If any man love the world, the love of the F \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_. For all that is in

the world, the l \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ f \_ \_ \_ \_, and the l \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ e \_ \_ \_, and the

p \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ l \_ \_ \_, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world p \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

a \_ \_ \_, and the l \_ \_ \_ thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever."

 This is probably one of the most difficult for the believer to fight today, with all the open,

 outrageous, flagrant, "in your face", "God Rejecting", defiant sinning going on. Worldly

 affections are not only dangerously evil, but "deadly". Watch!!!

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E. Evil affections can be ***DEFILING*** and ***DEGRADING******2 Peter 2***

 Defile- To make unclean; to dishonor or tarnish, (e.g.) a reputation, character, or integrity.

 Degrade- To reduce in grade or rank, deprive of office or dignity; disgrace, shame, corrupt.

 How many times have we heard of somebody that is respected and thought of as clean and

 upstanding, doing or being involved in something we would have never guessed. Then

 because of the incident, the person's image becomes ugly, and even with repentance

 and forgiveness they can never be what they once were, or recover their identity they once

 had. Defilement and degradation has entered in through evil affections.

 ***2 Peter 2*** teaches us that there are going to be false teachers that will come to us to turn us

 away from the truth *(****vs. 1-2****),* and will use evil affections to do it *(****vs. 3,18,19****).*

 There are two different kinds of people. The Godly and the unjust, or in the New Testament

 sense, the Saved and the lost. You will notice that in the scriptures that the Lord judged the

 angels *(****vs.4****),* judged the entire population of the world (except Noah and his family) *(****vs.5****),*

 judged Sodom and Gomorrha with several other wicked cities (except Lot and his family)

 *(****vs.6-8****).*

*(****vs.9****)* The Lord k \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ to d \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ out of t \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_,

and to r \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ the \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ unto the day \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ to \_ \_ p \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_:"

 We are indeed blessed above our imaginations with the grace and mercy that the Lord has

 shown to us through Jesus Christ. If you are saved, you are eternally saved when it comes to

 God's final judgment of your sin. Christ's Blood has washed that away. *(****1 Peter 1:18,19****).*

 However, don't be deceived into thinking that it is alright for you to mingle your affections

 with the world and the ungodly, as Lot did *(****vs. 7,8****).* Look what the scriptures say happened

 to his affections.

*(****vs.7,8****)*"And delivered just Lot, v \_ \_ \_ \_ with the f \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ c \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ of the

w \_ \_ \_ \_ \_: (For that r \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ dwelling among them, in s \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ and

h \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_, v \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ from d \_ \_ to d \_ \_ with their

unlawful deeds;)"

Playing around with the evil affections can defile and degrade a saved man just as it does a

unsaved man. Don’t be fooled! Stay away! Far away!

***1 Thessalonians 4:7*** "For God hath not called us u \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_, but unto

h \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_."

***1 Corinthians 3:16,17*** "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of

God dwelled in you? If any man defile the temple of God, h \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

\_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are."

 God can and does get fed up with His children (the saved) playing with filthy affections and

 will kill you and take you home if you make Him! He takes His Fatherhood seriously.

F. Evil affections can be ***INSTIGATED***.

"But the unbelieving Jews s \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ u \_ the Gentiles, and m \_ \_ \_ t \_ \_ \_ \_ m \_ \_ \_ \_ e \_ \_ \_ a \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ against the brethren." ***Acts 14:2***

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G. Evil affections can be ***AGONIZING, ESPECIALLY IN HELL Luke 16:19-31***

***Isaiah 48:22*** There is \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_, saith the LORD, unto the wicked.

 Agonizing- Extremely painful; Intense feelings of suffering; acute mental or physical pain;

 a state of acute pain.

"But every man is tempted, when he is d \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ of h \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ l \_ \_ \_, and

e \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_. Then when lust hath conceived, it b \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_: and sin,

when it is finished, b \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_. Do not err, my beloved brethren."

***James 1:14-16***

 There are many affections that can be agonizing. Ask any drug user, drunkard, fornicator,

 person living a lie, thief, whore, or Christian living in the world trying to enjoy sin. SIN IS

 AGONIZING! Sin always looks attractive and come wrapped in pretty packages, but inside

 is death. The scriptures say that Moses had all the pleasures of sin he could want at his

 fingertips in Egypt but chose to suffer with the people of God than "…to enjoy the pleasures

 of sin for a season;". ***Hebrews 11:24-26****.* Not only is sin agonizing, but the memories that we

 accumulate in life from catering to evil affections and yearnings. You wonder why people

 blow their brains out, hang themselves, jump off bridges and out in front of trains. Its

 from memories of evil yearnings that they can no longer live with, and rather than come to

 Christ Jesus for forgiveness, they kill themselves and think that will end it. But, it doesn't.

 The scriptures in **Luke 16** show us a warning from the Lord Jesus himself not to die and go

 into eternity unprepared. We see the rich man "IN HELL" being "IN TORMENTS". He is

 being punished and will be there "forever". Everything about his existence now is

 "AGONIZING". God does and will "punish sin".

"In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel

of our Lord Jesus Christ: "Who s \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ with everlasting destruction

from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;"***2 Thessalonians 1:8-9***.

"The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust

unto the day of judgment t \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_:"***2 Peter 2:9.***

READ ***EZEKIEL 14:1-8***

 We cannot manipulate or fool the Lord with our intentions. If we try, He will answer us

 according to, and with the iniquity of our yearnings (affections), and let us kill ourselves

 with our deceitfulness. We will be the fools, not the Lord or his word!

"Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and

p \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_, ye double minded."***James 4:8****.*

"Trust in the LORD with \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_ \_; and lean not unto thine own

understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

***Proverbs 3:5-6***

BE CAREFUL LITTLE "EYES WHAT YOU SEE", "LITTLE EARS WHAT YOU HEAR", "LITTLE TONGUE WHAT YOU SAY","LITTLE HANDS WHAT YOU TOUCH", "LITTLE FEET WHERE YOU GO"!!!

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