

# Enemies of the Soul

## Soulfull - Part 2

June 11, 2023

**Your soul is designed to run on God.**

**The soul suffers when we fuel it with something other than God.**

<sup>15</sup>Do not love the world or anything in *the world*. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. <sup>16</sup>For everything in the world—the *lust of the flesh*, the *lust of the eyes*, and the *pride of life*—comes not from the Father but from the world. <sup>17</sup>The world and its desires *pass away*, but whoever does the will of God lives *forever*.” 1 John 2:15-17 (NIV)

**The World = The corrupt and false system of beliefs and ways of living (led by Satan) that intentionally try to draw us away from God’s love, truth, and will for our lives.**

**Three Enemies of the Soul:**

**#1 - The Lust of the Flesh**

**#2 - The Lust of the Eyes**

**#3 - The Pride of Life**

**#1 - The Lust of the Flesh = The desire to fulfill legitimate physical needs in sinful illegitimate ways.**

**Sex is legitimate. Sexual immorality is worldly.**

**Eating is legitimate. Gluttony is worldly.**

**Rest is legitimate. Laziness is worldly.**

**Are there any legitimate physical needs that you are currently meeting in illegitimate ways?**

**#2 - The Lust of the Eyes = The sinful desire to possess what we see or to have those things which have visual appeal.**

**Where our eyes go, our lives go. So guard carefully where your eyes look.**

**What is captivating your attention right now?**

**#3 - The Pride of Life = The desire to overestimate self and underestimate God and other people.**

*“ ... What do you have that God hasn’t given you? And if everything you have is from God, why boast as though it were not a gift?”* 1 Corinthians 4:7 (NLT)

**Are you overestimating yourself or your stuff?**

**Adam and Eve were tempted with the three enemies of the soul:**

- **They saw the fruit and it was appealing. (lust of the eyes)**
- **They craved the fruit to feed their appetite. (lust of the flesh)**
- **They wanted to be like God. (pride of life)**

**The fallout was disastrous.**

**Giving in to the enemies of our soul costs us what is most important in life.**

- They destroy our relationship with God.
- They destroy our relationships with those we love.
- They destroy our soul.

**Jesus is the enemy of your soul's enemies.**

**Jesus was tempted by all three enemies of the soul as well:**

- “Turn these stones into bread” (lust of the flesh)
- Showed/promised all the kingdoms of this world if He worshipped Satan (lust of the eyes)
- Brought to the highest point and told to defy/test God (pride of life)

**Yet Jesus defeated our soul enemies!**

Luke 4:4,8,11 (NLT)

- “People do not live by bread alone.”
- “You must worship the Lord your God and serve only Him.”
- “You must not test the Lord your God.”

“Death no longer has any power over him.” Romans 6:9 (NLT)

*“<sup>24</sup>Oh, what a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? <sup>25</sup>Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord.”* Romans 7:24-25 (NLT)

**Though our soul is under constant attack, Jesus came and did for us what we could not do ourselves. He never sinned. Died in our place. Conquered death in His resurrection. And through **faith in Him** we are offered a **restored soul** and **relationship with God**.**

**Homework - Romans 6 ;)**