

1 John 2 - Addict, Malcontent or Narcissist?

March 12, 2015

1 John 2:15-16

15 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

16 For all that is in the world, THE LUST OF THE FLESH, and THE LUST OF THE EYES, and THE PRIDE OF LIFE, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

LUST OF THE FLESH

The power of addiction is the compulsion to numb or deaden the inward emptiness, deadness, hopelessness and loneliness. We are driven to ease or mask over the heart's pain by immersing ourselves in some momentary, fleeting pleasure or euphoria.

Ecclesiastes 2:10-11

10 And whatsoever mine eyes desired I kept not from them, I WITHHELD NOT MY HEART FROM ANY JOY; FOR MY HEART REJOICED IN ALL MY LABOUR: and this was my portion of all my labour.

11 Then I looked on all the works that my hands had wrought, and on the labour that I had laboured to do: and, behold, ALL WAS VANITY AND VEXATION OF SPIRIT, and THERE WAS NO PROFIT UNDER THE SUN.

LUST OF THE EYES

The power behind the lust of the eyes is seeing what we don't have. Lusting after what we see is driven by two motives:

- *the lust of the flesh, the insatiable need for more pleasure or gratification to numb the inward pain with more, better or different*
- *the pride of life, the insatiable rivalry to be better or have more than others*

Genesis 3:6

"And when the woman SAW THAT THE TREE WAS GOOD FOR FOOD, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat."

Ecclesiastes 2:10

10 And WHATSOEVER MINE EYES DESIRED I KEPT NOT FROM THEM, I withheld not my heart from any joy; for my heart rejoiced in all my labour: and this was my portion of all my labour.

Judges 14:2

"And he (Samson) came up, and told his father and his mother, and said, I HAVE SEEN A WOMAN in Timnath of the daughters of the Philistines: now therefore get her for me to wife."

Psalms 119:37

"**TURN AWAY MINE EYES FROM BEHOLDING VANITY**; and quicken thou me in thy way."

Proverbs 23:4-5

4 Labour not to be rich: cease from thine own wisdom.

5 **WILT THOU SET THINE EYES UPON THAT WHICH IS NOT?** for riches certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven.

Proverbs 27:20

"Hell and destruction are never full; **SO THE EYES OF MAN ARE NEVER SATISFIED**."

Ecclesiastes 6:9

"**BETTER IS THE SIGHT OF THE EYES THAN THE WANDERING OF THE DESIRE**: this is also vanity and vexation of spirit."

THE PRIDE OF LIFE

The spirit of NARCISSISM (an exceptional interest in and admiration for yourself)

- *inordinate and unhealthy preoccupation with self*
- *warped and self-obsessed perspective of life, life events and circumstances*
- *attitude of superiority and entitlement*
- *strives and contends to maintain preeminence and dominance over others*
- *threatened by criticism, competition and even sometimes disagreement*
- *insatiable compulsion for self-validation from self and from others*
- *inability to sympathize with other's needs or pain*

3 John 1:9-10

9 I wrote unto the church: but Diotrephes, **WHO LOVETH TO HAVE THE PREMINENCE** (*loves to be first*) **AMONG THEM, RECEIVETH US NOT.**

10 Wherefore, if I come, I will remember his deeds which he doeth, **PRATING** (*accuse falsely*) **AGAINST US WITH MALICIOUS WORDS**: and **NOT CONTENT THEREWITH, NEITHER DOTHE HE HIMSELF RECEIVE THE BRETHREN**, and **FORBIDDETH THEM THAT WOULD**, and **CASTETH THEM OUT OF THE CHURCH.**