

- Work: Attitude and Action Matter (Ephesians 6:5-8)
 - **Eph 6:5** Bondservants, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in sincerity of heart, as to Christ; **6** not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, **7** with goodwill doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men, **8** knowing that whatever good anyone does, he will receive the same from the Lord, whether *he is* a slave or free. **9** And you, masters, do the same things to them, giving up threatening, knowing that your own Master also is in heaven, and there is no partiality with Him.

- Work: Excellence Brings Honor (Proverbs 22:29)
 - **Pr 22:29** Do you see a man *who* excels in his work? He will stand before kings; He will not stand before unknown *men*.

- It's has spiritual implications
 - Eternal Reward - Colossians 3:23-24
 - **Col 3:23** And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, **24** knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.

 - Work: God's Name & His Word is to be Honored – 1 Timothy 6:1
 - **1 Ti 6:1** Let as many bondservants as are under the yoke count their own masters worthy of all honor, so that the name of God and *His* doctrine may not be blasphemed

 - So God's People Can Experience Blessings – 1 Timothy 6:2
 - **1 Ti 6:2** And those who have believing masters, let them not despise *them* because they are brethren, but rather serve *them* because those who are benefited are believers and beloved. Teach and exhort these things.

 - Work hard for the Lord Before Men (Colossians 3:23-24)
 - **Col 3:23** And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, **24** knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.

- Managing Others: Avoid Tyranny and Partiality (Ephesians 6:9)
 - **Eph 6:9** And you, masters, do the same things to them, giving up threatening, knowing that your own Master also is in heaven, and there is no partiality with Him.
- Masters/Boss: Demonstrate justice and fairness (Colossians 4:1)
 - **Col 4:1** Masters, give your bondservants what is just and fair, knowing that you also have a Master in heaven.
- Slaves/Employee: Work Hard being Respectful, Reverent, and Obedient (Ephesians 6:5)
 - **Eph 6:5** Bondservants, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in sincerity of heart, as to Christ;
- Prove your faithfulness to God: Avoid "Eyeservice" (Ephesians 6:6-8)
 - **Eph 6:6** not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart, **7** with goodwill doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men, **8** knowing that whatever good anyone does, he will receive the same from the Lord, whether *he is* a slave or free.
 - **Col 3:22** Bondservants, obey in all things your masters according to the flesh, not with eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God.
- Beware Making work the "be all/end all" "Workaholic" (Ec 2:22-24)
 - **Ec 2:22** For what has man for all his labor, and for the striving of his heart with which he has toiled under the sun? **23** For all his days *are* sorrowful, and his work burdensome; even in the night his heart takes no rest. This also is vanity. **24** Nothing *is* better for a man *than* that he should eat and drink, and *that* his soul should enjoy good in his labor. This also, I saw, was from the hand of God.
- Understand the Limitations of Work (Ec 2:11)

- **Ec 2:11** Then I looked on all the works that my hands had done And on the labor in which I had toiled; And indeed all *was* vanity and grasping for the wind. *There was* no profit under the sun.

ADDITIONAL THOUGHTS

- Work is for Providing for Self and Others (Acts 20:34-35)
 - **Ac 20:34** Yes, you yourselves know that these hands have provided for my necessities, and for those who were with me. **35** I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' "

- Work is not solely of the flesh, but of the Spirit and Grace (1 Cor 15:10)
 - **1 Co 15:10** But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God *which was* with me.

- Work is Difficult at Times (2 Cor 11:23-33)
 - **2 Co 11:23** Are they ministers of Christ?—I speak as a fool—I *am* more: in labors more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequently, in deaths often. **24** From the Jews five times I received forty *stripes* minus one. **25** Three times I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been in the deep; **26** in journeys often, *in* perils of waters, *in* perils of robbers, *in* perils of *my own* countrymen, *in* perils of the Gentiles, *in* perils in the city, *in* perils in the wilderness, *in* perils in the sea, *in* perils among false brethren; **27** in weariness and toil, in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness—**28** besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches. **29** Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to stumble, and I do not burn *with indignation*? **30** If I must boast, I will boast in the things which concern my infirmity. **31** The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying. **32** In Damascus the governor, under Aretas the king, was guarding the city of the Damascenes with a garrison, desiring to arrest me; **33** but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped from his hands.

- Three Aspects of Work: Pain, Purity, and Patience (2 Cor 11:23-33)
 - **2 Ti 2:3** You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. **4** No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of *this* life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier. **5** And also if anyone competes in athletics, he is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. **6** The hardworking farmer must be first to partake of the crops. **7** Consider what I say, and may the Lord give you understanding in all things. **8** Remember that Jesus Christ, of the seed of David, was raised from the dead according to my gospel, **9** for which I suffer trouble as an evildoer, *even* to the point of chains; but the word of God is not chained. **10** Therefore I endure all things for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. **11** *This is* a faithful saying: For if we died with *Him*, We shall also live with *Him*. **12** If we endure, We shall also reign with *Him*. If we deny *Him*, He also will deny us. **13** If we are faithless, He remains faithful; He cannot deny Himself.

- The goal of work is to worship and glorify God (1 Corinthians 10:31)
 - **1 Co 10:31** Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

Let's Principlize the Text

- 1) **Admit** you are lazy and seek help from those with a godly work ethic (Pr 6:6a)
- 2) **Alter** the standard by which you measure your work ethic (Pr 6:6b)
- 3) **Achieve** a godly work ethic so that others may trust you (Pr 6:7)
- 4) **Acquire** the skills to plan the work & work the plan until completion (Pr 6:8)
- 5) **Abandon** excuses, and seek balance between work, leisure, and rest (Pr 6:9)
- 6) **Avoid** Procrastination (Pr 6:10)

7) **Apprehend** the final outcome for those who are lazy (Pr 6:11)

FINANCES: PRINCIPLES TO AVOID FINANCIAL RUIN, PART 3

Proverbs 6:12-19 – Immoral Actions, Part A – The Schemer: What Man Sees

Pr 6:12 A worthless person, a wicked man, Walks with a perverse mouth; **13** He winks with his eyes, He shuffles his feet, He points with his fingers; **14** Perversity *is* in his heart, He devises evil continually, He sows discord. **15** Therefore his calamity shall come suddenly; Suddenly he shall be broken without remedy

[SLIDE] Scam Alert: Can you recognize the following scams?

- Social Security Is Calling
- Email...Check Your Account
- Prince of Nigeria Needs to Make a Deposit in Your Bank Account
- Crypto Scams "Pull the Rug"

[SLIDE] What are the two words describing the man in the first part of Proverbs 6:12?

1)

2)

Keywords:

- **Worthless (Belial):** good for nothing, useless
 - **2 Sa 20:1** And there happened to be there a **rebel**, whose name *was* Sheba the son of Bichri, a Benjamite. And he blew a trumpet, and said: "We have no share in David, Nor do we have inheritance in the son of Jesse; Every man to his tents, O Israel!"
 - **Rebel:** Literally: "Man of Belial" – 2 Sam 20:22 – Lost his head!
 - **1 Sa 2:12** Now the sons of Eli *were* corrupt; they did not know the LORD.
- **Wicked:** deceiving, evil, harmful, false, unjust
 - **Ho 6:8** Gilead *is* a city of evildoers (2 words: *accomplish wickedness*) *And* defiled with blood.

[SLIDE] Theme: Dishonest Gain

- **OT - Pr 20:23** Diverse weights *are* an abomination to the LORD, And dishonest scales *are* not good.
- **OT - 1 Sa 8:3** But his sons (Samuel the Prophet's sons) did not walk in his ways; they turned aside after dishonest gain, took bribes, and perverted justice. **4** Then all the elders of Israel gathered together and came to Samuel at Ramah, **5** and said to him, "Look, you are old, and your sons do not walk in your ways. Now make us a king to judge us like all the nations."
- **OT - Eze 22:24** "Son of man, say to her (Israel): 'You *are* a land that is not cleansed or rained on in the day of indignation.' **25** The conspiracy of her prophets in her midst is like a roaring lion tearing the prey; they have devoured people; they have taken treasure and precious things; they have made many widows in her midst. **26** Her priests have violated My law and profaned My holy things; they have not distinguished between the holy and unholy, nor have they made known *the difference* between the unclean and the clean; and they have hidden their eyes from My Sabbaths, so that I am profaned among them. **27** Her princes in her midst are like wolves tearing the prey, to shed blood, to destroy people, and to get dishonest gain. **28** Her prophets plastered them with untempered mortar, seeing false visions, and divining lies for them, saying, 'Thus says the Lord GOD,' when the LORD had not spoken. **29** The people of the land have used oppressions, committed robbery, and mistreated the poor and needy; and they wrongfully oppress the stranger. **30** So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one. **31** Therefore I have poured out My indignation on them; I have consumed them with the fire of My wrath; and I have recompensed their deeds on their own heads," says the Lord GOD.
- **NT - Tt 1:10** For there are many insubordinate, both idle talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision, **11** whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole households, teaching things which they ought not, for the sake of dishonest gain. **12** One of them, a prophet of their own, said, "Cretans *are* always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons." **13** This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith, **14** not giving heed to Jewish fables and commandments of men who turn from the truth. **15** To the pure all things are pure, but to those who are defiled and unbelieving nothing is pure; but even their mind and conscience are defiled. **16** They profess to know God, but in works they deny *Him*, being abominable, disobedient, and disqualified for every good work.

- **NT - 1 Pe 5:2** Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; **3** nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; **4** and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away.

Additional NT Insights:

- **False Religious Leaders: Mt 12:34** Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.
- **False Religious Teachers: Ac 20:29** For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. **30** Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. **31** Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears. (Paul speaking to Ephesus church)

What are the seven actions of this worthless and wicked man and what is this individual's associated body part (if mentioned) in Proverbs 6:12-14.

ACTION	BODY PART (If applicable)
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1)

2)

3)

4)

5)

6)

7)

[SLIDE] Keywords:

- Verbal
 - **Walks** (participle) with a perverse mouth; / opposite of integrity
 - **Unbeliever: Pr 14:2** He who walks in his uprightness fears the LORD, But *he who is* perverse in his ways despises Him.

- **Fool: Pr 19:1** Better *is* the poor who walks in his integrity Than *one who is* perverse in his lips, and is a fool.
 - **May Be Rich: Pr 28:6** Better *is* the poor who walks in his integrity Than one perverse *in his* ways, though he *be* rich.
 - **Never Ends Well: Pr 28:18** Whoever walks blamelessly will be saved, But *he who is* perverse *in his* ways will suddenly fall.
- Non-Verbal
 - **Winks** (participle) with his eyes, / "signal" with one's eye for a nefarious purpose
 - **Pr 16:30** He winks his eye to devise perverse things; He purses his lips *and* brings about evil.
 - **Shuffles** (participles) his feet, / signal with one's foot
 - **Is 3:16** Moreover the LORD says: "Because the daughters of Zion are haughty, And walk with outstretched necks And wanton eyes, Walking and mincing *as* they go, Making a jingling with their feet,
 - **Points** (Participle) with his fingers; / instructs with one's hands
 - Perversity *is* in his heart, / to make crooked what is straight, corrupt
 - **Devises** (Participle) evil continually, / plot, skilled in planning evil, like an artisan who engraves
 - **Ps 36:4** He devises wickedness on his bed; He sets himself in a way *that is* not good; He does not abhor evil.
 - **Sows** (Piel – intensive) discord. / send or dispatch controversy
 - **Ro 16:17** Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them. **18** For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple.

Observation: Eyes, Feet, Fingers, Heart/Mind, Mouth – His whole being is corrupted and used to sin.

[SLIDE] Implication:

All these verbal and non-verbal communications imply co-conspirators are working together to target a victim.

- The Antwerp Diamond Heist
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antwerp_diamond_heist

Final Outcome:

Calamity shall come suddenly; Suddenly, he shall be broken without remedy.

- **Calamity:** Disaster
- **Suddenly:** Surprise, when one least expects it
- **Broken without remedy:** consequences will be severe and imply eternal consequences.
 - The Antwerp Diamond Heist
 - Caught and served time in jail
 - A receipt for a salami sandwich was the link to the suspects.

[SLIDE] Illustration: Pocket Dialing

Proverbs 6:12-19 – Immoral Actions, Part B – The Schemer: What God Sees

Note: This list is not exhaustive but representative

16 These six *things* the LORD hates,
Yes, seven *are* an abomination to Him:

17 A proud look,
A lying tongue,
Hands that shed innocent blood,
18 A heart that devises wicked plans,
Feet that are swift in running to evil,
19 A false witness *who* speaks lies,
And one who sows discord among brethren.

Note: Here, we see another reason for financial failure, immoral action. Additionally, we are looking at this from God's perspective. He sees through all the verbal and non-verbal communication and reveals the true nature of the sinning criminal.

Pr 6:16 These six *things* the LORD hates,
Yes, seven *are* an abomination to Him:

Hate (scorns, hostile, intense dislike) vs. **Abomination** (repulsion, detestable in every way) – With these two words in parallel, the full range of God’s disgust and hatred for these things is revealed.

Question: Why? It goes against His character and design. It is the corruption of wisdom, justice, judgment, and equity

[SLIDE] **Table Talk Question:** What are some things that God hates?

- **Idolatry - Dt 16:22** You shall not set up a sacred pillar, which the LORD your God hates.
- **Boastful, Workers of Iniquity - Ps 5:5** The boastful shall not stand in Your sight; You hate all workers of iniquity.
- **Those who love Violence - Ps 11:5** The LORD tests the righteous, But the wicked and the one who loves violence His soul hates.
- **Corrupted Worship by Hypocrites - Is 1:14** Your New Moons and your appointed feasts My soul hates; They are a trouble to Me, I am weary of bearing *them*.
- **Implication:** God hates all sin, all corruption, all that falls short of His perfection. Don’t think for a moment that being a Christian, positionally justified, means your sin is any less offensive to God.
 - Consider how more offensive it is to God when we have the knowledge of Him and what offends Him and sin anyway.
 - **Sanctification: Ro 6:1** What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? **2 Certainly not!** How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? **3** Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? **4** Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. **5** For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be *in the likeness of His* resurrection, **6** knowing this, that our old man was crucified with *Him*, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. **7** For he who has died has been freed from sin. **8** Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him, **9** knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. **10** For *the death* that He died, He died to sin once for all; but *the life* that He lives, He lives to God. **11** Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God

in Christ Jesus our Lord. **12** Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. **13** And do not present your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness to God. **14** For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

- **Apostasy: Heb 10:29** Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? **30** For we know Him who said, "*Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,*" says the Lord. And again, "*The LORD will judge His people.*" **31** It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

Question: How are you realigning your affections to be the Lord's affections

The List of Seven Sins

[SLIDE] [Not to be confused with Dante's Seven Deadly Sins]

[SLIDE]

#1 - Proud look – eyes exalting or "haughty eyes" – Seeing oneself better than others. (Commandment #1, 2, 3)

- **Ps 18:27** For You will save the humble people, But will bring down haughty looks.
- Example:
 - **Is 10:12** Therefore it shall come to pass, when the LORD has performed all His work on Mount Zion and on Jerusalem, *that He will say,* "I will punish the fruit of the arrogant heart of the king of Assyria, and the glory of his haughty looks."
- **Implication:** Pride is the beachhead for all other sins
- **Implication:** Everyone will be humbled
 - **Is 2:11** The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, The haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, And the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day.
- Psalm to Pray
 - **Ps 131:1** LORD, my heart is not haughty, Nor my eyes lofty. Neither do I concern myself with great matters, Nor with things too profound for me. **2**

Surely I have calmed and quieted my soul, Like a weaned child with his mother; Like a weaned child *is* my soul within me. **3** O Israel, hope in the LORD From this time forth and forever.

- **Principle:** Guard Your Attitude

Question: Can you think of any Biblical example or related passage to this sin?

#2 A lying tongue – no truth, no facts, deceitful, commission, and omission (Commandment #9)

- **Pr 12:22** Lying lips *are* an abomination to the LORD, But those who deal truthfully *are* His delight.
- **Ps 12:1** Help, LORD, for the godly man ceases! For the faithful disappear from among the sons of men. **2** They speak idly everyone with his neighbor; *With* flattering lips *and* a double heart they speak. **3** May the LORD cut off all flattering lips, *And* the tongue that speaks proud things, **4** Who have said, "With our tongue we will prevail; Our lips *are* our own; Who *is* lord over us?"
- Example:
 - **Jn 8:44** You are of *your* father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and *does not* stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *resources*, for he is a liar and the father of it.
- **Re 22:15** But outside *are* dogs and sorcerers and sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and whoever loves and practices a lie.
- **Implication:** a corrupted heart/mind leads to corrupted words
 - **Mt 12:34** Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. **35** A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things. **36** But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. **37** For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."

- Definitive Passage on the Tongue:
 - **Jas 3:1** My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment. **2** For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he *is* a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body. **3** Indeed, we put bits in horses' mouths that they may obey us, and we turn their whole body. **4** Look also at ships: although they are so large and are driven by fierce winds, they are turned by a very small rudder wherever the pilot desires. **5** Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles! **6** And the tongue *is* a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell. **7** For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind. **8** But no man can tame the tongue. *It is* an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. **9** With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God. **10** Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so. **11** Does a spring send forth fresh *water* and bitter from the same opening? **12** Can a fig tree, my brethren, bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Thus no spring yields both salt water and fresh.
 - Antidote:
 - **Eph 5:18** And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, **19** speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, **20** giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, **21** submitting to one another in the fear of God.
- Psalm to Pray
 - **Ps 141:2** Let my prayer be set before You *as* incense, The lifting up of my hands *as* the evening sacrifice. **3** Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth; Keep watch over the door of my lips.
 - **Principle:** Guard Your Speech

Question: Can you think of any Biblical example or related passage to this sin?

#3 Hands that shed innocent blood – this is murder (Commandment #6)

- **Ge 9:6** "Whoever sheds man's blood, By man his blood shall be shed; For in the image of God He made man.
- **Is 1:15** When you spread out your hands, I will hide My eyes from you; Even though you make many prayers, I will not hear. Your hands are full of blood.
- Example:
 - **Ge 4:8** Now Cain talked with Abel his brother; and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him.
 - **2 Ki 21:16** Moreover Manasseh shed very much innocent blood, till he had filled Jerusalem from one end to another, besides his sin by which he made Judah sin, in doing evil in the sight of the LORD.
- Implication: Premeditated murder is a byproduct of their nature
 - **Jn 8:44** You are of *your* father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and *does not* stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *resources*, for he is a liar and the father of it.
- **Implication:** Pride & Lust unrestrained will end in violence
 - Sodom and Gomorrah (Gen 19)
 - Gibeah (Judges 19)
 - Tribulation Period (Revelation 9:20-21)
- Implication: It begins in the heart/mind
 - **Mt 5:21** "You have heard that it was said to those of old, '*You shall not murder*, and whoever murders will be in danger of the judgment.' **22** But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire.
 - **1 Jn 3:15** Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.
- Psalm to Pray
 - Psalm 73 – Asaph
 - **Ps 73:3** For I *was* envious of the boastful, When I saw the prosperity of the wicked...**Ps 73:17** Until I went into the sanctuary of God; *Then* I understood their end.
- Antidote:

- **Php 4:5** Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord *is* at hand. **6** Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; **7** and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.
- **Principle:** Examine and Guard your heart/mind

Question: Can you think of any Biblical example or related passage to this sin?

#4 A heart that devises (plow) wicked plans – wicked imaginations, scheming and plotting evil. These are unjust thoughts and actions against others.(commandment #10)

- **Ge 6:5** Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man *was* great in the earth, and *that* every intent of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually.
- Example:
 - **Je 18:18** Then they said, "Come and let us devise plans against Jeremiah; for the law shall not perish from the priest, nor counsel from the wise, nor the word from the prophet. Come and let us attack him with the tongue, and let us not give heed to any of his words."
 - **Mk 14:1** After two days it was the Passover and *the Feast* of Unleavened Bread. And the chief priests and the scribes sought how they might take Him by trickery and put *Him* to death.
- **Implication:** They choose to love themselves rather than love others.
- Psalm to Pray
 - **Ps 140:1** Deliver me, O LORD, from evil men; Preserve me from violent men... **Ps 140:4** Keep me, O LORD, from the hands of the wicked; Preserve me from violent men, Who have purposed to make my steps stumble...**Ps 140:12** I know that the LORD will maintain The cause of the afflicted, *And* justice for the poor.
- Antidote:
 - **Ro 14:19** Therefore let us pursue the things *which make* for peace and the things by which one may edify another.
 - **Heb 12:14** Pursue peace with all *people*, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord:
- **Principle:** Seek the Lord's will and not your own
 - **Jas 4:13** Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit"; **14**

whereas you do not know what *will happen* tomorrow. For what *is* your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. **15** Instead you *ought* to say, "If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that." **16** But now you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. **17** Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do *it*, to him it is sin.

Question: Can you think of any Biblical example or related passage to this sin?

#5 Feet that are swift in running to evil (moral evil, depravity) – they are hasty to do evil, no delay, enthusiastic for being wicked. (Commandments #6-10)

- **Pr 1:16** For their feet run to evil, And they make haste to shed blood.
- **Is 59:7** Their feet run to evil, And they make haste to shed innocent blood; Their thoughts *are* thoughts of iniquity; Wasting and destruction *are* in their paths.
- **Example:** Gehazi (Elisha's Servant) and Namaan the Leper (2 Kin. 5:20–27)
- Hymn for Prayer:
 - **Hab 3:17** Though the fig tree may not blossom, Nor fruit be on the vines; Though the labor of the olive may fail, And the fields yield no food; Though the flock may be cut off from the fold, And there be no herd in the stalls— **18** Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation. **19** The LORD God is my strength; He will make my feet like deer's *feet*, And He will make me walk on my high hills. To the Chief Musician. With my stringed instruments.
- Antidote:
 - **Ps 119:101** I have restrained my feet from every evil way, That I may keep Your word.
- **Principle:** Examine your pursuits and priorities

Question: Can you think of any Biblical example or related passage to this sin?

#6 A false witness *who speaks lies* – primarily significant disputes, courtroom, etc. (Commandment #9)

- **Dt 19:16** If a false witness rises against any man to testify against him of wrongdoing, **17** then both men in the controversy shall stand before the LORD, before the priests and the judges who serve in those days. **18** And the judges shall