

Second Glance

6/25/23 “Jealous”

Proverbs 27:1-4 (ESV)

¹Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring. ²Let another praise you, and not your own mouth; a stranger, and not your own lips. ³A stone is heavy, and sand is weighty, but a fool’s provocation is heavier than both. ⁴Wrath is cruel, anger is overwhelming, but who can stand before jealousy?

1. What are the bad attitudes mentioned in the text?
2. How do each of these affect our relationships?
 - a. Boasting
 - b. Provocation
 - c. Jealousy
3. If these attitudes were present in the church fellowship what kind of damage would they do?
4. Do you find traces of them in yourself?

James 3:13–18 (ESV)

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. ¹⁵This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

5. Compare earthly wisdom (v.14-15) and wisdom from above (v.17)
 - a. What are the characteristics of each?
 - b. What is the fruit of each?

DISCUSSION:

6. How has social media changed our access into each others lives?
7. Is this always a “real” portrayal of others’ lives, or is it more false boasting?
8. What are the potential trappings for us when we spend so much time looking at other folks lives?
9. How can we counteract these traps?
 - a. How does gratitude for what we have been given affect our view of what other’s have?
 - b. How does trusting in God to be sovereign & provident affects our view of what we have?