

The Evils of Envy

or

God's Wonderful Providence

Acts 7:9-15

March 11, 2007

I. A Powerful Force (Envy, Acts 7:9)

Envy: "Feeling of grudging ill-will provoked by the superior talents, possessions, success or other advantages enjoyed by others..." (Webster's)

Favortism in the family isn't good for a _____.

Envy cannot lie dormant in the heart for long, it s_____ will bear fruit, and what an a_____ fruit: to those against whom it is held, and to those who hold it. (Gen.37:4; Act.7:9; Mat.22:39; 27:18)

This sin will p_____ our health and keep those from us who would do us much good. (Pro.14:30; 27:4)

Envy has n___ place in the church. (Phi.2:3-6; 1Pe.2:1)

Christian, watch out for envy! C_____ it! (Gal.5:26,24-25,22; 1Co.13:4)

II. A Preserving Favor (Elohim)

To be right with the Lord does not mean that we are without a_____. (Act.7:9; Joh.16:33; 1Pe.2:21-23)

When Elohim favors us He will work a___ these for our good, and for the good of His elect through us. (Act.7:9-10; Gen.45:4-8; Rom.8:28)

God is able to give us f_____ in the sight of those in authority over us, and grace and w_____ to do what is right and just and equitable in this world. (Act.7:10; Gen.39:3-4,21-22; Dan.1:21-22)

Don't q_____! In due time G___ will elevate us to a place of greater service. (Gal.6:9; Psa.75; 1Pe.5:5-7)

III. A Providential Famine (in Egypt and Canaan)

The weather and fruitfulness of a land or city are in G___'s hand. (Act.7:11; 14:17; Mat.5:45; 6:9-11)

One way that God leads us by His providence is through c_____. (Act.7:11-15)

T_____, and so privileges, are blessings earned by being responsible and trustworthy over t_____. (Act.7:12-13)

How we respond to what we go through reveals what is in our h_____. (Act.7:12-13; Deu.8:2)

IV. A Persevering Faith

Jacob ended his life with a statement of f_____. The just shall live by f_____. (Act.7:16; Rom.1:17; Gen.49:29)

Sinner, come to the Savior Who saves from envy and a___ sin! (1Ti.1:15)

Christian, watch out for envy! K___ it! Whatever you are going through, trust the Sovereign God He is working all things for good to those who love Him. Don't give up! In due time we shall reap, in this life and eternity.