

ARE THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS STILL DEADLY?

Proverbs 6:16-19

INTRODUCTION: Sin has a long history. It began for mankind in the Garden of Eden and will not end until the Lord creates the New Heavens and the New Earth. Thirteenth Century theologian Thomas Aquinas is the one recognized as having coined the expression, “the seven deadly sins: as they are known today. “Pride, envy, anger, sloth, greed, lusts, and gluttony.” Those seven deadly sins are just as prevalent today as they were in the thirteenth century and if left unchecked they will not only defeat us, they will in the end destroy us. Psalm 12:7-8. The Seven Deadly sins as spoken of by Thomas Aquinas did not come from Scripture but the Lord did speak of seven sins He says are detestable to Him: Proverbs 6:16-19.

I. PRIDE!

Pride is defined as an excessive esteem of self: Romans 12:3. Pride originated with Lucifer in heaven: Ezekiel 28:11-17; Isaiah 14:12-15. Pride was the primary sin of King Nebuchadnezzar: Daniel 4:28-33; Proverbs 11:2. Remember that “haughty eyes” is the number one sin on God’s own list of seven detestable sins: Proverbs 6:16-17.

II. ENVY!

Envy is resentful awareness of an advantage someone else has that you feel you should have. The two primary examples of envy in Scripture would be Joseph’s brothers and the prodigal son who stayed at home: Genesis 37:1-8; Luke 15:25-30. It is difficult for men to see their own gifts without pride creeping in and it is also difficult to see others gifts without envy coming into our hearts: James 3:13-18.

III. ANGER!

Anger is an intense emotional state induced by displeasure whether actual or just perceived. Those who stoned the churches first martyr, Stephen to death were filled with anger: Acts 7:54-60. The Pharisees were filled with anger when our Lord healed on the Sabbath Day: Luke 6:6-11. Since anger is a God given emotion we should not try to suppress our anger but to sanctify it for God’s glory: Ephesians 4:26-27.

IV. SLOTH!

Sloth is a disinclination to action or labor, spiritual apathy and inactivity. Proverbs 19:24; Proverbs 24:30-34. Sadly, many of God’s gifts given to mankind have been wasted because of sloth in our spiritual lives. 2 Timothy 2:15; Luke 11:9-10. Sadly, far too many Christians are too lazy to study God’s Word and too lazy even to ask God in prayer for what desires to give them: 1 Peter 4:10-11; Romans 12:11.

V. GREED!

Greed is a selfish and excessive desire for more of something than is actually needed. Barnabas contrasted with Ananias and Sapphira are our examples here. Acts 4:36-5:11. There is a disconnect today in our society between knowing our needs and our greed: Proverbs 15:27

VI. LUST!

Lust is unbridled sexual desire: Proverbs 6:20-29. King David is our example of allowing our lusts to control our thinking and our actions: 2 Samuel 11:1-5. When our lusts are full grown they bring forth death: James 1:13-15.

VII. GLUTTONY!

Gluttony is the excessive indulgence of consuming more of anything than that which is good for or that which one requires. Our Lord taught us to pray for our daily bread: Luke 11:3, but

the apostle Paul gave the church a warning about gluttony: Philippians 3:18-19;
Proverbs 23:1-3. We must learn to eat for our Lord's glory and not for our own appetite:
1 Corinthians 10:31.

So, are the seven deadly sins still deadly today? Without a doubt. But our Lord Jesus
came to make us new and now He would have us walk in newness of life!

2 Corinthians 5:17-18.