UNMASKED · PART 2

The Thief You Invited In

How Comparison Quietly Steals Your Joy

Comparison does three things.

> You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's.
>
> EXODUS 20:17

MY NOTES

WHAT COMPARISON DOES

01 IT ROBS US OF OUR BLESSINGS

> For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice.
>
> JAMES 3:16

> Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?"
>
> GENESIS 3:1

MY NOTES

02 IT ROBS US OF OUR PURPOSE

Peter turned and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them, the one who also had leaned back against him during the supper and had said, “Lord, who is it that is going to betray you?” When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, “Lord, what about this man?” Jesus said to him, “If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow me!”

JOHN 21:20–22

MY NOTES

03 IT ENHANCES OUR PRIDE

> Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when there is the log in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.
>
> MATTHEW 7:3–5

The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector

> He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted."
>
> LUKE 18:9–14

MY NOTES

SO HOW DO WE WIN THE COMPARISON BATTLE?

01 COMPARE GOD'S GRACE TO GOD'S PROMISES

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

ROMANS 8:18

MY NOTES

02 BATTLE THE SINFUL THOUGHTS

If you know the enemy and know yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles. If you know yourself but not the enemy, for every victory gained you will also suffer a defeat. If you know neither the enemy nor yourself, you will succumb in every battle.

SUN TZU · THE ART OF WAR

We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ.

2 CORINTHIANS 10:5

MY NOTES

03 ASK GOD FOR HELP

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

PSALM 51:10

Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!

PSALM 139:23–24

MY NOTES

RECAP

HOW WE WIN THE COMPARISON BATTLE

01
COMPARE GOD'S GRACE TO GOD'S PROMISES
Romans 8:18

02
BATTLE THE SINFUL THOUGHTS
2 Corinthians 10:5

03
ASK GOD FOR HELP
Psalm 51:10 · Psalm 139:23–24

Where am I measuring my life against someone else's right now?

What has God already done for me that I want to thank Him for this week?

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