

Poisonous Passions

Conquering the negative passions that can sabotage one's life

“Lust: The Danger of Unbridled Sexual Desire”

“Greed: The Danger of an Earthbound Value System”

“Fear: The Danger of Unaddressed Anxieties”

“Bitterness: The Danger of Unresolved Conflict”

Hebrews 12:14-15

“Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. ¹⁵ See to it that no one misses the grace of God and that no bitter root grows up to cause trouble and defile many.”

^{NIV} **Hebrews 12:14-15**

1. Bitterness carries within itself a terrible power for harm and evil.
 - Bitterness is a living thing: “no bitter root grows up”
 - Bitterness is a destructive thing: “to cause trouble”
 - Bitterness is a contagious thing: “and defile many”
2. Bitterness is composed of three elements.
 - “Make every effort to live in peace with all men and to be holy”
 - The relational element
 - The hurt element
 - The unforgiveness element
3. Bitterness can only exist in a graceless environment.
 - “See to it that no one misses the grace of God”
 - Grace must be caught not just taught (Galatians 2:21a)
 - Grace and bitterness cannot coexist (Acts 6:59-60)
 - Bitterness cannot be compartmentalized (1 John 4:20)
 - Bitterness is merely a disguised passion for unforgiveness (Matthew 11:25)
 - What God desires (Matthew 9:13/Hosea 6:6)