

LET US NOT BE CRAVERS OF EVIL THINGS

1 Corinthians 10:6 “Now these things happened . . .to keep us from being cravers of evil things”

The Corinthians were prone to a variety of sins including idolatry, sexual immorality, coveting and a number of others. These sins were not new within the family of God. The sins of the Corinthians were parallel to those committed by Israel in the wilderness such as begging Aaron to make a golden calf (idol) out of their jewelry, complaining to God about their displeasure with the food He provided them to eat, etc.

The Holy Spirit inspired Paul to describe Israel and the Corinthians as “cravers of evil things.” The sin of craving goes all the way back to the Garden of Eden, “. . .when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate (against God’s direct command not to eat of it), and she also gave some to her husband.” (Genesis 3:6) Esau, seeing and smelling the stew Jacob had prepared coveted a bowl of it, willing to sell his birthright to Jacob in return for one meal. (Genesis 25:29ff) Judas craved thirty pieces of silver, the price he demanded from the Jewish leaders to betray Jesus. (Matthew 26:14ff) James describes how Satan uses cravings to lead you into sin, “Each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire (cravings), he is dragged away and enticed. Then after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.” (James 1:14-15)

Paul’s warning to the Christians in Corinth here in chapter 10 is also God’s warning to you today. Your cravings come from your Old Adam. It wants personal credit for your accomplishments instead of giving God credit (Pride;) blames others including even God for the sins you commit; becomes frustrated, angry and irritable when you don’t get what you want.

When cravings come your way, meditate upon Philippians 4:4-7 “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. . .The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

Prayer: O Lord, grant me the gift of faith to trust you and through this faith contentment with what you provide for my daily life. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Refrain: Lead me, guide me, along the way;
 For if you lead me, I cannot stray.
 Lord, let me walk each day with Thee,
 Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

I am weak and I need Thy strength and pow'r
To help me over my weakest hour.
Help me through the darkness Thy face to see. Refrain:

Help me tread in the paths of righteousness,
Be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.
I am putting all my trust in Thee. Refrain:

I am lost if You take Your hand from me,
I am blind without Thy light to see.
Lord, always let me Thy servant be. Refrain:
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