

Mirror: lovers of self more than lovers of _____



"For if you listen to the word and don't obey, it is like glancing at your face in a mirror. You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like. But if you look carefully into the perfect law that sets you free, and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it." (James 1:23-25 NLT)

"But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days." (2Timothy 3:1 NIV)

Help, O LORD, for the godly are fast disappearing! The faithful have vanished from the earth!" (Psalms 12:1 NLT)

"People will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boastful, proud, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, without love, unforgiving, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not lovers of the good, treacherous, rash, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God—" (2Timothy 3:2-4 NIV)

"And God spoke all these words: "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. "You shall have no other gods before me. "You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below." (Exodus 20:1-4 NIV)

"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment." (Matthew 22:36-38 NIV)

- **Love (agape) = selfless, others' centered love – God's love**
- **God designed the home as the foundation of the world**

"For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice." (James 3:16 NIV)

- **Defeat selfishness by putting God back at the center of your marriage**

Exodus 20:12 "Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

- **Lovers of self is pride; increasing pride is a sign of the end times**

"But God shows his anger from heaven against all sinful, wicked people who suppress the truth by their wickedness. They know the truth about God because he has made it obvious to them." (Romans 1:18-19 NLT)

- **Pride keeps people from seeking God**

Psalms 10:4 In his pride the wicked does not seek him; in all his thoughts there is no room for God.

- **Love of self (humanism)**

- Love of money (materialism)
- Love of pleasure (hedonism)

“You have made known to me the path of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand.” (Psalms 16:11 NIV)

- Living for God gives us lots of joy and pleasures

Romans 12:3 (NLT) Because of the privilege and authority God has given me, I give each of you this warning: Don't think you are better than you really are. Be honest in your evaluation of yourselves, measuring yourselves by the faith God has given us.

- God worth – I belong, I am loved, I am adequate, I am secure

“Then Jesus said to his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.” (Matthew 16:24 NIV)

- First way to defeat selfishness – deny self
- OUR cross is where our will crosses God's will and God's will wins
- Second way to defeat selfishness – serve God and others

“just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” (Matthew 20:28 NIV)

“The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions” (Galatians 5:19-20 NIV)

“having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with them.” (2Timothy 3:5 NIV)

““What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are so careful to clean the outside of the cup and the dish, but inside you are filthy—full of greed and self-indulgence! You blind Pharisee! First wash the inside of the cup and the dish, and then the outside will become clean, too. “What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs—beautiful on the outside but filled on the inside with dead people's bones and all sorts of impurity. Outwardly you look like righteous people, but inwardly your hearts are filled with hypocrisy and lawlessness.” (Matthew 23:25-28 NLT)

“I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.” (Romans 1:16 NIV)

- The power of God results in a changed life (once dead but now alive)

2 Timothy 4:2 Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage-with great patience and careful instruction.

“Do not be misled: “Bad company corrupts good character.” (1Corinthians 15:33 NIV)

“For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But if anyone does not have them, he is short-sighted and blind, and has forgotten that he has been cleansed from his past sins.” (2Peter 1:5-9 NIV)

All Bible references are from the New International Version (NIV) unless otherwise noted. NLT = New Living Translation.