

The Invisible Sin

1 Kings 21

- I. The unseen birth of envy – Ahab’s desire (1 Kings 21:1-3).
 - A. Ahab envied when he saw Naboth’s vineyard.
 - Envy grows as we long for what God doesn’t want for us (Genesis 3:6; Joshua 7:21).
 - B. Naboth knew his vineyard was a stewardship from God (Leviticus 25:23, Numbers 36:7; Psalm 24:1).
- II. The emotional cost of envy – Ahab’s anger (1 Kings 21:4).
 - A. Material things can have emotional power.
 - B. What we think will make us happy has the power to make us miserable.
- III. The inner issue of envy – Ahab’s pride (1 Kings 21:5-7).
 - A. Envy grows when we think we deserve better.
 - B. Envy grows as others egg us on.
- IV. The escalation of envy – Jezebel’s plot (1 Kings 21:8-16).
 - A. Ahab’s envy led to lying (8-13).
 - B. Ahab’s envy led to murder (14).
 - C. Ahab’s envy led to theft (15-16).
- V. The eventual price of envy – Elijah’s prophecy (1 Kings 21:17-29).
 - A. Ahab’s judgment (21:17-22)
 - B. Jezebel’s judgment (21:23-24)
 - C. Ahab’s repentance and God’s mercy (21:25-29).
 - Desires have consequences (James 1:14-15).
 - Contentment is God’s gift to us (Hebrews 13:5; Philippians 4:11-13)