DESTRUCTIONS FROM THE HEART

THIN FROM WITHIN



EVERY NATION
CHURCH • PENANG

20 And he said, “What comes out of a person is what defiles him. 21 For **from within**, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, 22 coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. 23 All these evil things come **from within**, and they defile a person.”

Mark 7:20-23




SIN DOES NOT
BEGIN OUTSIDE US.
IT BEGINS
INSIDE US.

Biblical View: The Heart (Greek:Kardia) - An integrated center of human life

THE CENTER OF VOLITION

It is where decisions are weighed and made (the "will").

2 Corinthians 9:7: *"Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion..."*



THE MORAL CORE

The heart is the hidden center of a person's **true character.**

1 Peter 3:4: *"Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight."*

THE INTELLECTUAL HUB

The heart is also the place where people **reason** and think.

Mark 2:8: *"Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were reasoning in their hearts, and he said to them, 'Why are you thinking these things?'"*

DESTRUCTIONS FROM THE HEART

FROM WITHIN



EVERY NATION
CHURCH · MALAYSIA

EVIL AND WICKEDNESS

ENVY AND MURDER

SEXUAL IMMORALITY
SENSUALITY AND ADULTERY

DECEIT AND SLANDER

PRIDE AND FOOLISHNESS


ENVY AND
MURDER

Envy is the desire to **control outcomes God has not given**

Murder is the **attempt to remove what we cannot control**

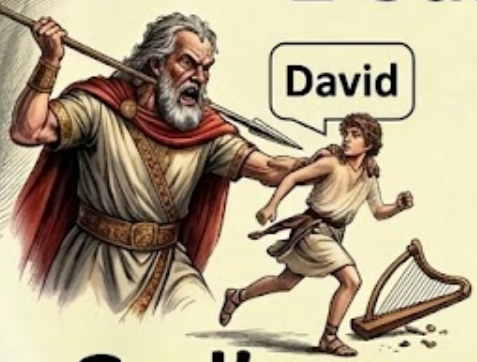
When trust in God's sovereignty collapses, control turns violent



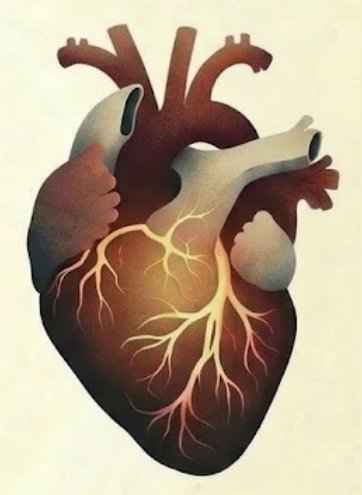


ENVY & MURDER

1 Samuel 18 & 19



When trust in God's sovereignty collapses, control turns violent.



#1 ENVY:

The Comparison Trap

1 Samuel 18:6-9

6 When the men were returning home after David had killed the Philistine, the women came out from all the towns of Israel to meet King Saul with singing and dancing, with joyful songs and with timbrels and lyres. 7 As they danced, they sang: “**Saul has slain his thousands, and David his tens of thousands**.”

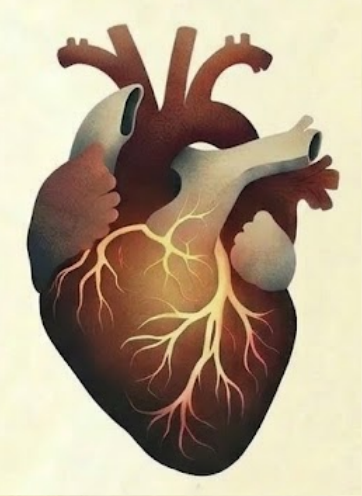
1 Samuel 18:6-7



8 **Saul was very angry**; this refrain **displeased him greatly**.
“They have credited David with tens of thousands,” he thought,
“but me with only thousands. What more can he get but the
kingdom?” 9 And from that time on **Saul kept a close eye on
David**.

1 Samuel 18:8-9





Envy starts when we measure our lives against someone else's success



Saul’s envy robbed him of peace, clarity, and ultimately his favour with God.

Proverbs 14:30 - A heart at peace gives life to the body, but envy rots the bones.



Envy is dangerous because it reveals an **identity problem**.

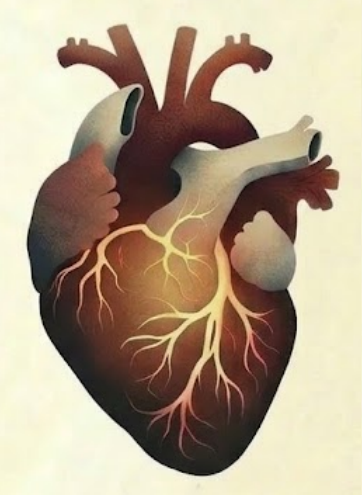
Saul had forgotten that his position came from God.



#2 UNMANAGED ENVY:

The Heart of Murder

1 Samuel 18:10-11
1 Samuel 18:12-16
1 Samuel 19:1,9-10



Envy rarely stays hidden in the heart. If it is not dealt with, it eventually produces conflict, division, and destruction.

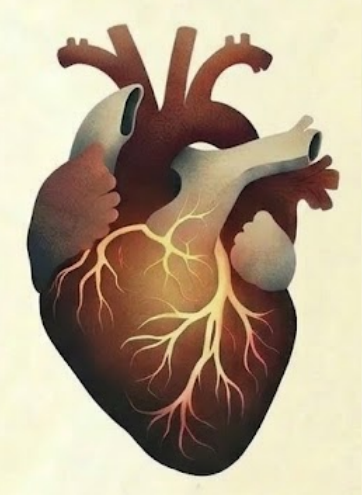
10 The next day an evil[a] spirit from God came forcefully on Saul.
He was prophesying in his house, while David was playing the
lyre, as he usually did. Saul had a spear in his hand 11 and he
hurled it, saying to himself, “I’ll pin David to the wall.” But David
eluded him twice.

1 Samuel 18:10-11

Spiritual Erosion:

Saul’s inner condition has now become spiritually destructive





Unmanaged envy never stays emotional; it eventually becomes behavioural.

12 **Saul was afraid** of David, because the Lord was with David
but had departed from Saul. 13 So he sent David away from
him and gave him command over a thousand men, and David
led the troops in their campaigns. 14 In everything he did he
had great success, because the Lord was with him. 15 When
Saul saw how successful he was, **he was afraid of him**. 16 But
all Israel and Judah loved David, because he led them in their
campaigns.

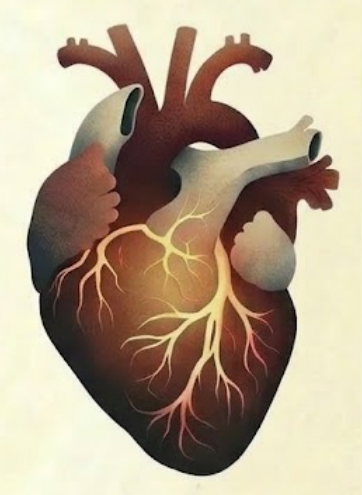
1 Samuel 18:12-16





Unmanaged envy eventually turns admiration into fear.

Saul does not just envy David anymore, **he fears him**.



This fear is what drives the "murderous" intent, not just to kill the person, but to kill the reminder of what we've lost.

1 **Saul told his son Jonathan and all the attendants to kill David**. But Jonathan had taken a great liking to David.

9 But an evil[a] spirit from the Lord came on Saul as he was sitting in his house with his spear in his hand. While David was playing the lyre, 10 Saul tried to pin him to the wall with his spear, but David eluded him as Saul drove the spear into the wall. That night David made good his escape.

1 Samuel 19:1,9-10





What began as a secret "eyeing" (18:9) and a private spear-throwing (18:11) now becomes public and a national order (19:1).

Three Steps in Overcoming Envy

Step 1: Recognize Envy Early



Psalm 139:23–24

"Search me, O God, and know my heart;
"test me and know my anxious thoughts.
See if there is any offessive way in me, and
lead me in the way everlasting."



Step 2: Celebrate Others



Romans 12:15,
"Rejoice with those who rejoice."

Step 3: Rest in God's Sovereignty



Psalm 75:6–7

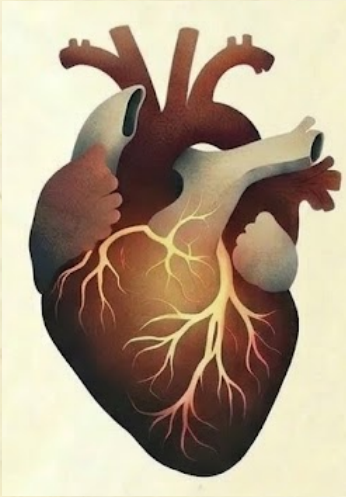
"Promotion comes either from the
east nor from the west...
but God is the judge; He puts
down one and exalts another."



Good News:

Jesus did not come only to forgive sinful actions. He came to transform sinful hearts.

Ezekiel 36:26- I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.



Saul’s story is a warning. But Christ offers a solution.

When Christ rules our heart:

- Comparison becomes Gratitude.
- Competition becomes Celebration.
- Fear becomes Trust.