What Am I Seeking?

Hide and Seek

• God: Lk.13:6-9

• Satan: 1 Pt.5:8

People: Jn.6:24

• Evil: Mt.2:13

• Good: Ac.17:27

What am I seeking?

Man is looking...

- Jn.4:23
- Some seek wrong things
- Some seek nothing. Lk.18:35-42

II. Some Seek Pleasure

U.S.

Eccl.2:1-10

2 Tim.3:4

Ro.1:16

When pleasure dominates life, people compromise morals

Hb.11:25

II. Some Seek Pleasure

III. Some Seek Popularity

Popularity leads to compromise

- Ph.2:21
- 'Can't be popular without going along.'
 - Mt.27:24
- Can't be popular by going along.
- Preachers are tempted/threatened to go along
 - 'Join us: think where you'll be in few years?'
 - 'Most brethren disagree with you.' 2 Tim.4
 - 'You don't care what people think?'

II. Some Seek Pleasure

III. Some Seek Popularity

IV. Some Seek Power

3 Jn.9-10

- Diotrephes would not recognize John's authority
- He 'loves to have the preeminence' [have a special interest in being in the lead; like to be a leader – even above apostles]

'Most men can stand adversity. If you want to test a man's character, give him power'

King Saul

II. Some Seek Pleasure

III. Some Seek Popularity

IV. Some Seek Power

V. Some Seek Possessions

Mt.6:19-21

- 1 K.2, Shimei
- 2 K.5, Gehazi
- Lk.12:15, rich
 - Saul did not pursue money, power, and possessions until he received them as king. . .
 - For the rest of his life, they possessed him
 - Judas saw Lord's miracles, heard His preaching, watched Him save people...then betrayed Him for 30 pieces of silver

II. Some Seek Pleasure

III. Some Seek Popularity

IV. Some Seek Power

V. Some Seek Possessions

VI. Some Seek Pardon...

Some seek pardon...in the wrong way

- Jn.5:39, You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me
 - Jews searched diligently, but still lost
- Jn.6:26, Jesus answered them and said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, you seek Me, not because you saw the signs, but because you ate of the loaves and were filled
 - Sought right One...with wrong motive

II. Some Seek Pleasure

III. Some Seek Popularity

IV. Some Seek Power

V. Some Seek Possessions

VI. Some Seek Pardon

VII. Some Seek Peace

Cannot sleep because of conscience

- Bumper sticker: "I found it!"
- Ep.2:1...11-14
 - "He is our Peace"
- Sectarian conclusions
 - 'Jesus is the answer, so don't preach baptism'
 - Cf.: Jesus is the answer, so don't preach faith?
 - Jn.12:48
 - 'We can have peace without being in church'
 - Ep.2:16f., in one body (1:22-23)

True peace

- Ph.4⁶ Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;
 ⁷ and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus
- How? V.4: rejoice in the Lord
 - If past sins hang over us . . . No peace
 - 1 Pt.3:21 baptism is the request to God for a good conscience

Conclusion:

- Mt.6:31, do not worry... [minor matters]
- Mt.6:32, Gentiles seek after all these things
- Mt.6:33, disciples seek first the kingdom . . .
- Lk.2:49, '...did you not know...?'
- Jn.1:35-36, John: 'Behold the Lamb of God!'
- Jn.1:37, two disciples heard ... followed Jesus
 - 'What are you seeking?'
 - Jn.20:30-31
 - Mt.13:45-46

What will a man give in exchange for his soul? - Mt.16:26