Slaying the ‘Green’ Giant

1 Samuel 18

Exodus 20:17 "You shall not covet your neighbor’s house. You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or his donkey or anything that belongs to your neighbor."

1 Samuel 18:5-16
5 Whatever Saul sent him to do, David did it so successfully that Saul gave him a high rank in the army. This pleased all the people, and Saul’s officers as well.
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 tambourines and lutes. As they danced, they sang:
"Saul has slain his thousands, and David his tens of thousands."

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

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

12 Saul was afraid of David, because the LORD was with David but had left 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.

Observation #1
Saul has a “Giant” problem.
Envy is when we covet what another person possesses.
Jealousy is when we begin to fear that someone else is going to take something from us.

Observation #2
Saul’s Giant (envy) has consumed him.

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The consequences of envy in our lives:
• First of all, envy devalues our true worth
• Secondly, envy makes us incapable of gratitude
• Thirdly, envy is a divisive force

James 1: 14-15, “each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, 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 3:16 warns us, “For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.”
The consequences of envy in our lives:

• First of all, envy devalues our true worth
• Secondly, envy makes us incapable of gratitude
• Thirdly, envy is a divisive force
• Lastly, and most significantly, envy, like every other sin, damages our walk with the Lord

Proverbs 19: 3 says, “A man’s own folly ruins his life, yet his heart rages against the Lord.”

3 principles for slaying the Green Giant in our lives:

Principle #1
To slay the Green Giant we must first recognize his hunting grounds.

3 most regular causes of envy in our lives today:

• envy lurks when others succeed on our turf
• envy stalks when we covet what others possess
• envy preys upon our disappointments & heartache

Principle #2
To slay the Green Giant we must be careful of what we feed.
Be careful of what you feed because what you feed grows and becomes the dominant influence in your life, for good or for bad.

Philippians 4:8, “Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable— if anything is excellent or praiseworthy— think about such things.”

Principle #3
To slay the Green Giant you must ultimately find your joy & contentment in God alone.

Psalm 37 verses 3-4  “Delight yourself in the Lord and he will give you the desires of your heart.”

By putting God first in our lives, His desires become our desires... and we begin to see everything in a whole new light, the light of truth.