

## The Fruit of Envy

Ronald L. Dart's broadcast notes

Do you really understand the seriousness of envy? Since it's the Tenth Commandment, is it somehow less than the others? If you see your neighbor driving a new car and you wish you had one like it, is that what the Bible is speaking of when it talks about the destructiveness of envy? How does envy impact the world, the church, and your personal life?

Of all the vices of man, there is one that its perpetrators never enjoy and rarely ever confess. This opinion was stated by Os Guinness in his book, *Steering Through Chaos*. When I read it, I wondered why, then, does anyone do this sin? But when I think about it, this sin is one that man does not exactly *do*.

It is listed as *Envy*, one of the seven deadly sins, in an ancient formulation for teaching moral behavior. It falls in the Ten Commandments under the Tenth, *Thou shalt not covet*. Guinness went on to say that, "Because envy is congenitally incapable of enjoyment, the more its appetite increases, the more it drives its perpetrator toward torment." In the words of Henry Fairlie, journalist and author, "The face of Envy is never lovely. It is never even faintly pleasant."

I worry a little that people will underrate envy, considering it a minor vice. They may equate it with Jealousy. But Envy, according to Guinness, arises from an aggrieved sense of inferiority. Jealousy arises from an aggrieved sense of one's due. Thus, God can be described as jealous, but never as envious.

One proverb underlines the destructiveness of envy. "A heart at peace gives life to the body, but envy rots the bones" (Proverbs 14:30 NIV). Envy, according to Os Guinness, is always self-destructive. "What the envier cannot enjoy, no one should enjoy, and thus, the envier loses every

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## Bear Much Fruit

"Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples." Many of our family members have found that supporting the work God is doing through CEM is a way to "bear much fruit." In so doing, they are able to help with such things as: the *Born to Win* broadcast, getting the Gospel out via CDs, DVDs, and printed literature, publishing YEA lessons to anchor our children and teens to Christ, providing a treasure trove of biblical information with the YEA! Let's R.E.A.C.H. Activities for kids to do seven days a week on [www.borntowin.net](http://www.borntowin.net), and an adult Bible study course. Working together as a team can multiply the impact and scope of your gift. All donations are tax deductible, gratefully received, and judiciously used.

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enjoyment.” As an eighth century Jewish teacher put it, “The one who envies gains nothing for himself and deprives the one he envies of nothing. He only loses thereby.” I can’t think of a better example of utter futility. All it does is rot away the insides of the one stricken with envy. And perhaps the saddest thing about envy is that men so rarely ever confess it or forsake it.

Taking additional ideas on this topic from Os Guinness and Henry Farlie, “The legend of our times, it has been suggested, might be ‘the revenge of failure.’” That’s what envy has done for us. If we cannot paint well, we will destroy the canons of painting and pass ourselves off as painters. If we will not take the trouble to write poetry, we will destroy the rules of prosody and pass ourselves off as poets. If we’re not inclined to the rigors of an academic discipline, we will destroy the standards of that discipline and pass ourselves off as graduates. If we cannot or will not read, we will say that “linear thought” is now irrelevant and, so, dispense with reading. If we cannot make music, we will simply make a noise and persuade others that it is music. If we can do nothing at all, why, we will strum a guitar all day and call it self-expression. As long as no talent is required, no apprenticeship to a skill, everyone can do it, and we are all magically made equal. Envy has at least momentarily been appeased and failure has had its revenge.

I can’t think of anything that so

faithfully characterizes our society. It is on every side. Our generation is not only incapable of producing great music, it seems increasingly unaware of what it is.

Henry Fairlie went on: “‘Envy grows naturally,’ said Aristotle, in relationship between equals. ‘We live in a society that perhaps as much as any other has pitted equals against equals,’ writes William F. May but I think he misstates his point. The United States and other western societies are not pitting equals against equals but unequals against unequals as if they are equals. This is a distortion of the idea of equality and it is this distortion as much as anything else that has enabled the enemies of genuine equality to move on the offensive.

“The idea that we are equal has been perverted into the idea that we are identical; and when we then find that we cannot do and experience and enjoy all the things that others do and experience and enjoy, we take our revenge and deny that they were worth doing and experiencing and enjoying in the first place. What we are unable to achieve, we will bring low. What requires talent and training and hard work, we will show can be accomplished without them.

“We find no place for the unique, for what is rare and cannot be imitated, since we would then not be able to achieve it. We seem no longer able to admire, respect or be grateful for what is nobler or lovelier or greater than ourselves. We must pull down—or put down—what is exceptional.”

These are among the most painful words I have ever read.

And they are painful only because they are true. What happened to Joseph in the Book of Genesis is a classic example of the power of envy. When his brothers saw that their father loved Joseph more than all of them, they hated him. On one occasion they were ready to murder him, but one brother talked them out of it. Instead, they sold him to be a slave. Stephen, in the speech that led to the end of his life, called it like it was: “And the patriarchs, moved with envy, sold Joseph into Egypt: but God was with him” (Acts 7:9).

Envy plagued the missionary journeys of the Apostle Paul. In Thessalonica, the Jews were “moved with envy” for Paul, and conspired to bring charges against him and those with him. But it wasn’t just the Jews who did this sort of thing. The heart and core of corruption of all kinds is envy. You can see it in the political process in our own country today. Men are eaten up with envy of one another. The result is hatred. And it arises here for the same reason it arose in ancient times: Men did not care to retain God in their knowledge.

And lest we Christians should think too highly of ourselves there is Paul’s letter to Timothy, a warning to us all that strifes of words breed envy. We Christians have managed to divide the Church of God into hundreds of splinters. That, by itself, might not be so bad. But too often we are not content with it. How do foolish questions and strivings about the Law lead to envy? To the splintering of the churches? What part did envy play in the crucifixion of Jesus?

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# 2010 Feast of Tabernacles

## *Sermon Schedule*

All services will be held in the Emerald Coast Conference Center

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
Wednesday, September 22	7:30 p.m.	Joe Weicks***
Thursday, September 23	11:00 a.m.*	Larry Watkins***
Friday, September 24	11:00 a.m.	Ken Swiger
Saturday, September 25	11:00 a.m.	Jim O'Brien
Sunday, September 26	11:00 a.m.	Lenny Cacchio
Monday, September 27	11:00 a.m.	John Reedy
Tuesday, September 28	11:00 a.m.	Brent kern
Wednesday, September 29	11:00 a.m.**	Youth Day
Thursday, September 30	11:00 a.m.	Guy Swenson***

\* A Holy Day offering will be taken

\*\* Youth Day 2010

\*\*\* This schedule is subject to change if Ronald Dart is able to speak one or more times.

## *Seminar Schedule*

(subject to change)

You will be provided another full season of seminars with many opportunities to learn and enjoy.

I hope you will join us in partaking of this wonderful feast of presentations.

(Ushers will be passing out the Seminar Brochure with the seminar descriptions and schedule.)

### **Friday, September 24, 9:30 a.m.**

**Pam Dewey:** *Church Encounters of the 3D Kind the Sequel: Dem Bones, Dem Dry Bones*—Boldly go where few church members have gone before. . . Exploring new dimensions in church life! Pam gave a *Church Encounters* seminar at Lexington's Winter Weekend 2009. This seminar is a continuation and updating of the information, ideas, and materials presented there.

**Scarlett Stough:** *The ABCs of Transformation*—Reviews the basics of living life in Christ, for Christ, to become like Christ. An interactive discussion will follow the presentation. Two women share their personal experience of sexual abuse and how it has affected their lives. They include signs for parents that show this may be occurring. Sexual abuse affects one in three women.

### **Saturday, September 25, 3:00 p.m.**

**Feast Family Gathering** (90 minutes) If your local worship gatherings have been bone dry for years, or maybe just a bit sluggish, come and sample ways to bring life to your celebration of the Sabbath. Learn about innovative ways to involve the gifts of every member of your fellowship group or congregation in building up the body.

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*Seminar Schedule*  
*continued from page 3. . .*

**Sunday, September 26, 9:30 a.m.**

**Michael Deering:** *Mission India, Lessons in Love and Faith, Part 1*—Have you ever imagined yourself living the Book of Acts? Ever wonder what kind of impact preaching the Gospel could have beyond booklets, radio and television programs? Then this two-part seminar will give you a glimpse of what any of us can accomplish with a little faith, courage, and love.

**Rick Hoot:** *Archaeology and the Old Testament*—Come and examine key discoveries that clarify the culture and customs of the Old Testament.

**Guy Swenson:** topic to be announced

**Monday, September 27, 9:30 a.m.**

**Michael Deering:** *Mission India, Lessons in Love and Faith, Part 2*—Have you ever imagined yourself living the Book of Acts? Do you ever wonder what kind of impact preaching the Gospel could have beyond booklets, radio and television programs? This two-part seminar is designed to give you a glimpse of what any of us can accomplish with a little faith, courage, and love.

**Rick Hoot:** *Archaeology and the New Testament*—Come and examine key discoveries that clarify the culture and customs of the New Testament.

**Larry Watkins:** topic to be announced

**Tuesday, September 28, 9:30 a.m.**

**Pam Dewey:** *Operation: Transformation, Mission: It's Possible*—One of the greatest transformations Jesus performs when we accept him as Savior and Lord is to transform us from slaves to free people, with our Loving Father as our only master. But we must learn to live as the transformed, liberated people that we really are. This seminar will reveal that this process isn't "Mission Impossible"—it's *Mission: It's Possible!*

**Rick Hoot:** *Hermeneutics Part 1*—An introduction to the terminology, history and principles of biblical interpretation will be provided.

**Matt and Tami Hoes:** *Fear Dance*—This workshop helps identify what emotional buttons you and your partner have that launch you into the bad emotional cycle/dance. A method we have learned to break the cycle will be illustrated.

**Wednesday, September 29, 9:30 a.m.**

**Pam Dewey:** *No Man (or Woman) Is an Island*—In spite of physical distance separating us all, God has allowed us to be born in "such a time as this" in which we can have the benefit of technology to bless us with a "social network" and "spiritual network" of Brothers and Sisters in Christ who span the globe.

**Rick Hoot:** *Hermeneutics Part 2*—An introduction to the terminology, history and principles of biblical interpretation will be provided.

**Rod Martin:** *Economics & the World Order*—History of economic thought and its impact over the past 100 years. Examination of current crisis and what the future may hold for world order.

# ***YEA Feast Classes That Sizzle***

Put a bunch of fun in the Feast for kids 3 to 20 with well-planned, action-packed daily classes and seminars, from Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup> through Wednesday, September 29<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Never has the teaching staff been better. For five days there will be untamed excitement that will make Bible lessons be long remembered. Kids and/or parents should register Thursday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, beginning at 6:30 p.m., or Friday morning between 10 and 11 a.m. *FREE* YEA full-color books will be provided to each student.

Themes and lesson titles are listed below:

## **Beginners (3-5)**

Theme: ***What Will You Bee?***

- Lesson 1: Bee Joyful!
- Lesson 2: Bee Helpful!
- Lesson 3: Bee Still!
- Lesson 4: Bee Kind!
- Lesson 5: Bee-lieve!

## **Primaries (6-8)**

Theme: ***Friends Forever***

- Lesson 1: A Feast with Friends
- Lesson 2: Kindness Makes Friends
- Lesson 3: Friends Say, "I'm Sorry"
- Lesson 4: Happy Hearts!
- Lesson 5: A Labor of Love

## **Juniors (9-11)**

Theme: ***Stay On Course***

- Lesson 1: Stay on Track
- Lesson 2: True Colors
- Lesson 3: Gaining Momentum
- Lesson 4: Flat Tires
- Lesson 5: Avoid the Ruts

## **Intermediates (12-15)**

Theme: ***Zero-In***

- Lesson 1: On Loving the Feast
- Lesson 2: On a Clean Heart
- Lesson 3: On Personal Power
- Lesson 4: On the Consequences
- Lesson 5: On the Greatest Day!

## **Senior Teens Seminars (16-20)**

Theme: ***Plan-It on Planet Earth***

- Seminar 1: Plan a Great Feast!
- Seminar 2: Plan to Be Free!
- Seminar 3: Plan to Believe!
- Seminar 4: Plan to Receive!
- Seminar 5: Plan Your Reward!

# ***Youth Day***

**September 29, 2010**

Theme: A Hero for the Ages

# Activities for All Ages

The Feast is a time for great rejoicing. Whether young or old, we have something for *you*. Every activity is planned to give a joyful, festive atmosphere. Many opportunities are available for fellowship. Please check the Activity Table or monitors for complete details of every activity and join in on the fun!

## **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23**

**YEA Orientation Meeting** 1:00 p.m., Emerald Ballroom, all teaching staff are required to attend

## **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24**

**Family Picnic** 2:00 p.m., Clement Taylor Park, games, fellowship, lunch provided by CEM

**Sing Along** 7:30 p.m., learn some of the contemporary songs we will be singing during the Feast

## **SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25**

**Pie and Ice Cream Social** 7:00 p.m., fun and fellowship, Emerald Grand Ballrooms II, III, IV

## **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 26**

**Senior Luncheon** 1:00 p.m., Olive Garden, 216 Miracle Strip Pkwy (across Fort Walton Bridge, on left)

**Senior Dance** immediately following the Senior Luncheon, Emerald Ballrooms

**Young Adult Drop In** 1:00 p.m., location TBD

**Young at Heart Dance** 7:00 p.m., refreshments, music for “younger ears,” Emerald Grand Ballrooms

**Family Dance** 7:00 p.m., refreshments, music for all ages, Emerald Grand Ballrooms

## **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27**

**Festival Association Meeting** 1:00 p.m. Emerald Grand Ballroom

**Fun Show Practice** 3:00 p.m., Emerald Grand Ballroom I

**Fun Show** 7:00 p.m., a fun-filled night of music and entertainment, Emerald Grand Ballroom I

## **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28**

**Golf** 1:00 p.m., 4-person mixed scramble, Indian Bayou Country Club

**Youth Day Practice** 1:00 p.m., all participants must be there (and parents of the little ones), pizza and drinks provided by CEM in the Emerald Grand Ballroom

**Young Adult Worship Practice** 3:00 p.m., all participants must be there

**Young Adult Worship Service** 7:00 p.m., Contemporary Worship Service for all ages

## **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30**

**Farewell Luncheon** immediately after service, everyone is invited

# Feast 2010

By Skip Martin, Festival Association Chairman

It takes almost a full year to plan the CEM Feast, and it is done by an all-volunteer team we call the Festival Association. Our “home base” is the Emerald Coast Conference Center in Ft. Walton Beach, Florida, but occasionally the weather, booking conflicts, or a man-made disaster can force us to move. However, this year, we are looking forward to being back in Florida at the Emerald Coast Conference Center. We do have a backup location secured in case something happens at the last minute to force us to move.

The CEM Feast has something for everyone! It is well known for its emphasis on teaching our youth and bringing them to Christ. The CEM Feast has YEA (Youth Educational Adventures) Feast classes and seminars for kids ages three to 20. Last year, there were more than 150 children and teens in the YEA Feast classes and seminars.

The CEM Feast is a place for adults to learn, too. Each morning, except for Sabbaths, up to three relevant seminars are presented. (We have some Sabbath afternoon sessions planned for this year.) These seminars are conducted at the same time as YEA Feast classes and seminars, so parents can bring their children and teens to YEA Feast classes and seminars and stay for a different seminar each day.

The Music Service at the CEM Feast is second to none. We use a blend of traditional and contem-

porary music to suit the tastes of all ages. Roof-raising hymns, along with moving special music performances, grace each service. If you want to perform special music, please email Brent Kern at [brent.kern@hp.com](mailto:brent.kern@hp.com), or call the CEM office and ask them to forward your request to Brent.

One of the most popular Worship Services at the CEM Feast is the Youth Day service. On that day, it is “no adults allowed” on the stage. The entire service is conducted by the youth at the Feast. On this day, our youth will lead Congregational Hymns, open and close with prayer, present a skit or play about a biblical topic, and usher. Youth choirs sing hymns; older teens present testimonials and Scripture readings, and some present very inspirational, special music.

CEM Feast activities promote fellowship and family. There are two dances. . . maybe three this year, a family picnic, a senior luncheon (and dance), the famous Pie and Ice Cream Social, and . . . well, you’ll just have to come to the CEM Feast to find out all the rest. I guarantee you will say it was one of the most inspiring Feasts you have ever attended.

If you haven’t made plans to attend the CEM Feast on the beautiful coast of the Florida Panhandle, now is the time to make them. Housing discounts can be found at the *Born to Win* website ([www.borntowin.net](http://www.borntowin.net)). Select “Feast of Tabernacles” under the

Calendar of Events tab. Then select “Accommodations.” If you don’t have access to a computer, contact CEM at 1-888-BIBLE-44 and ask them to help you with the information you need.

Ron and Allie plan to be with us at the Feast, and Ron wants and hopes to speak. If, at that time, Ron is not able to speak, the excellent speakers on the speaking schedule will fill in.

See you at the Feast.

## *In Memory*

CEM gratefully acknowledges a generous donation given in memory of Rodney Faul of Longview, Washington, who passed away in May. Rodney is the son of Milton and Pat Faul, also of Longview, Washington. Our deepest sympathies are with his family and friends.

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Does the answer lie in one thing Jesus said about governance in the church? What is the root of all envy? What instructions did Jesus leave to protect the church from the destructive force of envy? Why is hatred so often the final result of envy? Is envy a trivial sin?

Answers to these questions are so crucial that you need to hear the CD of the *Born to Win* broadcast titled, *The Fruit of Envy*, by Ronald L. Dart. To receive your FREE CD of the program, just check the box on the enclosed card and return it to us.

# Feast of Tabernacles 2010

by Diane Kleeschulte,  
YEA Team Co-Leader

CEM is very busy planning and preparing for another exciting year of YEA classes at the Feast in Ft. Walton Beach, Florida. YEA classes, divided into five age groups, are for all children and young adults aged three to 20. Each student will be given their own *FREE*, full-color YEA book that includes lessons/seminars, memory verses, and fun activities. YEA lessons/seminars for all age groups are relevant, fun, and effective. Students will eagerly anticipate what exciting things will happen next in YEA class.

Registration will take place the first night of the Feast, and continue the first day of the Feast, at a specially marked table. Volunteers will be eager to register your child for YEA class, and answer any questions you may have about the YEA program. See you then!

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Feast of Trumpets** - Thursday, September 9, 2010. Location and time still being determined. Please call the CEM offices (1-888-BIBLE-44) for information where you can join us to celebrate this Holy Day.

**Day of Atonement** - Saturday, September 18, 2010. Join CEM Fellowship for this observance at 2:00 p.m. at the CEM offices, 312 W. Main St. (FM 346), Whitehouse, Texas.

**Feast of Tabernacles 2010** - Tuesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> through Thursday, September 30<sup>th</sup> at the Emerald Coast Conference Center, Ft. Walton Beach, Florida. Visit [www.borntowin.net](http://www.borntowin.net) for accommodations and other information. Also see the Feast of Tabernacles schedule in the center of this issue.

# The Politically Incorrect Prophet

by Lenny Cacchio

Ezekiel was the dour sort, but given his task, he almost had to be. During his lifetime his nation was being systematically dismantled by its enemies, both foreign and domestic, and the people didn't seem to understand that they were bringing a great deal of this on themselves.

Ezekiel's job was to do one simple thing: To tell them the truth. "They are obstinate and stubborn," the Book says of them (Ezekiel 2:4). They were rebellious and unlikely to listen, but from the perspective of what Ezekiel needed to do, none of this mattered. His job was to tell the truth. "Go now to your countrymen in exile and speak to them. Say to them, 'This is what the Sovereign Lord says,' whether they listen or fail to listen" (Ezekiel 3:11).

For Ezekiel and his nation the time for political correctness was over. It was time to lay out reality to these people. If they were going to be hard-headed, Ezekiel had to be more so (Ezekiel 3:8-9). The moral fabric of the nation was deteriorating, weakening their will to maintain their sovereignty and culture. It was time to speak out and hope the people would listen and live, and if not, then he was to at least be strong enough to weather their ridicule and abuse.

In a time when some view the love of God and country as a hayseed aberration, and where the colors of the flag are scorned in some quarters as a provocation, saying nothing out of fear of offending is an act of apathy. When we sit down and shut up at such stunts, we show our lack of concern about the social and cultural environment, effectively surrendering the duty to speak the truth in love.

The opposite of love is not hate. The opposite of love is apathy.

*Christian  
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*That the man of God may be proficient  
and equipped for every good work.*