

John will continue his epistle by emphasizing the means by which true happiness is ascertained: spiritual growth toward the sophisticated spiritual life inside the bubble of the divine dynasphere.

9. **Iconoclastic Arrogance.** Subjective preoccupation with others by which association with them is guided by the delusion that people are flawless and totally trustworthy.

Once a person's feet of clay are exposed, the iconoclast converts over to being an iconoclast: a person that destroys images.

The image of the other person is a product of one's own imagination which imputes perfection or trustworthiness to him. When that individual fails, makes a mistake, commits a sin, etc., then that person must be destroyed.

Nobody is perfect consequently his failures are between him and the Lord. He is granted the option of rebound and a chance to overcome his failings. The iconoclast does not tolerate such benevolence, but instead endeavors to destroy that person.

The real problem of the iconoclast is not the person that failed him, but his own arrogance which is defined by the mental attitude sins of disillusionment, disenchantment, and bitterness.

Many marriages today are often built on the illusion that views the spouse as "next to perfect," but over time that person's flaws become evident. Because of unrealistic expectations, what follows are called "marital problems" that often eventuate in divorce.

Failure to develop objective standards in the soul and a relaxed mental attitude regarding others leads to the mental attitude sins described in category one of the Arrogance Complex.

The problems associated with unrealistic expectations lead to iconoclasm which is addressed in the following verses:

1 Timothy 6:6 - Godliness [εὐσέβεια (*eusébeia*): “a life acceptable to Christ] is associated with capacity for life and is consistently the means of spiritual prosperity.

Principles on εὐσέβεια.

1. The base idea is spiritual maturity and distinguishes between a believer that is advanced in his understanding of doctrine and one that is not.
2. Certain doctrines are pertinent to the acquisition of εὐσέβεια. The first occurs at salvation which is the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.
3. This divine asset sets the believer apart from all the believers of other dispensations. We have studied recently that a few Old Testament saints received enduement but not the indwelling or filling, while believers of the Millennium will receive the filling of the Holy Spirit but not the indwelling.
4. The indwelling ministries of the Trinity mean that no believer, regardless of his spiritual status, can be demon possessed.
5. The filling of the Holy Spirit means that the Holy Spirit controls the soul of the believer, but not the body.
6. There is a biblical vocabulary associated with the filling of the Holy Spirit: **(1)** by Paul in Ephesians 5:18, “be filled with the Spirit and **(2)** in Galatians 5:16, “walk in the Spirit,” and **(3)** by John in 1 John 1:7, “walk in the Light.”
7. Peter has a term that refers to the filling of the Spirit in 2 Peter 1:4, “partakers of the divine nature.”
8. When a believer functions under εὐσέβεια, he is imitating Jesus Christ. We describe this as the status quo of a mature believer inside the bubble.

9. Godliness, then, is a synonym for spiritual maturity. It refers to the balance of residency in the soul which describes the relationship of the filling of the Holy Spirit with a maximum inventory of truth in the soul.
10. Godliness, or εὐσέβεια, refers to experiential sanctification which itself refers to the sophisticated spiritual life and emphasizes spiritual maturity.

1 Timothy 6:7 - For nothing have we brought into this world, it is also obvious that neither are we able to carry anything out.

1. Principle: Material things of this life will not exit the universe with us when we die.
2. What does accompany us is the inventory of ideas that we have accumulated in our souls in the form of biblical truth.
3. Physical possessions are temporal. Necessary ones are provided by the grace of God while other categories are blessings or cursings based on one's mental attitude toward Word of God.

1 Timothy 6:8 - If we have food and clothing, with these we shall be content.

1. Often, iconoclastic arrogance occurs when the person being admired owns what is considered to be too many possessions or too little.
2. Grace orientation enables the believer to be satisfied with what God has graciously allowed him to have.
3. Gratitude for status-quo possessions enables the believer to remain copacetic with his provisions and any overplus.
4. The characteristics of the person admired should not be the lone factor in establishing a relationship; instead soul harmony should exist between the two believers.