

John # 150

**“Illegitimate Competition”**

*John 9:1-12*

**The Pharisees are competing with the Lord Jesus Christ for the favor of the people but their problem**

**is that He is not competing with them or anyone else.**

The Pharisees are only following in the footsteps of their father, the devil who's a liar (they trumped up bogus charges against the Lord Jesus) and a murderer from the beginning (they're seeking to put the innocent Messiah to death).

**The motivation to murder comes from mental attitude sins such as self-righteous arrogance, conspiracy arrogance, criminal arrogance, crusader arrogance, political arrogance, the arrogance of pure ignorance or the arrogance of self-induced unhappiness.**

And so, murder is both a sin and a crime related to world system involvement which by the way is far too often found in religious circles.

*Murder is Satan's genius to invent a system to attack God's grace plan of freedom and self-determination and so, the arrogant, insecure, lying, murderous Pharisees are competing with Jesus to elevate themselves and downplay*

*His accomplishments with the ultimate goal of completely destroying Him*

**A person who doesn't compete with you behind your back with gossip and unfair criticism is a relaxed person who's reliable, showing tremendous capacity for a great friendship.**

But entering into social or spiritual competition destroys any and all capacity for love in any and all categories; that is for God, spouse or anyone else.

*Certainly, a prominent problem for church leadership today is sneaky, insecure, jealous people who compete against the leaders and bad-mouth their policies to others in the congregation in an effort to form conspiracies.*

**Illegitimate competition often wears the mask of sweetness, flattery and false-spirituality but behind it**

**is an arrogant, jealous, insecure hypocritical person who's waiting to strike like a poisonous cobra.**

The illegitimate competitor loves to play games like spiritual king of the mountain; asking you questions and quickly telling you the answers before you have the opportunity to do so for yourself.

*We must learn to spot the illegitimate competitor, evaluate his games and separate from him*

*because*

*only in isolation, will he wake up to his need for God and His truth.*

**Rejection of Bible truth is always related to arrogance and the Pharisees have rejected the Word of God;**

**both the written Word and the Living Word.**

Arrogance is the corruptor of the soul and the sign that the sin nature is dominating the soul; Does that sound like the Pharisees?

*Arrogance is the basic sin that motivates rejection of biblical truth; it's a destruction to post-salvation biblical rehabilitation.*

Arrogance distracts us from God's truth, divorces us from reality and therefore, destroys our capacity

for life, love and any lasting happiness.

**The Lord Jesus Christ saw through the blind man but the blind man obviously cannot see Him, not even**

**His outline.**

**In essence, God is perfect and therefore, it is impossible for Him to be unfair to this blind man.**

Unlimited Atonement means that the Lord Jesus will die for the sins of this blind man.

*God is sovereign; yet 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 3:9.*

There are two points at which all normal people have contact with God; at God-consciousness and at Gospel hearing.