

**Don't Be Envious of evil men**  
**Pro 24:1-2**  
**By Russell Earl**

Thesis: I want to show the importance of not being envious or jealous of evil people.

- Intro:
1. They live in mansions and drive expensive cars.
  2. They have money they will never even see, they are seen wearing the best of everything.
  3. Should we be envious of them, or be mindful of their sinful ways and their life beyond what is seldom revealed.

- I. The “appearance” of the rich and famous (**v.1-2**)
  - A. The outward appearance of the rich and famous. (**v.1**)
    1. The outward appearance of the rich & famous many times is just that, an appearance.
    2. We should not be envious of such evil people no matter how wealthy or famous they may be.
  - B. Many times the rich of Hollywood only focus on how to increase the wealth and fame.
    1. This may be done in a way that involves evil (**v.2, Pro 27:20**)
    2. Why are certain movies popular? (**v.2b**) The world we live in loves evil, to see evil acts portrayed by Hollywood makes many in the world today begin to believe such is ok (**Isa 5:20**).
- II. The deception of the rich and famous (**Ecc 2:1-11**)
  - A. Those who are self seeking and viewed as being popular will falter (**v.1**)
    1. The seek happiness at place it cannot be obtained
    2. He says he will test them or strive to obtain pleasures from the earth.
    3. The cost of obtaining earthly pleasures is sin, sin that ultimately separates us from God.
    4. (**v.1b**) He says this action is vanity (or is vain) it cannot accomplished one cannot be truly happy with only earthly treasures.
  - B. **v.2** it doesn't hide what is beneath.
    1. The laughter or the good-times of the world is madness or even irrational.
    2. Of “mirth” (amusements and delights of the world) he says what does it accomplish?
    3. it's as if he is saying “What does mirth (or earthly delights) contribute toward the goal of real happiness and contentment? Does it fill the void in one's soul? Does it give lasting satisfaction?”
- III. Those who live for pleasures are exposed (**Pro 14:13**).
  - A. We know that if we focus on worldly pleasures we will never find the happiness that only God can supply (**Ecc 2:10-11**)
    1. The worldly pleasures will pass away. How many could we list in the movie/music world who have committed suicide, who have been divorced over and over, who have work for years and years!

2. These people are supposed to be what happiness looks like, or so they want you to think.
  3. We read their about their various scandals, teen stars having babies, going in and out of rehab over and over. Yet they are glorified by millions.
- B. No one can be truly happy by means of this world alone.
1. In the end those who love this world will be judged by God (**Pro 14:13**).
  2. In the end their fun and good times come to an end, then what? (**Ecc 2:11**)

IV. In time their joys will come to an end (**Pro 24:19-20**)

- A. Do not be discouraged by evil men. (**v.19**)
1. Just because they enjoy pleasures now doesn't mean they are blessed!
  2. God allows good and evil for both the just and unjust, that doesn't mean the holy are forgotten (**Matt 5:44-45**).
  3. We should pray and work so that they may see the error of their ways.
- B. There is no hope for the evil, they will be judged by God (v.20)
1. Do not be discouraged they will not go unjudged.
  2. In the end their lamp will be put out, they will be punished for their evil ways.

- Conc:
1. They may be rich, drive nice cars, have mansions and millions of dollars but they lack the most important thing.
  2. No one loving this world is fit for the kingdom of God (**Lk 9:62**)
  3. What profit is it if we become as they are, are they truly happy, does it endure? (**Lk 9:25**).
  4. Full Invitation