

that I could just walk through a gallery and see what pictures caught my eye and then I would go back and look at it and enjoy it. After I had done that and picked out maybe 5 pictures out of maybe 100 on display, I would look in the guide book and find that those were the masterpieces. They are not the masterpieces because they follow certain rules; they are the masterpieces because there is something in them that has a tremendous appeal. I could go back again and again to the art galleries of Florence, and Rome and of Venice, and thrill to look at those pictures. I don't think that's what this means-- the lust of the eyes. It is most generally thought that it refers to covetousness. There again that is a perversion because the Bible teaches that people should have property that they own and take ~~size~~ and interest in and that they feel a personal desire to take care of and develop. The desire to own property is not wrong at all. But when it becomes an objective of life, a tremendous objective to amass all the property you can, that, of course becomes utterly wicked.

The same is true as to the third of these--pride of life. This is perhaps the worst sin of all. It's the sin which caused Lucifer's/^{down}fall. The sin of trying to look out for No.1, of trying to think I'm greater and better than anybody else. How easy we fall into it. You can think you're free of it, that you don't care, and you're trying to serve the Lord, and don't care what people think of you. Then unexpectedly you hear someone say/nice about you & it gives you a thrill you never dreamed of having. A Natural quality. But the opposite of it is not desirable. The idea of thinking we're worthless, that we're nothing. God made us in the image of God. He made us to stand on our two feet. God made us to look to Jesus Christ to cleanse us from sin, but to step out and to know that we're intrinsically as good as anybody in the world if we only look to Him to use us and to accomplish through us what He desires to do.