



## **Seven Deadly Sins: Sloth**

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### **Sloth = laziness, idleness**

#### A. Sources of slothfulness in

##### Excessive sleep ... Proverbs 6:9-11

How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep?  
Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: So shall  
thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man.

##### Laziness ... Proverbs 19:24

A slothful man hideth his hand in his bosom, and will not so much as bring it  
to his mouth again.

##### Indifference ... Judges 18:9

And they said, Arise, that we may go up against them: for we have seen the  
land, and, behold, it is very good: and are ye still? be not slothful to go, and to  
enter to possess the land.

##### Dreams ... Proverbs 21:25

The desire of the slothful killeth him; for his hands refuse to labour.

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Fearful imaginations ... Proverbs 22:13

The slothful man saith, There is a lion without, I shall be slain in the streets.

B. Slothfulness leads to

Hunger ... Proverbs 19:15

Slothfulness casteth into a deep sleep; and an idle soul shall suffer hunger.

Poverty ... Proverbs 20:4, 13

The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold; therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing. Love not sleep, lest thou come to poverty; open thine eyes, and thou shalt be satisfied with bread.

Want ...

Proverbs 20:4

The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold; therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing.

Proverbs 6:9-11

How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep? Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man.

Bondage ... Proverbs 12:24

The hand of the diligent shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute.

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### Ruin ... Proverbs 24:30-34

I went by the field of the slothful, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding; And, lo, it was all grown over with thorns, and nettles had covered the face thereof, and the stone wall thereof was broken down. Then I saw, and considered it well: - I looked upon it, and received instruction. Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth; and thy want as an armed man.

### Waste ... Proverbs 18:9

He also that is slothful in his work is brother to him that is a great waster.

### Decay ... Ecclesiastes 10:18

By much slothfulness the building decayeth; and through idleness of the hands the house droppeth through.

### Social inferiors ... Proverbs 12:24

The hand of the diligent shall bear rule: but the slothful shall be under tribute.

### Wrath ... Matthew 25:26-30

His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed: Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury. Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents. For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath. And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

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### C. Antidotes of slothfulness

#### Faithfulness ... Matthew 25:26-30

His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strawed: Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury. Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents. For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath. And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

#### Zealous activity ... Romans 12:11

Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord

#### Following the faithful ... Hebrews 6:12

That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

### D. Admonitions against slothfulness

#### Redeem the time ... Ephesians 5:16

Redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

#### Have a great work ... Nehemiah 6:3

And I sent messengers unto them, saying, I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down: why should the work cease, whilst I leave it, and come down to you?

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Work day & night ... 1 Thessalonians 2:9

For ye remember, brethren, our labour and travail: for labouring night and day, because we would not be chargeable unto any of you, we preached unto you the gospel of God

No work, no eat ... 2 Thessalonians 3:10-12

For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat. For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies. Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread.

E. Admonitions against slothfulness, to consider

Ant ... Proverbs 6:6-11

Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise: Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest. How long wilt thou sleep, O sluggard? when wilt thou arise out of thy sleep? Yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: So shall thy poverty come as one that travelleth, and thy want as an armed man.

Ideal woman ... Proverbs 31:10-31

Lord ... John 9:4

I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.

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### Apostles ... 2 Thessalonians 3:7-9

For yourselves know how ye ought to follow us: for we behaved not ourselves disorderly among you; Neither did we eat any man's bread for nought; but wrought with labour and travail night and day, that we might not be chargeable to any of you: Not because we have not power, but to make ourselves an ensample unto you to follow us.

### Judgment ... 1 Corinthians 3:8-15

Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour. For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building. According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.