

## James Class Schedule

7/30/2023	James 4:1-4	Quarrels and conflicts
8/6/2023	James 4:5-10	God's desire and plan in conflicts part 1
8/13/2023	James 4:5-10	God's desire and plan in conflicts part 2
8/20/2023	James 4:11-12	Speaking against one another
8/27/2023	James 4:13-17	Self sufficiency vs. reality
9/3/2023	James Chp 4	Chp 4 Review
9/10/2023	James 5:1-6	Condemnation of materialism
9/17/2023	James 5:7-11	Godly patience's and endurances part 1
9/24/2023	James 5:7-11	Godly patience's and endurances part 2
10/1/2023	James 5:13-18	Suffering and prayer part 1
10/8/2023	James 5:13-18	Suffering and prayer part 2
10/15/2023	James 5:19-20	Additional word's from James
10/22/2023	James Chp 5	Chp 5 Review

1

## Temptations in the book of James \*

- Temptation to quarrel and enter in conflict - Jas 4:1-3
- Temptation to have friendship with "the world" - Jas 4:4
- Temptation to be proud - Jas 4: 6
- Temptation to not be submissive to God - Jas 4:7-10
- Temptation to judge [or speak against] others - Jas 4:11-12
- Temptation to make decisions apart from the Lord - Jas 4:13-17

\* HAL MOLLOY EDITED 21 MAR 2004

2

## James Chapter 2

James 4:1-4	Quarrels and conflicts
James 4:5-10	God's desire and plan in conflicts part 1
James 4:5-10	God's desire and plan in conflicts part 2
James 4:11-12	Speaking against one another
James 4:13-17	Self sufficiency vs. reality

3

### Quarrels and conflicts

<sup>1</sup> What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members?

<sup>2</sup> You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask.

- Why does James question these believers about the source of their quarrels and conflicts?
- What does he say the source is?
  - His answer is the word pleasures - *hēdonē* - is used of the gratification of the natural desire or sinful desires
  - So James is linking these believers' action to their sin nature
  - Note he says they wage war in their members
  - Gal 5:17 For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please.

4

### Quarrels and conflicts

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- verse 2 list “the pleasures” – *hēdonē* [English: hedonism]  
You lust and do not have;  
so you commit murder.  
You are envious and cannot obtain;  
so you fight and quarrel.
- Gal 5:19 Now the **deeds of the flesh** are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, <sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, <sup>21</sup> envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these,
- You do not have [satisfaction] because you do not ask.
- God is the only source of true satisfaction

5

### Quarrels and conflicts

<sup>3</sup> You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures. <sup>4</sup> You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

verse 3 tells us we ask with wrong motive [and do not receive]

- **wrong motive** - *kakos* - whatever is evil in character
- lit: you ask evilly
- so that – with a purpose that
- **you may spend it on your pleasures** [English: hedonism]
- We often ask God for things to enable us to satisfy our own selfish desires\*
- For example, we request more time, more money, more energy so we can do things we desire but God does not desire for us.\*

\* Constable

6

### Quarrels and conflicts

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verse 4 - Why is the word “adulteresses” appropriate when talking about friendship with the world?

- Because the nature of marriage is exclusiveness, and adultery is the violation of that condition. Worldliness violates our exclusive relationship to Christ. McCalley
- Note there is no middle ground - a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.
- 1 John 2:15 Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.

7

### God's desire and plan in conflicts

<sup>5</sup> Or do you think that the Scripture speaks to no purpose: "He jealously desires the Spirit which He has made to dwell in us"?

<sup>6</sup> But He gives a greater grace. Therefore it says, "GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE."

verse 5b from the interlinear:

The spirit which he caused to dwell in us desires [us] with jealousy

- The Spirit who has been caused to make His permanent home in us has a passionate desire to the point of envy? Wuest
- Does anyone remember what conclusions we came too?
- Key word is **jealously** – God's jealousy via the Holy Spirit
- This is in contrast to verse 4 to those that “love the world”
- 1 Cor 6:19 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?

8

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What does it mean for God to give greater [mega] grace?

- Rom 5:20 The Law came in so that the transgression would increase; but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more,
- lit: super-abounded with more added to that Wuest

Now based on this mega grace: **God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble**

So why is the main issue pride?

- 2 Tim 3:2 For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant [proud], revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy,

9

### God's desire and plan in conflicts

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So why does God give grace to the humble?

- Rom 12:16 Be of the same mind toward one another; do not be haughty in mind, but associate with the lowly. Do not be wise in your own estimation.
- Matt 23:12 "Whoever exalts himself shall be humbled; and whoever humbles himself shall be exalted.
- There are four concepts about God's grace in this verse. First, we must realize its availability—He gives. Second, we must realize its adequacy—greater grace. Third, we must realize it can be hindered by pride. Fourth, we must realize its condition—grace to the humble. McCalley

10

### God's desire and plan in conflicts

<sup>7</sup> Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. <sup>8</sup> Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

- Now based on God's greater grace and the believer's humble attitude
- James gives 10 instructions [imperative] on our relationship to God in verses 7 to 11

Submit therefore to God – Therefore be subject Interlinear

**1- be subject** - *hypotassō* - primarily a military term, to rank under

- It is used of our relationship to God; a wife's responsibility to her husband; a slave's relationship to his master; and a child's relationship to his parents.
- 1 Peter 5:6 Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time.

11

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Resist the devil and he will flee from you

**2 - resist** - *anthistēmi* - "to set against" (*anti*, "against," *histēmi*, "to cause to stand")

lit: to take one's stand

- Eph 6:11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.

• **He** [the devil] will flee from you

• **flee** - *pheúgō* - run away from

12

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Draw near to God and He will draw near to you

**3 - draw near** - *engizō* - to draw near, to approach,

• This is James's way of saying, "Maintain fellowship with the Lord." McCalley

• To maintain fellowship we need to address our personal sins which will be discussed next:

Cleanse your hands, you sinners

**4 - cleanse** - *katharizō* - to make clean, to cleanse

• In a moral sense, from the defilement of sin Vine

• 1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

### God's desire and plan in conflicts

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purify your hearts, you double-minded

**5 - purify** - *hagnizō* - to purify, cleanse from defilement

• 1 John 3:2b We know that when He appears, we will be like Him, because we will see Him just as He is. <sup>3</sup> And everyone who has this hope *fixed* on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

Be miserable and mourn and weep

• James was calling readers who had compromised with the world by following hedonism to get right with God.

Constable

### God's desire and plan in conflicts

<sup>9</sup> Be miserable and mourn and weep; let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy to gloom.

<sup>10</sup> Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.

6- **miserable** - the idea is to lament, be sorrowful

7- **mourn** – to be distressed and grieve

8- **weep** - weep audibly

- Within the present context, the meaning of this is that sin is serious\*
- We are not to have a flippant attitude toward it. Christ came to bear our sins; and no laughter is recorded of Him, only tears.\*

\* McCalley

9 - **Humble** yourselves – from verse 6 – We humble ourselves by submitting to the grace of God\*

15

### Speaking against one another

<sup>11</sup> Do not speak against one another, brethren. He who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks against the law and judges the law; but if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge *of it*. <sup>12</sup> There is *only* one Lawgiver and Judge, the One who is able to save and to destroy; but who are you who judge your neighbor?

10 - **Do not speak against one another, brethren.**

- The word translated **speak against** is *katalaleo* which is a compound of *kata*, meaning down, and *laleo*, meaning to speak\*
- To slander is to make false accusations that damage another's reputation.\*
- Stop defaming one another, brethren.

McCalley

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16