

## THIS WEEK'S STUDY: 7/31-8/1 2023 *James Chapter 4*

Classroom Location and Zoom – Sign In information, below at end of the notes;

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### OPENING PRAYER

**THIS WEEK: Chapter Four – Pride Promotes Strife (vs. 1-6); Humility Cures Worldliness (vs. 7-10); Do Not Judge a Brother (vs. 11-12); Do Not Boast About Tomorrow-(vs. 13-17)!**

#### Review:

**Chapter One** – Profiting from Trials; Perspective of rich and poor; Loving God Under Trials: Qualities needed in trials; Be doers of the word and not hearers only!

**Chapter Two** – Beware of personal favoritism; Faith without works is dead!

**Chapter Three** – Warning to Teachers; The Untamable Tongue; Heavenly Versus Demonic Wisdom!

- **The fourth chapter really begins in chapter three, where James was talking about strife and envying.** He told us that if we should not have bitter envying and strife in our hearts, glory not and lie not against the truth. For this kind of wisdom doesn't come from above, it's earthly. It's sensual. It is devilish. For where there is envying and strife, there's confusion and every evil work. For the wisdom that is from above, is first of all, pure. Then it's peaceable. It's gentle. Willing to yield. It's full of mercy and good fruit. It's without partiality and without hypocrisy. The fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those that make peace.
- **He used the term *brethren* three time in chapter three. He will use the term, *brethren*, again in chapter four!** We need to keep this in mind when we hear his warning against worldliness, pride, judging other brothers and boasting about tomorrow! He is not just speaking to the world; he is warning us believers.

#### **Warning Against Worldliness (vs. 1-12)**

***Jas 4:1 Where do wars and fights come from among you*** (conflict in the church)? ***Do they not come from your desires*** (self-centered) ***for pleasure that war in your members*** (in your own body, warring with God)?

- **Now in contrast to the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those that make peace**, the question is asked, *Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members?* These desires of our flesh, the envying that we have, the coveting. It's interesting that in giving the Ten Commandments, the Lord sort of ends them with “*You shall not covet*” or envy.
- **We talk about worldliness and what is worldliness?** In your mind when you think of worldliness, do you think of a person who spends a lot of time in night clubs, out on the town, given over to the world? That's really not a definition of worldliness as far as the Bible is concerned. But so often, we are prone to think of worldliness in, you know, a person is living a life that is, say he drinks a lot.
- **When the Bible talks about worldliness, it's talking about envying. It's talking about striving.** It's talking about the desires of the flesh! James is telling that this is the root source of all of the wars. All of the fightings, the wars are between nations, the fightings are between individuals. ***Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members?*** Do they not rise out of your own lusts, the desires that you have, the desires for that which someone else possesses? Envying what they have? (*Eph 2:3*) *among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others. (Jas 1:14-15) But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. [15] Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.*

***Jas 4:2 You lust*** (intense desires, pleasures) ***and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask.***

- **We see all of this internal strife, coming out of the desires of our flesh.** Our envy of what other people have and our determination that we will make it ours. If we can't do it legally, we will seek to do it illegally—the fights and the wars among us. But he said, you do all of this and *yet you do not have*.
- **Then he said, *Yet you do not have because you do not ask*.** Now, those things that I desire are things that I should, actually make a matter of prayer. Then let God decide whether or not to satisfy that desire or to replace that desire or to deny that desire. The Bible said whatsoever you desire when you pray, believe that you receive them and then you shall have them.
- **Prayer is really expressing to God our wishes, our desires.** Hopefully and ideally, our desires are in line with His desires! (*Joh 14:13, 14; 16:23*) *And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. [14] If you ask anything in My name, I will do it. [16:23] "And in that day you will ask Me nothing. Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you.*
- **If we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. If He hears us,** then we've received the petitions that we have desired of Him. But it's the expression of our desire. When I express my desires to God, He is not obligated to grant my desires. I present my desires to God. Then, He has the right to deny them, accept them, or replace them, change them. And that's commitment. I often when I pray say, Lord, I don't really know what Your will is in this matter, but I'd like to offer a few suggestions. This is what I would like to see. But what I would like to see, may not be what He wants!
- **Now I do not desire to change God's will through prayer. That's not my desire at all!** And I couldn't even if I desired to. But prayer should never be to try to change God. Prayer is to open the door to allow God to do those things that He is desiring to do for me, in me and through me! Often, we struggle to get what we want. We strive for what we want. We fight to get what we want. Many times it's just so simple, we don't have what we want, because we haven't asked. *Yet you do not have because you do not ask.*

***Jas 4:3 You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss (kakos, evil) that you may spend it on your pleasures.***

- **Now God does answer prayer. That's the basic encouragement for prayer.** Why do I pray? Because God answers prayer! Sometimes God answers in denial. When Paul was praying (*2Co 12:7-9a*) *And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. [8] Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. [9a] And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness."* The Lord didn't remove the thorn in Paul's flesh, but He gave His strength to Paul to endure it.
- **God does not always answer our prayers just like maybe we would want Him to answer.** I do not control nor am I desiring to control God! He is not a servant of mine. I am His servant! He isn't obligated to do anything for me. In that He does do things for me is just a sign of His tremendous love and grace, because I deserve nothing! One's motive in praying must be to the glory of God—that is, for God to get the glory from the answer.
- **We should never believe that through prayer, that anyone can force God to do things.** That's never the object or the purpose of prayer! It's never to get my will done. It's always to get God's will done! Much of our asking is selfish. I'm asking just out of selfish motivations, because I am envious. I'm lusting after something. I'm praying, oh, God, you know, please give me that car! It's a hundred thousand dollars, but God, you know, I would look so nice driving that sports car! And after all You want to get the best for me. God knows that an inexpensive car will get me there just as easily and probably more comfortably.
- **You ask and receive not, because you ask amiss.** *Amiss* refers to acting in an evil manner, motivated by personal gratification and selfish desire. Unbelievers seek things for their own pleasures, not the honor and glory of God. If you've praying for something for a long time and it hasn't been forthcoming, it doesn't mean that God isn't going to do it, but it might be wise to examine your heart and your motive. See if what you are asking is something that the desire is stemming from your own flesh. It really isn't something that would benefit others but something that would benefit you, because many times we ask and receive not, because we are *asking amiss*.
- **Then he speaks to them concerning their relationship with God. God wants and has always wanted a loving relationship with His people.** God wants you to love Him supremely! He wants your love for Him to exceed every other love in your life. His first commandment was, You shall have no other gods before Me. Now a god is anything that which a person is devoted to; that which a person adores, that which is the

supreme master passion of a person's life. Many people who are governed by different master passions. Some people are governed by greed. Some people are governed by their lusts, by their flesh, by their sexual desires. Some people are governed by their desire for power, to control others is the master, consuming passion of their lives. Some people are controlled by their desire for fame. They want to be worshipped. They want to be adored. That is the whole master passion of their life. And that master passion becomes their god.

- **Now in the ancient times, they were honest enough to name these passions, giving them names**, so that when a person said, well, I worship Ashtoreth, you would understand that that person's life was mastered by his desire for pornography. That controlled his life. He loved looking at pornography. He was honest enough to say, well, I worship Ashtoreth. If a person was worshipping power, he was honest enough to say, well, I am a worshipper of Mammon. Or if he were worshipping pleasure, he would be honest enough to say, well, I worship Molech. Today they say, well, I'm an atheist. Oh no, no, you're not an atheist. You are worshipping Molech. You are worshipping Baal. You are worshipping Ashtoreth or Mammon or any of the other many, many gods, that people have recognized. This is the master passion of my life! This is what I desire more than anything else. This is my chief love. My life is devoted to this. Whatever your life is devoted to, that which is pre-eminent in your life, is your god!
- **To have a love for anything in life that exceeds your love for God**, from a Biblical, spiritual sense, was to *commit fornication or adultery*. The idea is that you were to be married to God. God spoke of Israel as His wife. In the New Testament, it speaks of the church as the bride of Christ. But if you are the bride of Christ and you have a love for other gods, that exceeds your love for Jesus Christ, you are committing spiritual adultery. Because here you say, well, I am married to Jesus, but oh, I love -- this other god, this master passion. Your love for that exceeds your love for Jesus Christ. So that's spiritual adultery.

**Jas 4:4 Adulterers and adulteresses** (spiritual adultery)! ***Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.***

- **If you love the world, the things of the world, all that is of the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, the pride of life**. These are the things that the Bible sort of classifies as worldliness. The desires of your flesh, the desires of your eyes, the pride of life, they are of the flesh and are not of God. **(1Jn 2:15) Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him.**
- **So don't you realize that friendship of the world**, that is the world controlled by Satan, the world system that is governed by Satan, is enmity with God? *Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.* For the world is under Satan's authority, control, and is being directed and controlled by Satan.
- **Paul in (Eph 2:1-3) And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, [2] in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air**. So you at one time were walking according to the fads and the fashions of the world, walking after the things of the world, whose fads, and fashions and all, are being controlled and governed by Satan. *The spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, [3] among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.* So if you have a love for the world and the things of the world, you do not have the love of the Father. If you seek to be a friend of the worldly system, you are an enemy of God because no man can serve two masters. He will love the one and hate the other or hold to the one and despise the other.
- **God said you shall have no other gods before Me!** You are not to make any graven image to bow down to it and to worship it. Friendship with the world is enmity with God. If you will be a friend of the world, you will find yourself an enemy of God because you see, there are two governing forces in the universe.
- **There are two kingdoms. Your allegiance is to one or the other.** You live in the kingdom of God, which means that your life is submitted to the authority of God. You've surrendered yourself to the authority of God. God rules in your life. Or, you are living in the kingdom of darkness, which means that Satan is ruling and controlling your life. You can't have it both ways! It's one or the other. As God looks at us right now, He sees that each of us are living in one kingdom or the other. He sees you as living in the kingdom of light and life, or He sees you as living in the kingdom of darkness and death. It's just that simple! No man can serve both God and mammon. **(Mat 6:24) "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will be loyal to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and**

*mammon*. It's one or the other.

**Jas 4:5 Or do you think that the Scripture says in vain (without reason), "The Spirit who dwells in us yearns jealously"?**

- **There is no Scripture that we know of that says *The Spirit who dwells in us*.** It may that James is referring to a composite of general OT teachings. It could be that James is thinking of the passage in the law, the Ten Commandments, where God said you shall not make any grave image to bow down to worship it, or to serve them, *for I the Lord your God, am a jealous God*. In other words, the Spirit that is in us is jealous concerning our love! (2Co 11:2) *For I am jealous for you with godly jealousy. For I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.*
- **God doesn't want us to have any other love that would take away our love for Him.** He is a jealous God! He wants your love and the Spirit that is in you, is desiring that love and is envious, should you love something else and should some other love replace your love for Him. That probably is what is James is making reference to here in verse five.
- **The Spirit who dwells in us yearns jealously:** The Holy Spirit, which indwells every believer, has a jealous yearning for our friendship with God. If we live and walk in compromise, we can't help but be convicted by His jealous yearning.

**Jas 4:6 But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "GOD RESISTS (battles against) THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE."**

- **God knows our frame. He knows we are but dust. None of us live up to God's standards.** None of us are all that God would have us to be. Paul said, (Rom 3:23) *for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God*. None of us have fully attained it. But if I love God, and if my desire is to serve God, and I slip up, something comes along that attracts me for a time. And I get caught up in some other interests, that takes me away from Him for a while, He gives more grace, the graciousness of God towards us. (Pro 3:34) *Surely He scorns the scornful, But gives grace to the humble.* (1Pe 5:5) *Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "GOD RESISTS THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE."*

**Jas 4:7 Therefore submit (humble, to line up under) to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.**

- **Therefore submit, or humble yourselves, to God.** Because God gives grace to the humble. Just submit to Him. This means to order yourself under God, to surrender to Him as a conquering King, and start receiving the benefits of His reign. James used the word to describe a willing, conscious submission to God's authority as sovereign ruler of the universe. A truly humble person will give his allegiance to God, obey His commands, and follow His leadership. (1Pe 5:6) *Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:*
- **Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.** One of our problems is that we often do not put up enough resistance when Satan comes along with his temptation. In (Heb 12:4) *You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin.* So often we just sort of give in, without even putting up a fight. We so easily yield to Satan.
- **But the Bible tells us we are to resist him. And if we resist him, he will flee from you.** It seems like we are so frightened by Satan's powers. We see in the world today how Satan's control over the media and over so many things. What can we as Christians do? Look at how they control the education. Look at how they control all of the media today? And look what they are doing? Look at how they are leading us down to destruction--morally, spiritually? We sort of just, cave in.
- **But we not fighting for victory. We are fighting from victory! It's important to know that on the cross, Jesus defeated the powers of darkness! It's important that we know that!** Because in this spiritual battle, Jesus is the victor! We can enter into His victory and Satan really is only exercising usurped authority. His powers were taken from him, when Jesus triumphed through the cross! But Satan continues to hold on tenaciously, unto he is forced off of the territory. But **through the victory of Jesus Christ, we can come against him! We can resist him! And he has to flee!** He doesn't have any real rights. It's only usurped authority. So, I can resist Satan through Jesus Christ. He has to flee! He has to release! He has to let go! He has to submit to the authority of Jesus Christ!

**Jas 4:8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse (wash) *your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.***

- **Conversely, Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.** Oh, what a beautiful verse! This is why we are here right now, isn't it? To draw near to God! What a glorious thing to realize! In as much as we are here right now, to draw to near to God, God is drawing near to us! He desires this loving relationship with each of you. So He draws us by His Spirit to Himself. As we are drawn to Him, He draws near to us. And we enter into this sweet and blessed communion—oneness, Koinonia with God!
- **Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.** You see, drawn by the world, a man is a *double-minded* man, unstable in all of his ways. There are people that find themselves in this position of being drawn. Drawn towards God, when they are around the people of God. Oh, yes, yes, praise God, hallelujah, bless the Lord! But when they are in the world, they can join in with, you know, the dirty jokes and all of the things of the world. They try to fit in both camps. They are *double-minded*. So he encourages us, *Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.*

**Jas 4:9 Lament (afflicted, wretched, miserable) and mourn and weep! *Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom.***

- **Lament** (grieve)! **This may be taken either as a prediction of sorrow or a prescription of seriousness.** Let not men think they can defy grief, for God can bring it upon them. None can laugh so heartily that He cannot turn their laughter into mourning. James is writing this to unconcerned Christians, who should be warned. They are therefore directed, before things come to the worst, to lay aside their vain amusement and their sensual pleasures, that they might indulge in godly sorrow and penitential tears. **(2Co 7:9-10) Now I rejoice, not that you were made sorry, but that your sorrow led to repentance. For you were made sorry in a godly manner, that you might suffer loss from us in nothing. [10] For godly sorrow produces repentance leading to salvation, not to be regretted; but the sorrow of the world produces death.**
- **And mourn, and weep: Have you ever wept over your weaknesses, spiritually?** I have! I have wept over my failures, when I have stumbled. *Lament and mourn and weep!*
- **Let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to gloom. That is, if you are double minded, if you find yourself in that position of being torn and oh my, how sin can tear you up inside!**
- **David, living under the guilt of his relationship with Bathsheeba, said in (Psa 32:3-5) When I kept silent, my bones grew old Through my groaning all the day long. [4] For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My vitality was turned into the drought of summer. Selah [5] I acknowledged my sin to You, And my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," And You forgave the iniquity of my sin. Selah The heavy hand of God was on me. Until he said, I confessed my sin! Then You forgave my sin. So *let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom.***
- **Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep.** When God sends afflictions, we should take them as He would have us, to be appropriately sensible of them. We are not to despise them; or be afflicted in your sympathies with those who are so. Mourn and weep for your own sins and the sins of others; times of contention and division are times to mourn in, and the sins that occasion wars and fightings should be mourned for. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to heaviness.

**Jas 4:10 Humble yourselves in the sight of (before) the Lord, and He will lift you up.**

- **God resists the proud! He gives grace to the humble!** One of the characteristics that God hates is—there are six things, yes seven, that are an abomination to Him **(Pro 6:16-19) These six things the LORD hates, Yes, seven are an abomination to Him: [17] A proud look, A lying tongue, Hands that shed innocent blood, [18] A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that are swift in running to evil, [19] A false witness who speaks lies, And one who sows discord among brethren.**
- **A proud look. God resists the proud. God hates pride.** Pride is the exaltation of self over against God. It's thinking that you are better than somebody else, in the sight of God. In the sight of God, we are all the same! God is no respecter of person. *Humble yourself in the sight of the Lord and He will lift you up.* Humility is always pleasing to a parent or to our Father

**Jas 4:11 Do not speak evil (slander) of one another, brethren. He who speaks evil of a brother and judges his brother, speaks evil of the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge.**

- **You see if I speak evil of you and I begin to judge you, that is not right!** I'm judging them. That's puts me in a position of superiority over them. Can you see that? I am thinking that I am better than they are. I have the right to look down, saying, they are evil! That puts me in the position of a judge. And yet the Bible says, judge not, lest you be judged. So by my judging, I am disobeying the law. I don't become a doer of the law, but actually I am violating the law, because I am judging when I was told by the law, not to judge.
- **Brethren! James continues to remind us that he is speaking to believers, using the term 15 times** and in each and every chapter.

**Jas 4:12 *There is one Lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy. Who are you to judge another?***

- **Paul said (Rom 14:4) *Who are you to judge another's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. Indeed, he will be made to stand, for God is able to make him stand.***
- **If you were my servant, then I would have the right to tell you what to do and how you should do it** and to judge you. But you are not my servant. You are God's servant. So who am I then to judge how you serve God? God will be the judge of your service. It is God who will either accept or reject what you are doing. So to be a judge of another man's servant is wrong! Judge not. Don't speak evil, one of another because if you speak evil, you are judging your brother and you're speaking evil of the law.
- **There is one lawgiver. He is able to save. He is able to destroy.** God is able to make him to stand, Paul said. And God is able to cast down! **Who are you to judge another?** We do need to judge the fruit, not the motive or their thoughts.

**Boasting About Tomorrow (vs. 13-17)**

**Jas 4:13 *Come now, you who* (presumptuously) *say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit";***

- **James is talking about people who are setting out their plan for life, not taking into consideration God's will.** So, *Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit.* We'll buy and sell and get gain. I mean we've got our five-year program all laid out here.
- **Jesus spoke of a certain rich man who had become so prosperous that he didn't have room in his barns** to store all of his goods. (**Luk 12:17-21**) *And he thought within himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?' [18] So he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. [19] And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry." [20] But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided? [21] "So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."*
- **I don't want God saying to me or of me, you fool!** You know you've set up this long-range plan. You're not going to be around to see it fulfilled. We need to always put in the planning area, **"if the Lord wills."**

**Jas 4:14 *whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.***

- **Have you ever noticed how rapidly vapor vanishes?** Next time you get out the vaporizer, or a tea kettle, notice how quickly the steam evaporates into the air—three seconds, five seconds? What is life? It's like a vapor, it's just there for a moment and then vanishes. A few seconds compared with eternity! It's just the same with us, we're here just a moment. But then there's eternity.
- **You know, it's sort of an amazing to realize that I have lived more than one one-hundredth (1%) of the earth's history.** Isn't that amazing? If you are sixty years old, you have lived one one-hundredth of the world's history. Imagine Adam lived almost one sixth of world's history! What is life? It's but a vapor. Man's time on earth is a vapor, especially when you compared to eternity. So what is life? It's but a vapor, which appears for a little time and then vanishes away.

**Jas 4:15 *Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that."***

- **We should always take that factor into all of our planning.** If this is the will of God, this is what we hope to accomplish. These plans are subject to the will of God. My life is subject to the will of God—if the Lord wills. We act presumptuously—and possibly calamitously—when we leave God and His will out of our plans.
- **This is fitting and honoring Him! It is recognition that the Lord numbers our days,** that our lives are in His hands.

**Jas 4:16 But now you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil.**

- **Boasting in all your arrogant schemes dishonors the Lord,** who controls our lives.

**Jas 4:17 Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.**

- **Now there are many sins of commission. I commit an evil.** But there are also many sins of omission. Things that I should do that I don't do are just as sinful as things that I do that I shouldn't do. As a child of God, there are many things that are required of me.
- **This talks about the sin of omission, not doing what you know you should do!** (*Mat 25:14-18, 27-30*) "For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. [15] And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. [16] Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. [17] And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. [18] But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money. [27] So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. [28] So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. [29] For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. [30] And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' The parable of the talents! One who buried his one talent.
- **We see the sin of omission mentioned by the prophet Samuel (1Sa 12:23-24)** Moreover, as for me, far be it from me **that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;** but I will teach you the good and the right way. [24] Only fear the LORD, and serve Him in truth with all your heart; for consider what great things He has done for you.
- **If I know to do good and I have the opportunity to do good, and I don't do it, it is just as sinful** as doing something I should not have done; sins of omission! We are all of us, guilty of both. Sins of omissions, sins of commission. But he gives more grace if we humble ourselves in the sight of the Lord! He will lift us up!

## SUMMARY:

- **Warning Against Worldliness- Pride Promotes Strife.**
- (**Jas 4:1-6**) Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members? Jas 4:[2] You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. [3] You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures. [4] Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. [5] Or do you think that the Scripture says in vain, "The Spirit who dwells in us yearns jealously"? [6] But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "GOD RESISTS THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE."
- **Humility Cures Worldliness**
- (**Jas 4:7-10**) Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. [8] Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. [9] Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. [10] Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.
- **Do Not Judge a Brother**
- (**Jas 4:11-12**) Do not speak evil of one another, brethren. He who speaks evil of a brother and judges his brother, speaks evil of the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. [12] There is one Lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy. Who are you to judge another?

- **Boasting About Tomorrow; Warning about Sins of Omission**
- (Jas 4:13-17) *Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit"; [14] whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. [15] Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that." [16] But now you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. [17] Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin. .*
- **Lord, please give me Your strength to do those things You want me to do. Lord, we want to draw near to You. We so thank You for drawing near to us! Guide us according to Your will!**
- *Draw near to God and He will draw near to You! (Jas 5:8a)*
- *Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord! To the cross where Thou hast died!*

## CLOSING SONG:

**I AM THINE, O LORD (DRAW ME NEARER)** – Fanny Crosby/ w. Doane, Wintley Phipps (3:08/3:10)

*Refrain:*

*Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, To the cross where Thou hast died;*

*Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, To Thy precious, bleeding side.*

*1 I am Thine, O Lord, I have heard Thy voice, And it told Thy love to me;*

*But I long to rise in the arms of faith, And be closer drawn to Thee. [Refrain]*

*2 Consecrate me now to Thy service, Lord, By the pow'r of grace divine;*

*Let my soul look up with a steadfast hope, And my will be lost in Thine. [Refrain]*

## CLOSING PRAYER:

**Read and study Chapter Five!**

## CLASSROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

**Phil Twente [ptwente@gmail.com](mailto:ptwente@gmail.com) cell 714 425 9221 [www.ptwente.com](http://www.ptwente.com) - Audio & notes from previous studies**

**PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!**

**MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)**

**THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING, CC LIVING WORD, 17101 ARMSTRONG, IRVINE, CA, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!**

**MEETING ID# - 87858644763 Passcode: 087484**

Join Zoom Meeting -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87858644763?pwd=b25tUzhkaTE0UzIrSnpkVmZEWGJVQT09>

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One tap mobile

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**Meeting ID: 878 5864 4763 Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87858644763>**

**TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada).**  
**THE TUESDAY MORNING STUDY WILL BE MEETING, CC LIVING WORD, 17101**  
**ARMSTRONG, IRVINE, CA, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!**  
**MEETING ID# - 85309150746 - Passcode: 715340**

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