



JAMES AND JUDE

We Need to Talk . . . James 3:13-4:12

Main Idea: How we speak to and about other people demonstrates our transformation in Christ.

1. Choosing Wisdom - Take Your Pick [James 3:13-18]

a] Wisdom of the World [Destruction]

Unspiritual/Demonic

↳ Bitter Jealousy/Selfish Ambition

↳ Disorder/Depravity

b] Wisdom from Heaven [Harvest of Righteousness]

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| 1] Pure | 4] Reasonable | 7] Impartial |
| 2] Peaceable | 5] Merciful | 8] Sincere |
| 3] Gentle | 6] Fruitful | |

2. The Battle Within [James 4:1-6]

a] Four Progressions [1-3]

- 1] desire → scarcity mindset → murder
- 2] coveting → lack of contentment → quarrel/fight
- 3] lack of request [ask] → do not receive
- 4] request [ask] → wrong motives → do not receive

b] The Choice/Solution [4-6]

- 1] Choice: Friend or Foe?
- 2] Solution #1: Jealous God
Loves intensively/exclusively -C. Spisq [ECNT]
[Exodus 20:5, 34:14, Zech 8:2]
- 3] Solution #2: God's Grace [Proverbs 3:34]

3. The Journey of Repentance [James 4:7-9, 11-12]

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|------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1] Submit to God | 6] Be Wretched |
| 2] Resist the Devil | 7] Mourn and Weep |
| 3] Draw Near to God | 8] Humble Yourself |
| 4] Cleanse Your Hands | 9] Resist Evil Talk |
| 5] Walk in Purity [Holiness] | 10] Resist Judgment |

4. Result of Repentance [James 4:10]

He will lift you up [10]

James 3:13-18 ¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. ¹⁵This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

James 4:1-12 What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? ²You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. ⁴You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. ⁵Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, "He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us"? ⁶But he gives more [greater] grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

¹¹Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. ¹²There is only one lawgiver and judge, he who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor?

Discussion Questions:

1] Read James 3:13-18. Where do you see "bitter jealousy" and "selfish ambition" today? Where have you seen the fruits of biblical wisdom being practiced?

2] Read James 4:1-5. What comes to mind when you read these verses? Why? How does our culture enflame the "passions" described here? What are symptoms of someone who wants to be the friend of the world?

4] Read James 4:11-12. Why are we so often tempted to judge others?

5] We all struggle with controlling our tongue. Accountability in this area of our lives is crucial. Pray for God to provide someone you can connect with on a deeper level to keep each other accountable in this area and gain wisdom together.

[Questions Provided by the CSB Life Connections Bible]