

- James 1:8
- James 4:4-5
- James 4:8
 - James 1 – “Their” loyalty is divided
 - James 4 – “Your” loyalty is divided

Friends and Enemies

- Friends with the world – enemy of God
- Friend of God – enemy of the world
- Abraham called the friend of God when his faith and his actions worked together (James 2:21-23)
- James 4:2–3
 - Want what you don’t have – scheme and kill to get it
 - Fight to take away from others
 - You don’t ask God
 - You ask with wrong motives – your own pleasure
- 1 Kings 18:17–21 ... “How much longer will you waver, hobbling between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him! But if Baal is God, then follow him!”
- Psalm 81:8–14 ...9 You must never have a foreign god; you must not bow down before a false god. ... “But no, my people wouldn’t listen. Israel did not want me around. 12 So I let them follow their own stubborn desires, living according to their own ideas.
- Psalm 81:16 But I would feed you with the finest wheat. I would satisfy you with wild honey from the rock.”
- Joshua 24:14–15
 - Serve God wholeheartedly
 - Choose whom you will serve
 - As for me and my family, we will serve the Lord

Today’s Idols – appropriate evaluations

- **Financial**
 - Matthew 6:21 (NLT) — 21 Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.
 - Matthew 6:24 (NLT) — 24 “No one can serve two masters. For you will hate one and love the other; you will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and be enslaved to money.

• **Relational**

- Galatians 1:10 Obviously, I’m not trying to win the approval of people, but of God. If pleasing people were my goal, I would not be Christ’s servant.

• **Entertainment –**

- Ephesians 5:15–16 ... 16 Make the most of every opportunity in these evil days.
- Time for spouse
- Time for children
- Time for work
- 1 Timothy 3:16 – all things freely to enjoy
- Proverbs 17:22 – a cheerful heart is good medicine

• **Sports**

There is a 0.0296% chance that your child will become professional athlete. There is a 100% chance that your child will stand before Jesus.

- Hebrews 10:24–25

• **Political** - God’s-eye view of politics (Biblical Worldview)

- Acts 17:26–27 ...he created all the nations throughout the whole earth. He decided beforehand when they should rise and fall, ...
- Psalm 33:12
- But what about the nation that abandons the Lord?
- Proverbs 28:2

• **Status**

- Philippians 2:3–5
- Matthew 23:11–12
- Ambition or aspiration? 1 Timothy 3:1

Don’t bow to the idols - Daniel 3:12-30

- Some Jews refuse to serve your gods
- I will give you one more chance to bow down and worship
- If you refuse – thrown into the blazing furnace
- What god will be able to rescue you from my power?
- The God we serve will rescue us
- But even if he doesn’t, we will never serve your gods
- Four men unbound, unharmed
- Fourth looks like a god!
- They were willing to die rather than serve or worship any other god
- No other god can rescue like this
- They were promoted