

A large tree stands in the center of the frame, split vertically. The left side of the tree is lush with vibrant green leaves, while the right side is a skeletal, leafless branch structure. The background features a dramatic sunset sky with orange and yellow light breaking through dark, heavy clouds. In the distance, there are rolling hills or mountains. The foreground consists of a green field on the left and a cracked, dry path on the right.

Faith without Works is Dead




I'm in trouble because I'm normal and slightly arrogant. A lot of people don't like themselves and I happen to be totally in love with myself.

(Mike Tyson)



**The Humble Christian,
the Prideful Judge, and
the ONE Lawgiver**



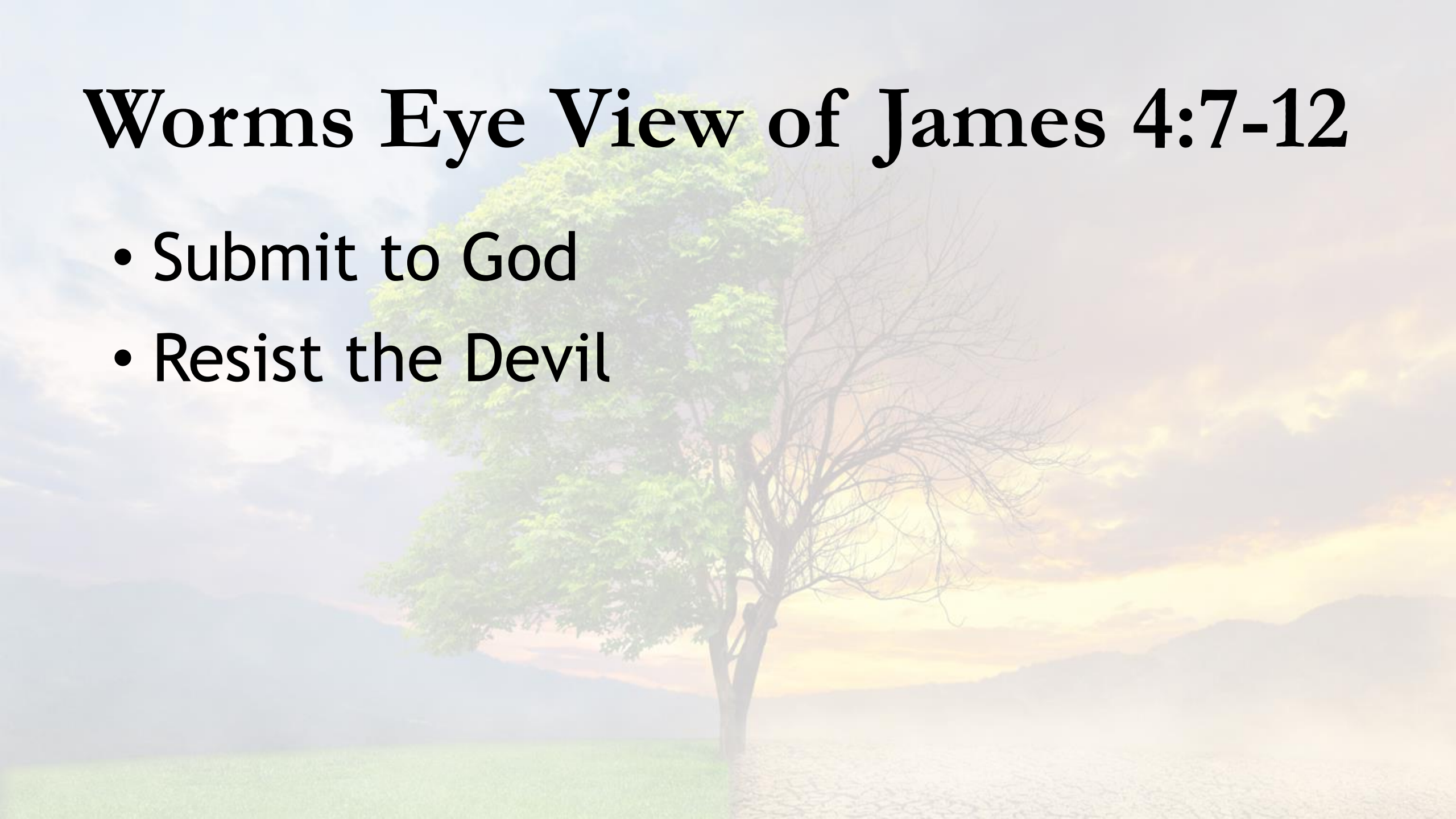
**Oppose the Devil by
Humbly Obeying God's
Word**

Bird's Eye View of James 4:1-12

- Our own desires are what lead to quarrels
- Those who befriend the world HATE God
- And still God's grace is greater than our brokenness

Worms Eye View of James 4:7-12

- Submit to God
- Resist the Devil



Submit to the Lord

- Lit: *subject oneself, be subjected or subordinated, obey*
- Submission is more than subordination
- Submission means obedience
- James is saying, “OBEY THE LORD!”

Resist the Devil

- Lit: be in opposition to, *set oneself up against, oppose*
- 1st aspect of the promise
- Significance: We have an Enemy
- How: By OBEYING the LORD

Our Feelings versus The Reality

- Our feelings: Did the Devil really flee?
- Feelings don't dictate reality
- The reality: We stand not in our own strength

Resist the devil and he will flee from you. The flip side of the first command. “Resist” literally means “take your stand against.” All people are either under the lordship of Christ or the lordship of Satan (Jn 8:44; Eph 2:2; 1Jn 3:8; 5:19); there is no middle ground. Those who transfer their allegiance from Satan to God will find that Satan “will flee from” them; he is a defeated foe.



John MacArthur

Satan is not equal in power or authority to God. Though Satan is powerful, he is not invincible. He flees from saints who wear the armor of God and who resist him (see Eph. 6:10–17).

R.C. SPROUL



Come Close to God

- 2nd aspect of the promise
- The surprising reality of coming close to God
- Coming close to God means repentance

First, we see that the text is not merely an invitation; it is a command. We must obey it. We need not entertain any fear that we will be an intruder when, in the exercise of his gracious sovereignty, God says to us, "Come!" Next, notice that he would not call us to himself if there were no road by which we could come. Once there was a great gulf fixed between us and God, but Jesus bridged the awful chasm. So draw near. The road to God is open to all who believe in Jesus. Finally, notice the encouraging promise. There is nothing about his casting out, spurning, or rejecting. We will be received graciously and loved freely. The promise is emphatic: "He will draw near to you."

CHARLES SPURGEON

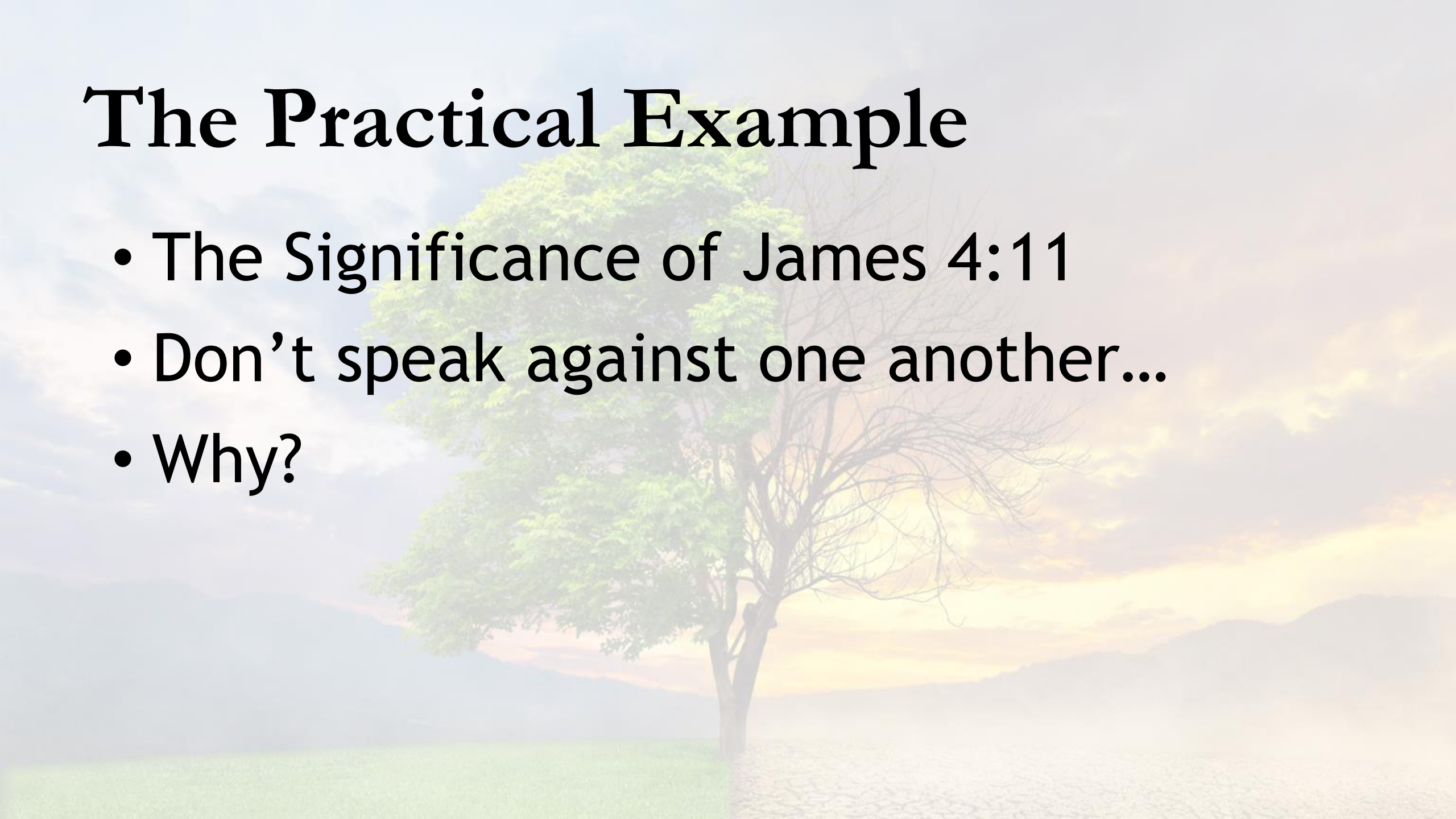


Submit, Come, and Be Humble

- 3rd aspect of the promise
- In the presence of God
- Exalted in humility
- c.f. Luke 18:9-14

The Practical Example

- The Significance of James 4:11
- Don't speak against one another...
- Why?



The Proudful Judge

- Speaking against the Law is Judging the Law
- Not a doer of the Law but a judge of it

The ONE Lawgiver

- ONE Lawgiver and Judge (see Is. 33:22)
- The One who is able to save
- AND The One who is able to destroy
- Who are we to judge like God
- Judging as God is to judge God Himself

Call to Action for James 4:7-12

**Understand that true humility
is knowing the One Lawgiver
and obeying His Word**