

## James 4:4-6 – Conflict with God

- James is all about \_\_\_\_\_ our faith.
- Testing your faith in James 4:
  - Are you friends with the \_\_\_\_\_ or with \_\_\_\_\_?
- During a test of faith, we must \_\_\_\_\_ our hearts with each step!
  - When we fail to do this, it creates three types of conflict:
    - Conflict with \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 1a)
    - Conflict with \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 1b-3)
    - Conflict with \_\_\_\_\_ (vv. 4-6)
      - Ultimately, all conflict is between us and God if we are friends of the world.
- In James 4:4-6, we see three characteristics of those in conflict with God:
  - \_\_\_\_\_ toward God (v. 4)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ of Scripture (v. 5)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 6)

### Hostility toward God (v. 4)

- “Adulteresses”
  - This is \_\_\_\_\_ adultery/infidelity.
  - This same term is used often in the OT for \_\_\_\_\_ Israel.
    - It is used as a \_\_\_\_\_ term for apostasy.
  - Israel’s \_\_\_\_\_ in the NT (Matthew 12:38-39)
    - How they committed this sin:
      - \_\_\_\_\_
      - 
      - \_\_\_\_\_
      -
  - Apostasy in James
    - Refers to people \_\_\_\_\_ Christ and then being friends with the world.

- “Friendship” – Comes from the Greek word *phileō*. This word is often translated as \_\_\_\_\_.
- Known as a \_\_\_\_\_ type of love.
- We usually consider *agapē* as the \_\_\_\_\_ kind of love.
- Love
  - *Agapē* is \_\_\_\_\_
  - *Phileō* is \_\_\_\_\_
    - Described as an intense, deep affection. In James 4:4, it is an intense, deep affection for \_\_\_\_\_.
- John 15:13-19
- James is describing the \_\_\_\_\_ to being friends with the world.
  - Habitual, consistent willing \_\_\_\_\_ as an enemy of God.
- “World” – Greek word *kosmos*.
  - This is not a \_\_\_\_\_ earth/universe, but the \_\_\_\_\_ reality of the world.
- “Wishes” – Greek word *boulomai*.
  - This indicates a \_\_\_\_\_ choice.
- “Friend the world...enemy of God”
  - 1 Corinthians 2:12 – This person is controlled by the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - Believers who pursue worldly things go against their \_\_\_\_\_ nature.
    - This makes us uncomfortable in multiple ways: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_
    - Romans 12:2; Colossians 3:12

- On the other hand, \_\_\_\_\_ who claim Christ will also become uncomfortable. (Matthew 13:22)
- The Psalms are very clear about the enemies of God.
  - Psalm 68:21 says He will \_\_\_\_\_.
- The NT is very clear as well.
  - Hebrews 10:31; Jude 19
- An enemy of God can never be a \_\_\_\_\_.
- Believers \_\_\_\_\_ the sin we commit. (Romans 7:15)
- The KEY: While we can be drawn to worldly thoughts and behaviors, we will never be content to stay there.
- **Disregard of Scripture (v. 5)**
  - This is a \_\_\_\_\_ verse by scholars.
    - \_\_\_\_\_ is critical here.
  - There is not a specific verse that James 4:5 is quoting.
    - Therefore, it must speak of Scripture in a \_\_\_\_\_ sense.
  - KJV (Authorized) is a helpful translation.
    - It is \_\_\_\_\_ with James's teaching.
      - The gist: Our actions prove the \_\_\_\_\_ of Scripture – we have a \_\_\_\_\_ spirit of envy.
        - Genesis 4:7; 6:5; Jeremiah 17:9 all speak to this truth.
  - Those in a \_\_\_\_\_ state of conflict with God will not trust or obey His \_\_\_\_\_.
- **Pride (v. 6)** – *hyperēphanos* (two root words: above + to appear)
  - This verse quotes \_\_\_\_\_ as translated in the Septuagint (Greek translation of the Hebrew OT).
  - If we are \_\_\_\_\_ with worldly desires (i.e. pride), then we have \_\_\_\_\_ to the “greater grace.”
  - “Opposed” – Greek word is *antitossomai*.
    - This is a \_\_\_\_\_ term that depicts a full army ready for battle.

- We often think we know better than God and can love better than He does and describes through His Word.
  - This is \_\_\_\_\_. Romans 1:30; 2 Timothy 3:2
  - The person who behaves as such is merely worshipping himself.
    - This person \_\_\_\_\_ divine forgiveness.
- On this word *huperēphanos*, William Barclay writes:
  - This word literally means *one who shows himself above other people*. Even the Greeks hated this pride. Theophrastus described it as “a certain contempt for all other people.” Theophylact, the Christian writer, called it “the citadel and summit of all evils.” The real terror of this pride is that it is a thing of the heart. It certainly means *haughtiness*, but the man who suffers from it might well appear to be walking in downcast humility, while all the time there was in his heart a vast contempt for all his fellow-men. This pride shuts itself off from God for three reasons. (i) *It does not know its own need...*It walks in proud self-sufficiency. (ii) *It cherishes its own independence*. It will be beholden to no man; it will not even be beholden to God...(iii) *It does not recognize its own sin...*A pride like that cannot receive help, because it does not know that it needs help, and therefore, it cannot ask. It loves, not God, but itself. (*The Letters of James and Peter* [Philadelphia: Westminster, 1960], 124)
- The humble, on the other hand...
  - Isaiah 66:2; Matthew 5:3
  - If pride is the root of all evil, then \_\_\_\_\_ is the root of all \_\_\_\_\_.
  - We must \_\_\_\_\_ concern for self with concern for God's glory.

### So, how do we resolve conflict?

1. STOP \_\_\_\_\_.
2. FIX \_\_\_\_\_.
3. BE WILLING \_\_\_\_\_.
4. RECOGNIZE \_\_\_\_\_.
5. REPENT AND GROW.

***This all starts with EXAMINING YOUR OWN HEART.***