

JAMES - A LIFE OF LIVING FAITH

Lesson 13

Review: *Having addressed the challenges that Christians may face with Worldliness, God's Will, Wealth, and Waiting Patiently, James now deals with our Word of Honor.*

I. The Problem Behind Many Promises

A) When God makes a PROMISE - II Cor. 1:20

- 1) It is always PURE - Titus 1:2
- 2) It is always within His POWER - Rom 4:20-21
- 3) He will expend any PRICE - Romans 8:32
- 4) He will surely PERFORM it - 2 Peter 3:9

B) When men make PROMISES

- 1) The real motive may be to ENHANCE credibility
- 2) The real motive may be to EXTEND time
- 3) The real motive may be to ENSURE another chance

II. The Vanity Behind Many Vows - Eccl. 5:1-7

A) A vain attempt to absolve an INDEBTEDNESS to God

B) A vain attempt to exert INFLUENCE over God

C) A vain attempt to IMPRESS the people of God

- 1) God holds us to it whether or not we were SINCERE
- 2) God deals with our breaking a vow as a SIN

III. The Seriousness Of Oaths And Swearing - James 5:12

A) It's a presumptive APPEAL based on God's character - Matt. 5:33-37

B) It's a pre-emptive ATTEMPT designed to silence doubt

IV. Our Word Will Be Our Bond When We Are Honest

A) Honest people count on their established reputation for honesty

B) Honest people count on God honoring their honesty

C) Honest people consider personal integrity more precious than other's opinion

D) Honest people reject the ruse of over exaggeration or falsely raising expectation