

JAMES

What Causes Arguments?

9-4-22

I. The cause of arguments: _____.

James 4:1 - What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from **your desires** that battle within you?

Three Desires

A. The Desire to _____. (Possessions)

James 4:2 - **You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want.** You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God.

James 1:17 - Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

B. The Desire to _____. (Pleasure)

James 4:3 - When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that **you may spend what you get on your pleasures.**

Spend means: completely use up

Pleasures means: thrill of the moment

C. The Desire to _____. (Pride & Power)

James 4:1 - What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your **desires** that battle within you?

Desires means: Pleasures, from which "hedonist" and "hedonism" are derived.

The desire to fulfill these pleasures comes, of course, from selfishness, which is opposed to God and the Word of God.

Proverbs 13:10 - Pride only breeds quarrels...

Why Aren't Our Desires Fulfilled?

James 4:2-3 - You want something but don't get it. . . ³ When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

*We don't _____.

James 4:2-3 - ...You do not have, because **you do not ask God.** ³ When you ask, you do not receive. . .

* _____.

... because you ask with **wrong motives**...

* _____ with God.

James 4:4-6 - You **adulterous people**, don't you know that **friendship** with the world is hatred toward God? Anyone who chooses to be a **friend** of the **world** becomes an enemy of God. ⁵ Or do you think Scripture says without reason that the spirit he caused to live in us envies intensely? ⁶ But he gives us more grace. **That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."**

Adulterous people means: He is not talking about sexual but spiritual infidelity.

Friend means: To describe intense and deep affection for the evil world system.

World means: It refers to the self-centered, godless value system of fallen mankind.

II. The remedy for arguments: _____.

James 4:6, 10 - But he gives us more grace...¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

A. _____ into God.

James 4:7 - **Submit** yourselves, then, to God.

Submit means: To rank under

Colossians 3:15 - Let the peace of Christ rule in your heart.

B. _____ wise to Satan.

James 4:7 - Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

2 Corinthians 2:11 - in order that Satan might not outwit us. For we are not unaware of his schemes.

Luke 4:5-8 - The devil led him up to a high place and **showed him** in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And he said to him, "**I will give you all their authority and splendor**, for it has been given to me, and I can give it to anyone I want to. ⁷ **So if you worship me**, it will all be yours." ⁸ Jesus answered, "**It is written . . .**"

C. _____ closer to God.

James 4:8 - Come near to God and he will come near to you.

Isaiah 26:3 - You will keep in **perfect peace** him whose **mind is steadfast**, because he **trusts in you**.

D. _____ for forgiveness.

James 4:8 - ... Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double minded.

James 4:9 - Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom.

GOD'S PROMISE!

James 4:10 - Humble yourselves before the Lord, and **he will lift you up**.