

Faith Works
James 3:13 – 4:10
March 11, 2014

I. Review

A. The Tongue

1. Difficult to _____
2. We _____ God and _____ those made in his image from the same mouth

B. Continuity

1. James is not going to leave the topic completely
2. Worldly _____ produced to arrogance and selfish desires
3. A common thread running through these verses is _____
4. Harsh _____

II. True Vs. False Wisdom – Vv. 13-18

A. Who is Wise? – Vs. 13

1. If you think you're _____, step up and prove it
 - a. By a life of _____ and good deed

B. True Wisdom

1. Isn't about being able to spout _____
2. It is _____
3. The wording denotes a _____ that pleases God
4. Clearly James is telling us two things
 - a. True wisdom produces good _____
 - b. True wisdom produces _____
5. Humility is seeing God for who He _____
6. And seeing _____ as we really are

C. False Wisdom – Vv. 14-16

1. Antithesis

- a. Rather than humility, false wisdom displays bitter _____ and selfish _____
- b. These are _____ to true, godly wisdom

2. Living a _____

3. Selfish ambition = eritheia

4. Boasting

- a. Don't take _____ in such wisdom

5. Origin of such "_____"

- a. _____ as opposed to heavenly
- b. _____ as opposed to spiritual
- c. From _____ as opposed to being from God

6. The proof of this is found in the _____ of such wisdom

- a. Envy and selfish ambition that leads to disorder and _____

7. Disorder = another form of "double-_____"

- a. The person and the community are in _____

8. James is painting a picture of _____ and disunity within the church

9. Further, he is warning of where such chaos leads

- a. To rampant _____

D. The Fruit of True Wisdom – Vv. 17-18

1. Identified by the quality of _____ it produces

- a. Pure = innocent, _____

2. That purity is expressed when we are

- a. Peace _____
- b. Considerate
- c. _____

- d. Full of _____ and good _____
- e. Impartial
- f. _____

E. Harvest of Righteousness – Vs. 18

1. James's key _____
 - a. That the community of believers would live in _____ with one another
2. What is James saying?
3. What is the harvest of righteousness?
 - a. Almost always means the harvest that _____ righteousness
 - b. In other words, conduct that is _____ to God
4. When we _____ our lives to God
5. When we live for our own selfish _____ and ambition
6. The righteous life that God desires for us cannot be produced in this _____ of ambition and anger
 - a. It can only grow and flourish in an atmosphere of _____

III. Fights and Quarrels – James 4:1-3

A. Continuation of the Theme

1. Peacemaking
 - a. The _____ of godly wisdom is a righteousness that produces peaceful, godly relationships
 - b. The fruit that was primarily individual in 3:13-18 is now drawn out for the Christian _____

B. Parallelism Concerning Desire

1. "You want something and do not have it; so you commit _____
And you _____ something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts"

C. You Kill?

1. James is warning them about where their behavior is _____ if left unchecked

D. You Want Something But Don't Get It

1. What do they want?
 - a. Wisdom that will lead to _____, prestige, recognition

E. Wrong Motives

1. Sometimes we don't get what we ask for because we want it for the _____ reasons

IV. A Call to Spiritual Wholeness – Vv. 4-10

A. Adulterous People – Vv. 4-6

1. Abrupt and harsh

- a. In the midst of his exhortation about speech, envy, and divisiveness, James gives this impassioned plea to turn from their worldly ways and submit _____ - _____ to their gracious but jealous God

2. Connection to the _____

- a. Feminine from
- b. Comparing them to Israel's _____ and rebellion against God

B. Friendship With the World

1. By seeking friendship with the world, they are committing a type of _____, even _____

- a. When we put anyone or anything ahead of God, that is _____ to him

- b. When we put anyone or anything ahead of God, we set that up as our _____

2. How were they befriending the _____?

- a. _____ against others – 2:1-13
- b. _____ negatively about each other – 3:1-12
- c. Seeking _____ and prestige and envying one another – 3:13-18
- d. Pursuing destructive _____ – 4:1-3

3. God tolerates no _____

C. The Point of Verse Five

1. What James is saying: God is a _____ God and he will not tolerate _____

2. NRSV – God yearns _____ for the spirit that he has made to dwell in us

D. What God Demands, He Supplies

1. His grace is more than _____

- 2. Our God is a consuming _____
 - a. But he is also merciful, gracious, and _____

E. Grace Always Demands a Response

- 1. That response is _____

F. Series of Commands – Vv. 7-10

- 1. Flows directly from _____
- 2. Submit
 - a. To place ourselves under his _____
 - b. To commit to _____ him in all things
 - c. To _____ him and him alone
 - d. The rest of the commands all _____ out of our submission

3. Resist the devil

- a. We can't simultaneously follow God and _____
- b. And what will he do...he will _____!

4. Come _____ to God

- a. This is the logical outcome of _____
- b. It can and may mean to come near in _____
- c. James is saying to draw near in _____

5. The _____ of our sin

- a. As we submit and draw near to God, we come to see both the _____ of God and the seriousness of our _____

G. Humility Again – Vs. 10

1. Humbling ourselves before God means to recognize our spiritual _____

- a. That we can do _____ apart from him
- b. To understand our desperate _____ of God
- c. And, therefore, to _____ to him

2. Closely related to Jesus' teaching

- a. Luke 18:14

3. When we humble ourselves before God in repentance

- a. He will _____ us up
- b. He will _____ us

V. Conclusion

A. Two Battles – Dunkirk & D-Day

B. Look Within

1. Holding up the mirror to see ourselves as we truly are – _____,
broken, deserving _____

2. And then seeing the _____ God made to forgive us

a. Which underscores the _____ of God's love for us

C. It Should All Overwhelm Us

1. Here's the beautiful thing

a. When I come to God in true repentance