

Learning To Think Like God

A study of the book of James

Sunday, January 21, 2018

Internal Battles That Produce External Wars

James 4:1-10

PEACE

- *It is PURE...free of contamination*
- *Peace-loving...prefers peace (Psalm 120:6-7)*
- *Considerate...of others thoughts & feelings*
- *Submissive...under another's cause*
- *Full of Mercy...kindness toward an enemy*
- *Full of Good Fruit...produces life that is good*
- *Impartial...not biased*
- *Sincere...genuine, real; free from deceit*

WAR

- *Fights and quarrels among God's people*
- *Kill: To end the life of another*
- *Cove: To desire wrongfully without due regard for the rights of others*
- *They didn't ask God...in prayer*
- *When they prayed, they still did not receive because their motives where wrong*
- *...they wanted to SPEND what they would get on THEMSELVES/ THEIR PLEASURES*

WHAT CAUSES CONFLICT AMONG US?

- The Desires That Battle Within US!
 - You want some thing but you don't get it. (2)
 - You kill...but you still don't get it.
 - You covet...but cannot have what you want.
 - You quarrel and fight.
- The Source is contaminated.
- You don't ask God. Who are they asking?
- When they ask, their motives are wrong.
- Me, me, me, me, me, me, me...

WHO ARE THEY ASKING?

The World – *godless people are their advisors.*

- You adulterous people... (4)
 - Adultery: voluntary sexual intercourse between a married person and someone other than his or her lawful spouse.
 - The world was their god; here they committed their spiritual adultery; and they cultivated this friendship in order that they might gain this end. (from Adam Clarke's Commentary, Electronic Database. Copyright (c) 1996 by Biblesoft)
- Friendship with the world:
 - Is a choice
 - Hatred toward God
 - Enemy of God
 - *Matthew 6:24* "No one can serve two masters. Either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve **both God and Money.**

WHAT DOES THE SCRIPTURES SAY?

- God is jealous
 - Deut. 4:23-24
 - Deut. 5:8-10
 - Deut. 6:13-16
 - Joshua 24:14-24
- God is Full of Grace
 - He gives us MORE grace (Rom. 5:12-21)
 - Grace came through Jesus Christ (John 1:17)
 - He gives grace to the humble (Proverbs. 3:33-34)

SURRENDER BRINGS PEACE

- Conditions of surrender
 - Submit yourselves to God
 - Resist the Devil
 - Come near to God
 - Wash your hands-*you sinners*
 - Purify your hearts-*you doubled minded*
 - Grieve, mourn, wail
 - Change laughter to mourning
 - Change joy to gloom
 - Humble yourselves before the Lord

- **Benefits of surrender**
 - The Devil will run from you
 - God will come near to you
 - God will lift you up!