

James 4 - Love Not The World

December 7, 2014 AM

James 4:1-3

1 From whence come **WARS** and **FIGHTINGS** among you? come they not hence, even of **YOUR LUSTS THAT WAR IN YOUR MEMBERS?**

2 Ye **LUST**, and **HAVE NOT**: ye **KILL**, and **DESIRE TO HAVE**, and **CANNOT OBTAIN**: ye **FIGHT** and **WAR**, yet ye **HAVE NOT**, because ye ask not.

3 **YE ASK, and RECEIVE NOT, BECAUSE YE ASK AMISS, THAT YE MAY CONSUME IT UPON YOUR LUSTS.**

WHEN WE SEEK FOR LIFE, FULFILLMENT AND SECURITY IN ANYTHING OTHER THAN GOD, OUR LIFE IS MISERABLE: FULL OF LABOR AND STRIVING, FULL OF WARS AND FIGHTING, FULL OF FRUSTRATION AND EMPTINESS.

Ecclesiastes 2:10-11

10 And whatsoever mine eyes desired I kept not from them, I withheld not my heart from any joy; for my heart rejoiced in all my labour: and this was my portion of all my labour.

11 Then I looked on all the works that my hands had wrought, and **ON THE LABOUR THAT I HAD LABOURED TO DO:** and, behold, **ALL WAS VANITY AND VEXATION OF SPIRIT, AND THERE WAS NO PROFIT UNDER THE SUN.**

James 4:4-5

4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that **THE FRIENDSHIP (to be fond of) OF THE WORLD IS ENMITY (enemy, hatred, hostility) WITH GOD? WHOSOEVER THEREFORE WILL BE A FRIEND OF THE WORLD IS THE ENEMY OF GOD.**

5 Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, **THE SPIRIT THAT DWELLETH IN US LUSTETH TO ENVY?**

1 John 2:15-17

15 **LOVE NOT THE WORLD, NEITHER THE THINGS THAT ARE IN THE WORLD. IF ANY MAN LOVE THE WORLD, THE LOVE OF THE FATHER IS NOT IN HIM.**

16 **FOR ALL THAT IS IN THE WORLD, THE LUST OF THE FLESH, THE LUST OF THE EYES, AND THE PRIDE OF LIFE, IS NOT OF THE FATHER, BUT IS OF THE WORLD.**

17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

- **LUST OF THE FLESH** - *self-gratification, pleasing self, self-idolatry*
- **LUST OF THE EYES** - *sensory enticement, 2 Peter 2:8 - "...in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul..."*
- **PRIDE OF LIFE** - *self-promotion, self-exaltation, entitlement, from "I want" to "I deserve", Isaiah 14:13 "For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven..."*

TO ACT OR REACT BY THE LUST OF THE FLESH, LUST OF THE EYES AND PRIDE OF LIFE IS TO:

- *doom us to wars, strife, vexation, frustration and emptiness, both inside and out*
- *place us under Satan's kingdom, vulnerable to the powers of sin, darkness and destruction*

Ephesians 2:2-3

2 Wherein in time past **YE WALKED ACCORDING TO THE COURSE OF THIS WORLD, ACCORDING TO THE PRINCE OF THE POWER OF THE AIR,** the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

3 Among whom also **WE ALL HAD OUR CONVERSATION IN TIMES PAST IN THE LUSTS OF OUR FLESH, FULFILLING THE DESIRES OF THE FLESH AND THE MIND;** and **WERE BY NATURE THE CHILDREN OF WRATH,** even as others.

Genesis 3:6

"And when the woman saw that the tree was **GOOD FOR FOOD,** and that it was **PLEASANT TO THE EYES,** and a tree to be desired to **MAKE ONE WISE,** she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat."

Genesis 2:17

"But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: **FOR IN THE DAY THAT THOU EATEST THEREOF THOU SHALT SURELY DIE.**"

James 4:5-6

5 Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, **THE SPIRIT THAT DWELLETH IN US LUSTETH TO ENVY?**

6 **BUT HE GIVETH MORE GRACE.** Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

- **GRACE GREATER THAN THE SIN, THE COVETOUSNESS, THE ENVY IS AVAILABLE TO US.**

2 Peter 1:3-4

3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

Titus 2:11-12

11 For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men,

12 Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;

James 4:7-10

7 **SUBMIT** (*subordinate, subject oneself*) **YOURSELVES THEREFORE TO GOD. RESIST** (*oppose, set oneself against*) **THE DEVIL, and HE WILL FLEE FROM YOU.**

8 **DRAW NIGH TO GOD, AND HE WILL DRAW NIGH TO YOU. CLEANSE YOUR HANDS, YE SINNERS; AND PURIFY YOUR HEARTS, YE DOUBLE MINDED.**

9 **BE AFFLICTED, AND MOURN, AND WEEP:** let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness.

10 **HUMBLE YOURSELVES IN THE SIGHT OF THE LORD, AND HE SHALL LIFT YOU UP.**

- **LIVING FREE FROM THE LOVE OF THE WORLD REQUIRES THESE COMPONENTS OF RELATIONSHIP:**

- **COMMITMENT** - *(vs 7) submit yourselves therefore to God*

Mark 8:34 "Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself..."

- **WARFARE** - *(vs 7) resist the devil*

2 Corinthians 10:3-6

4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

- **DEPENDENCE** - *(vs 8) draw nigh to God for His cleansing, His ability, His strength*

John 15:5 "I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."

- **CLEANSING** - *(vs 8) purify your hearts ye double minded*

Romans 12:2 "...be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind..."

- **REPENTANCE** - *(vs 9) be afflicted and mourn and weep with godly sorrow*

2 Corinthians 7:10 "godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death."

1 Peter 2:11

"Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, **ABSTAIN** (hold back, keep off, be distant) **FROM FLESHLY LUSTS, WHICH WAR** (wage war) **AGAINST THE SOUL.**"