





James

How to Quit Quarelling & Start Loving

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James

**1 How good and pleasant it is when
brothers live together in unity!**

Psalm 133

“I have often wondered that persons who make boast of professing the Christian religion- namely love, joy, peace, temperance and charity to all men-- should quarrel with such rancorous animosity, and display daily towards one another such bitter hatred, that this, rather than the virtues they profess, is the readiest criteria of their faith.”

Benedict Spinoza



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Today's Text

James 4:1-10



16 For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing.

James 3:16

James 4

**The Source of
Quarrels**

**The Solution to
Quarrels**

Verse 1-6

Verses 7-10

I. The Source of Quarrels (4:1-6)

A. Quarrels are sourced in wrong desires.

James

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


I. The Source of Quarrels (4:1-6)

A. Quarrels are sourced in wrong desires.

1. Frustrated desire leads to conflict .

James

2 You want something but don't get it so you kill and covet. You cannot have what you want so you quarrel and fight.



21 “You have heard that it was said to the people long ago, ‘Do not murder, and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.’

22 But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother will be subject to judgment.

Matthew 5:21-22



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I. The Source of Quarrels (4:1-6)

A. Quarrels are sourced in wrong desires.

3. Frustrated desire leads to conflict .

4. Improper prayer leads to frustrated desire.

James

**2c ...You do not have, because
you do not ask God.**

James 2:26

7 "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.

8 For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.

Matthew 7

James

9 "Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone?

10 Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake?

Matthew 7

James

**11 If you, then, though you are evil,
know how to give good gifts to
your children, how much more
will your Father in heaven give
good gifts to those who ask him!**

Matthew 7

James

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

James

9 "Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
10 thy kingdom come, thy will be
done on earth as it is in heaven.

Matthew 6:9-10

I. The Source of Quarrels (4:1-6)

B. Wrong desires are sourced in a love
for the world.

James

4 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 speaks to no purpose: "He jealously desires the Spirit which he has made to dwell in us"?

James

6 But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

James

2 I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy. I promised you to one husband, to Christ, so that I might present you as a pure virgin to him.

2 Corinthians 11

James

3 But I am afraid that just as Eve was deceived by the serpent's cunning, your minds may somehow be led astray from your sincere and pure devotion to Christ.

2 Corinthians 11

Cosmos

That value system in society, energized by Satan, which seeks to offer purpose, meaning and satisfaction apart from God.

James

6 But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

II. The Solutions for Quarrels (4:7-10)

James

7 Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

8 Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

James

9 Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom.

10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

II. The Solutions for Quarrels (4:7-10)

A. Submit to God

James

4 ...“Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.” ”

Matthew 4:4

II. The Solutions for Quarrels (4:7-10)

A. Submit to God

C. Resist the Devil

James

11 Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.

12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

Ephesians 6

II. The Solutions for Quarrels (4:7-10)

A. Submit to God

C. Resist the Devil

E. Come near to God

James

8 Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

9 Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom.

**Love for the world is
incompatible with love for God.**

II. The Solutions for Quarrels (4:7-10)

D. Humble yourself before God.

James

**10 Humble yourselves before the
Lord, and he will lift you up.**

Humble Yourself Before God by...

**Submitting
to God**

**Resisting
the Devil**

**Drawing near
to God**

...and God will lift you up.

Application/Challenge

**Avoid quarrels by humbling yourself
before God and adopting
His value system.**



Application/Challenge

1. Think about some recent quarrel or relational tiff.

Ask yourself, “What frustrated desire led to this conflict? Is this desire, something God wants me to have, or just something that I selfishly want?”



Application/Challenge

2. Ask God to reveal areas in your life where you have adopted worldly values. (1 John 2:16)



Application/Challenge

2. Ask God to reveal areas in your life where you have adopted worldly values. (1 John 2:16)

3. Apply God's remedy for quarrels:

Humble yourself before God by submitting to God, resisting the devil, and coming near to God.





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