

Sermon Scripture Passage: James 3:1-2, 4:1-10

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. 2 For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body.

What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions[a] are at war within you? 2 You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. 3 You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. 4 You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. 5 Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, "He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us"? 6 But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." 7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. 8 Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. 9 Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. 10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Scripture References:

Romans 7:15-24

15 For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. 16 Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. 17 So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. 18 For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. 19 For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. 20 Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

21 So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. 22 For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, 23 but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. 24 Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

Matthew 15:7-9 – 7 You hypocrites! Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you:

8 "These people honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me.

9 They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules."

2 Corinthians 5:14-15 – 14 For Christ's love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. 15 And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

East Glenville Church – Sermon Notes Handout – March 19th 2023
James: Looking Into the Mirror #4 – James 3:1-2, 4:1-10 – Flawed Images

Question: Would it be better to have a magic mirror that glossed over all of our flaws?

For those who declare Christ as their Lord our faith is shown to be true by these three things:

In _____ to the word, the _____ of the heart, and _____ in His Kingdom

James 3-4 – Flawed Images: Followers of Christ have fallen far short of God’s holy standard.

3:2 We all _____ in many ways.

How does this compare to what Paul says in Romans 3:23?

3:3-12 By our speech, which is full of _____, lying, and _____

Compare to what Isaiah says of himself when he sees God in His Holiness?

3:13-18 By relying on the _____ of this world rather than God.

What makes the wisdom of the world, “earthly, unspiritual, and demonic?”

4:1-3 By letting the desires and _____ within us lead us to anger and conflict.

Compare to what Paul says of our desires in Romans 7:15-24

4:4-5 By seeking _____ with the world over _____ to God.

What does it mean that God is jealous for us?

4:6-7 By our _____ & pride which give an opening for the devil to manipulate us!

The essence of pride states: I know what is _____ for my life, I don’t need God!

4:6 What will a proud man (or woman) discover?

What will one who is humble receive?

4:7-10 What does it look like to humble yourself before God? (*note the command verbs*)

Answers for the blanks:

- Obedience
- Worship
- Service
- Stumble
- Boasting
- Cursing
- Wisdom
- Passion
- Friendship
- Faithfulness
- Arrogance
- Best
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