

James

(10) Warning to the unsaved Jew

James 4:7-10

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. 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. NIV

The unbeliever's battle...4:1-6

What does James clearly identify as the cause of fighting among these Jews (1:1)? 4:1-2

It comes from desires, lusts that wage war in your members (Rom.6:12-13), personally.

Does this happen in believers and unbelievers? Rom.6:12-13 Comment? see Jude 19

To some extent, yes. Unbelievers are slaves to it, believers are not, but can 'yield' to it.

But when they did actually ask God to supply something, why did He not give it? 4:3

Because they asked with wrong motives. Probably selfish, envious. He looks at our heart.

How should *believers* apply this truth today? 4:3 How do we address this? Ps.139:23

We should self exam our hearts and invite the Lord to reveal the 'hurtful' ways in me.

How is 4:3 applicable to *unbelieving Jews*? 4:4; Ez.16:30-34; Hosea 1:2; Mt.12:38-39

Only the Jews are referred to as adulterous. As a nation their idolatry = adultery.

How do we know that 4:4 is not referring to sin in a believer? Eph.2:11-22; Col.1:20, Rom.8:1

A true believer is never said to be an enemy of God. Christ is our Peace! Always!!

So to whom is this addressed? 1:14-17

To those professing to be believers but having no good works (evidence) to show it.

How does James emphasize the need for true salvation to these '*professors*'? 4:5-6

Very difficult translation; God gives (saving) grace to the humble (only).

The call to salvation...4:7-10

And what is James' first admonition to those *unbelievers*? 4:7 see Is.66:2

Submit yourself (repent) to God. Resist the devil (his control). He will flee (no authority!)

For *believers*, what is our defense against the devil? Eph.6:10-17

The full armor of God! It makes us able to resist (6:13), and to 'stand firm...' (6:13-14)

What is recognized by the Jews re wash hands /purify hearts? 4:8; Jer.4:14; Ez.36:25-27

This is ceremonial for the priests. Signified (confessing) cleansing walk, heart from sin.

What's grieve, mourn, and wail about? 4:9 Luke 18:13; Mt.5:4; IICor.7:10 note: Lu.6:21, 25

Grieving and mourning over our sin. Godly sorrow produces repentance to salvation!

What is the final admonition to the *unbelievers*? 4:10; 4:6; 3:13; Is.57:15; Mt.23:12

Humble yourself before the Lord and He will lift you up! Pride is a killer!

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