

One Step to Freedom
Chapter 3: Trials and Temptations

Lesson 5
Pride and Humility

“But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble” (James 4:6).

Read James 4:1-6. In this passage we again find James referring to three elements that war against our souls: the world, the flesh and the Devil.

1. Where do wars and battles come from?

2. When we live for our members (flesh), what happens?

3. Why don't those who live for themselves get what they ask for?

4. What is friendship with the world? If you are a friend of the world, what are you to God?

5. Who does God resist? To whom does God give grace?

6. Read James 4:7-10. Therefore, what do we need to do in humility (verse 7)?

7. What happens when we resist the Devil? What happens when we draw near to God?

8. What does the double-minded person need to do?

9. What should be the believer's attitude toward their sin?

10. What do we need to do in true repentance?

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Read James 4:11-17.

In these verses, God is seeking to show us that we need to assess our own spiritual condition before we start assessing others. There are times to judge and discern within the church, but in this context we are not to judge with a condemning attitude. Also read Matthew 7:1-5 and 1 Corinthians 5:11-13.

James speaks of the boastful pride we have, when we assume we will have another day on earth.

11. To what does James compare our life?

12. What should be our attitude towards the things we do?

13. What is boasting?

14. If we don't do that which we know we should do, what is it?

God wants us to look to Him for guidance in everything (James 4:15). As we do this, we will see that He is the One doing great things in our lives—not ourselves. We need to humble ourselves before God, laying aside our pride and worldly desires with willing and obedient hearts.

Further reading: Read James chapter 5.