

“Compromised Christianity”

James 4:1-12

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Introduction

Main Idea: Friendship with the world causes conflict with others, within ourselves, and ultimately with God, but His grace enables genuine repentance and restoration for the humble.

I. Friendship with the World (vv. 1-5)

- Summary: Friendship with the world is the root cause of a self-centered and selfish lifestyle that bears the rotten fruit of relational conflict.

II. A Call to Genuine Repentance (vv. 6-10)

- A Gracious Invitation (v.6)

- A Holistic Framework (vv. 7-10)
 - Notice, there are 9 commands that tell us what humble submission to God in repentance looks like.
 - A Few Observations:
 - God uses the instruments of his Word and his messenger
 - Those who proclaim Christ to others must insist upon the necessity of human repentance while realizing that, apart from the prior convicting work of God, no one will seek him.
 - Although humans are responsible for their wicked actions, there is a demonic element underlying (or sometimes explicitly present in) all human rebellion

III. Our Speech...Again?! (vv.11-12)

- Worldly Speech:
 - Discourages One Another
 - Dishonors God