

Day Eight

Chapter 4:1-10

1 What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions 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.



I. The Nature of _____

- The Method of Conflict: Conflict involves two or more people at odds. All of the following words can be used of warfare, but each can also be used of less dramatic interactions.
 - Opposition/Resistance — set oneself against (4:6-7)
 - Fights — controversy (4:1-2)
 - Quarrels — dispute, strife (4:1-2)
 - War — military campaign (4:1)
 - Murder — kill (4: 2)
- The _____ of Conflict: to achieve a desired end (4:1-5)
- The _____ of Conflict: conflict can be used to achieve righteous ends as well as accomplish sinful desires. (compare 4:1-4 with 4:5-7)

II. The Requirements for Conflict

- Unfulfilled _____
 - We all have unfulfilled desires (4:2). Desires are a longing for something (good or bad).
 - We all covet something we cannot obtain (4:2). Coveting is a zealous desire for something (good or bad).
 - We all have passions at war within us (4:1). Passions are desires/lusts for pleasure (generally bad).
 - Sometimes our desires are unfulfilled because we don't _____ (4:2).
 - Sometimes our desires are unfulfilled because we ask for the wrong things (4:3).
 - Sometimes our desires are unfulfilled because we ask for the wrong _____ (4:3). We want what we want because we seek for pleasure.
- An _____
 - The enemy is whoever keeps us from fulfilling our desires.
 - We don't trust an enemy.
 - The enemy may be righteous or wicked (4:4 — God, 6-7 — Satan)

III. The Requirements for an _____

A. Start by choosing your friend. Love your friend.

1. Self-Worship (4:1-4)

- a) Believe that you are right and that your pleasure is the ultimate _____.
- b) Worship self above God (4:4).
- c) Long for your own pleasure (4:1).
- d) Set your desire above the good of others (4:2).
- e) Instead of asking, plot how to _____ what you want (4:2).
- f) When you ask, seek only your own fulfillment (4:3).
- g) Align with whomever will allow you to use them for your pleasure (4:4 — friendship with the world). Or . . .

2. _____-Worship (4:4)

- a) Believe that God is right and that His pleasure is the ultimate good.
- b) Worship God above self.
- c) Long for His pleasure.
- d) Set His desire above your own perceived “good.”
- e) Ask Him to achieve His pleasure (Matthew 6:9-13 — The Disciple’s Prayer).
- f) Ask for His good for His pleasure.
- g) Align with God and His followers.

B. Then . . . whatever side isn’t your friend is your enemy. Hate your enemy.

1. The word enmity can be translated “hatred” (4:4).

2. The word enemy means “to _____” (4:4).

3. Hatred can mean . . .

- a) to detest (John 7:7, “*The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify about it that its works are evil.*”).
 - b) to _____ less (Luke 14:26, “*If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.*”).
 - c) to set yourself against, aka: be an enemy of (Psalm 26:5, “*I hate the assembly of evildoers, and I will not sit with the wicked.*”).
4. Hatred can be righteous or it can be wicked (Luke 14:26 — God commanding us to hate, Matthew 24:10 — an example of sinful hate).

IV. The Requirements for Choosing the _____ Enemy

A. Start by choosing the right _____.

1. Acknowledge that _____ is worthy of your worship.
2. Realize that He jealously yearns for your spirit (4:5).
3. Understand that to worship self is to commit adultery against God. We’re cheating on Him when we don’t submit to Him (4:4).
4. Enjoy the fact that God gives us the grace we need to be His friend/love Him (4:6).
5. Grasp the reality that if you don’t make God your friend, you’re proudly choosing to be His enemy (4:6).

B. _____ the Enemy

1. In the same way God opposes the proud, you must resist the _____ (4:7).
2. You must also resist _____ for which the world and Satan stand (4:7-10).