

The 14th Sunday after Pentecost ~ Sunday, August 21, 2016

“Faith that Works: The Letter of James ~ The 3 Prides”

James 4:1-5:6

Pride = a high opinion of one’s own dignity, _____, merit, or superiority; a feeling of deep pleasure derived from one’s own _____; pleasure, gratification, fulfillment, _____.”

Spiritually speaking, pride is the elevation of _____—putting ourselves in the place where only _____ should be.

“Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.” (Proverbs 29:23)

THE SOURCE

“God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” (James 4:6)

oppose = *antitassomai* =

Pride is offensive to God because it represents a challenge to His sovereign _____.

huper = _____ =

ephania =

huperephania = ‘excessive shining, self- _____, self-absorption, self-destructive vanity; the act of arrogantly _____ yourself until you appear to be above others—even God.’

“Human pride will be brought down, and human arrogance will be humbled. Only the Lord will be exalted on that day of judgment.” (Isaiah 2:11)

The source of our pride is our sinful _____.

“It is what comes from inside that defiles you. For from within, out of a person’s heart, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, greed, wickedness, deceit, lustful desires, envy, slander, pride, and foolishness. All these vile things come from within; they are what defile you.” (Mark 7:20-23)

How would I describe my heart? Do I suffer from pride?

THE SYMPTOMS: _____ PRIDE

“What is causing the quarrels and fights among you? Don’t they come from the evil desires at war within you? You lust for what you don’t have, so you scheme and kill to get it...” (James 4:1-5)

• _____
evil desires = *hedone*, = _____, and carries the idea of having a completely _____ view of life.

epithymeo =

This word is about _____ and describes the _____ a person has for the object of their lust.

• _____
Consumption is never _____. The more you feed lust, the more it grows.

• _____ or friendship with the world.

“Thou shalt have no other gods before me.” (Exodus 20:3)

God is talking about anything that we would seek to _____ Him with in our lives. Anything we place our _____ and trust in.

• _____
“The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy.” (James 4:5 KJV)

Envy is an extreme form of _____.

Are you showing any symptoms of selfish pride this morning?

THE SYMPTOMS: _____ PRIDE

“Look here, you who say, ‘Today or tomorrow we are going to a certain town and will stay there a year. We will do business there and make a profit.’ How do you know what your life will be like tomorrow? Your life is like the morning fog—it’s here a little while, then it’s gone.” (Jas 4:13-14)

God wants us to make plans, however, He wants us to _____ them to Him and His _____ for our lives.

• _____
There’s nothing wrong with making plans—the trouble comes when we leave out _____.

“You can make many plans, but the Lord’s purpose will prevail.” (Proverbs 19:21)

Have you asked God what His plans are for your life?

• _____
“Instead you ought to say, ‘If the Lord wishes, we will live and do this or that.’ As it is, you boast in your arrogance; all such boasting is evil.” (James 4:15-16)

“But now ye rejoice in your boastings; all such rejoicing is evil.” (4:16 KJV)
rejoicing = _____; being a loud-mouth or arrogant _____.

When we make our plans for the future, do we do it our way?

Are we arrogant in our plan making?

• _____
“Anyone, then, who knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, commits sin.” (James 4:17)

“The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows his handiwork.” (Psalm 19:1)

The problem isn't knowing what is right—the problem is _____ what is right.

THE SYMPTOMS: _____ PRIDE

Money is a tool to be used for God's _____ in our life.

Money is tests our:

Greedy pride is using our money the _____ way, instead of in a way that _____ God.

• _____
“Come now, you rich people, weep and wail for the miseries that are coming to you. Your riches have rotted, and your clothes are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver have rusted, and their rust will be evidence against you, and it will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure for the last days.” (James 5:1-3)

**Am I hoarding because I want to live a life of ease and comfort?
Or am I saving to bring honour and glory to God?**

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” (Matthew 6:19-21)

• _____
“For listen! Hear the cries of the field workers whom you have cheated of their pay. The wages you held back cry out against you. The cries of those who harvest your fields have reached the ears of the Lord of Heaven's Armies.” (James 5:4)

Fraud is wrongful _____ intended for personal or financial _____.

“You must use accurate scales when you weigh out merchandise, and you must use full and honest measures. Yes, always use honest weights and measures, so that you may enjoy a long life in the land the Lord your God is giving you. All who cheat with dishonest weights and measures are detestable to the Lord your God.” (Deuteronomy 25:13-15)

Fraud involves _____ and taking advantage of someone's _____.

**Have you ever sold something you knew wasn't worth the price?
Have you ever misrepresented yourself for personal gain?**

• _____
“You have spent your years on earth in luxury, satisfying your every desire. You have fattened yourselves for the day of slaughter. You have condemned and killed innocent people, who do not resist you.” (James 5:5-6)

James condemns those who have used their wealth _____ and lived their lives in _____.

Tryphao = luxury =

Those who have sought this easy luxury have fattened themselves up for the day of _____.

**What do I spend my time indulging in?
Is it service to God and others? Or is it on wantonness?**

THE SOLUTION

“But he gives us even more grace to stand against such evil desires. As the Scriptures say, ‘God opposes the proud but favours the humble.’ So humble yourselves before God.” (James 4:6-7)

• _____ and he will _____.

• _____ and he will _____.

• _____
“Don't speak evil against each other, dear brothers and sisters...” (James 4:11)

We have no hope of accomplishing these without God's _____.

Is there an area in your life where you've elevated yourself above God?

Who is going to have first place in your life: you or God?