



International Bible Study Commentary

Verse-by-Verse Bible Lessons Thru the Bible

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James 4:1-10 Study Hints for Discussion

1. What is one cause of troubles in the church?

Some people bring “this world’s” passions and evil desires into the church with them, which stir up a war within them and with others.

2. Why can coveting lead to fighting and quarrelling?

It is fine to desire a good thing similar to what someone else has and use lawful means to acquire that good thing (perhaps buying it or buying something like it). Coveting involves wanting something that someone else has, perhaps because there is no one or nothing similar, and thinking of unlawful means of having it. Coveting can lead to murder and theft.

3. Why doesn’t God give us everything we ask?

Not everything is good for us to have. God will not give us bad things (or perhaps even some good things) just to satisfy our selfish, self-centered desires. God will not give us what would hurt us and/or others. God might give us something to teach us a lesson that we truly need to learn.

4. What does a friend of the world make himself?

An enemy of God.

5. What does James tell sinners inside and outside the church to do?

Submit yourselves to God. Resist the devil. Draw near to God. Cleanse your hands. Purify your hearts. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Humble yourselves before the Lord.

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