

Temptation 4: Misunderstanding and Twisting True Wisdom James 03: 13–18

1 *The wise, understanding man or teacher*

- a. Shows good behaviour
- b. Shows humility

2 *The false wisdom*

- a. Its description:
Arouses envy, selfish ambition...
- b. Its source:
Not of God,
but of the earth
- c. Its effects:
Confusion and evil

3 *The true wisdom*

- a. Its source: Of God
- b. Its description: Pure....
- c. Its effects:
The harvest of righteousness

13 Who is wise and understanding among you?
Let him show it by his good life,
by deeds done in the humility
that comes from wisdom.

14 But if you harbour
bitter envy and selfish ambition
in your hearts,
do not boast about it or deny the truth.

15 Such “wisdom”
does not come down from heaven
but is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil.

16 For where you have envy and selfish ambition,
there you find disorder
and every evil practice.

17 But the wisdom that comes from heaven
is first of all pure;
then peace-loving, considerate, submissive,
full of mercy and good fruit,
impartial and sincere.

18 Peacemakers who sow in peace
raise a harvest of righteousness.

The Causes of Temptation and Wrongdoing

James 04: 01–06

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| <p>1 Lust, evil desires:
<i>The passion for pleasure
and gratification
that rages within the body</i></p> <p>2 Distrust:
<i>Seeking something
and never trusting God
or asking God for it</i></p> <p>3 Praying amiss:
<i>Praying with the wrong motive</i></p> <p>4 Worldliness:
<i>Friendship with the world</i></p> <p>5 Conclusion:
<i>The cure</i></p> <p>a. Knowing
that the Spirit of God
yearns over us with jealousy</p> <p>b. Knowing
that God gives the humble believer
but God opposes the proud</p> | <p>1 What causes fights and quarrels among you?
Don't they come from your desires
that battle within you?</p> <p>2 You want something but don't get it.
You kill and covet,
but you cannot have what you want.
You quarrel and fight.
You do not have,
because you do not ask God.</p> <p>3 When you ask,
you do not receive,
because you ask with wrong motives,
that you may spend what you get
on your pleasures.</p> <p>4 You adulterous people,
don't you know
that friendship with the world
is hatred toward God?
Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world
becomes an enemy of God.</p> <p>5 Or do you think
Scripture says without reason
that the spirit he caused to live in us
envies intensely?</p> <p>6 But he gives us more grace.
That is why Scripture says:
"God opposes the proud
but gives grace to the humble."</p> |
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