

Series: Nuts and Bolts Christianity

Title: Living Faith & Temptation

Text: (James 4)

I. Enemies We Must Fight:

(Vs 1-3) We have strife because we are doing things the World's way!

(Vs 4) God chides us about it, Calls us Adulterers
(Rom 8:5-8) "*Cannot please God*"
(1 Jn 2:15) "*Love not the world,*

(Vs 5) God wants control!
(The Spirit of God and the Flesh) - Battle Royal!
(Rom 8:9-13)
(Rom 7:18-24) It's a fight!
The two sides are jealous over us.
Divided Allegiances –
Illus: When we lose the heart of our spouse or child!

(Vs 6) GRACE- Super-Natural Enabling!
It's the gun powder in the battle.

The Definition of Grace:

A Gift: (Eph 2:8-9)

God is the Giver: (1 Pet 5:10)

Supernatural Enabling: (Rom 12:3, 6-8)

These gifts are the enablements of God. (Eph 3:7)

(Gal 2:8-9)

(2 Cor 8:7)

The Agent of Grace is the Holy Spirit: (Heb 10:29)

The Purpose of Grace: is to do God's will. (Eph 3:8-9)
It's God's will that every child of God have victory over sin?
(Rom 6:14)
(Titus 2:11-12)
(Heb 4:16)

Based on these scriptures and more, the definition of Grace is... The Supernatural Enabling through the Holy Spirit to do God's Will.

By this, we also know that Grace is not the same thing as Forgiveness or Mercy.

II. Exhortations We Must Follow: (Vs 8-10)

- (1) Submission to God – 2 Pet 1:5 "*Add Virtue*"
- (2) Resistance of the devil, - He WILL Flee! 1 Pet 5:8-9
- (3) Drawing near to God, - (2 Pet 1:5-6)(Phil 3:10)
- (4) Cleansing of hands, - 2 Pet 1:6 "*Temperance*"
- (5) Purifying the heart, - Double Minded
- (6) Lamentation "Be afflicted" (Ps 34:18; 51:17; Is 57:17)
- (7) Mourning, - Phil 3:10 "*fellowship of his sufferings*"
- (8) Weeping, - 1 Pet 1:6 "*Patience*"
- (9) Turning, Laughter to Mourning/Joy to Heaviness

(Vs 10) Humbling oneself in the sight of the Lord.

(1 Pet 1:6) "*Godliness*"

(Phil 2:5-10) "*Let this mind be in you*"

(Phil 3:10) "*being made conformable unto his death*"

(1 Pet 1: 7-10) *God's view of Success!*

(Vs 11-12) "*Well , what about them?*"

(The classic question of why sinners seem to prosper)

(Why do Backslid Christians seem to go unpunished)

(1 Pet 1:7) “*brotherly kindness*”

(Vs 13-15) Practical Atheism –

“*I am the Master of my own destiny*”

(Lk 12:16-21) *He lived for self!*

Death is the great equalizer!

God called him a fool!

(James 4:13-17) The Question is posed? **What is your Life?**

We all make decisions.

Big/Small

Some Seem Big/Some Seem Small

How often do we consult the Lord?

Making significant decisions in life without seeking
God’s will in the matter

(James 4:13-17) The Question is posed? **What is your Life?**

the Short Answer: The Sum Total of Our decisions.

(Vs 13) Go to now, (Whoa, Slow your Roll)

“I have a Plan!”

Plans are good.

Most people don’t plan at all.

“*Don’t think beyond the end of their nose!*”

Most people don’t think beyond the Immediate Moment.

Do you think beyond the Immediate?

Do you think on a regular basis?

14 Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow.

I don’t borrow from tomorrows Problems. (Matt 6:34)

For what is your life?

What does it consist of?

What is its purpose?

How are you using it?

It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.

Each day: 1,440 min, 86,400 sec

-and every one of them is a precious gift from God.

We never seem to have enough time,

Yet we give it away so easily.

Time is free, but it’s priceless.

You can’t own it, but you can use it.

You can’t keep it but you can spend it.

Once you’ve lost it you can never get it back.

(Vs 16) Our Pride makes God sick

(Vs 17) It’s not a lack of knowledge!

It’s not a lack of ability!

It’s a lack of Character!