



“Discontent - Tension”

The Wanter Wars

James 4:1-6

Discontentment is revealed in Our :

I. Passion – “of your lusts” (v. 1-2)

God is challenging the source of Our :

- A. Struggle** – “*From whence come wars and fighting*”
- B. Satisfaction** – “*of your lust that war in your members*”
- C. Sufficiency** – “*Ye kill...desire...ye ask not*”

II. Prayer – “ye ask and receive not” (v. 3-5)

God is concerned about Our:

- A. Requests** – “*ye ask amiss*”
- B. Reasons** – “*that ye may consume*”
- C. Relationships** – “*friend of.. world..enemy of God*”

III. Pride – “resists the proud” (v. 6)

God is compassionate in His giving that is :

- A. Repetitive** – “*He gives more grace*”
- B. Resistant** – “*God resists the proud*”
- C. Refreshing** – “*but God gives grace*”

Conclusion:

- **Satisfaction comes in knowing God’s Grace is Sufficient.**

Introduction:

Skit

Have someone come up and give them a small twix bar...Ask them if they like it, are they happy with it?

Then ask someone to come up and let them choose what they would like out of a bag full of Large Candy boxes...Ask first person what their problem is? I thought you said you were happy just a second ago?

Isn’t that how we are with the Lord and in life?

We can be happy if we don’t know what others are getting or if we don’t sucked up into thinking we need more...Our passage today says that selfishness and discontentment leads us as Christians to kill and destroy...just to get a little more...a little bigger piece of the pie...more like we deserve than what God is providing...We forget how blessed we are and we spit on God’s Grace in our lives !!!

REVIEW of James

> Chapter 1 – Considering Trials leads to Spiritual Growth

> Chapter 2 – Considering Faith leads to Good Works

> Chapter 3 – Considering the Tongue powerful enough to make a difference

> Chapter 4 – Considering God’s Grace sufficient to produce Satisfaction.

EXEGESIS

V. 1

- From where... = This is the essence of this passage...Why are we so frustrated and discontent?
- Wars and fightings = two different words:
 - Wars = a chronic state of war = exa. Israel – “To carry on an ongoing conflict”
 - Fightings = separate or individual conflicts that arise = exa. International incidents....”To conduct hand to hand combat”
- Come they not hence = Isn’t this the truth or a fact...
- Your lusts = your out of control desires
 - That war in your members = that your head tries to get you to be logical

about but your emotions and flesh override your brain and the Spirit’s urgings

>>>> We FIGHT EACH OTHER because WE ARE FIGHTING WITHIN OURSELVES !!!

V. 2

- You lust and have not = you want to be satisfied but you can’t seem to get there
- You kill and desire to have = you destroy relationships, lives, and plans so you can have what you want...
- And cannot obtain = happiness and contentment is illusive
 - *Contentment is not in having what you want but...wanting what you have.*
- You fight and war = you take things into your own hands ...it is your manner of life and the chances are that you are even doing it as we speak.
- Ye have not because ye ask not = You are not content because you are having a two way communication with God...
 - You ask God ...then

- You listen for the answer...then
- You thank Him for His good answer

v. 3

- Ye ask and receive not= You get told no
- Because you ask amiss = You ask Badly...Because either :
 - You ask for the something that is not good for you or
 - You don't ask for the right things – Romans 8:26 – Says we don't know what to be praying for...Stay alert to what you are saying in your prayers...line them up with what God wants...
- That you may consume it = God is not really concerned so much about our consumption but our production. He wants us to go from being **consumers to producers**...
 - Producers of what:
 - Fruit – John 15...much fruit
 - Good Works – Ephesians 2:10
 - Glorification of God – Matthew 5:16
 - Edification and Encouragement
 - Mature Believers/Disciples of Jesus

- The Kingdom – Seek ye first the kingdom...Matt. 6:33

- Upon your lusts = You are in it for yourself, not Him, not othersHELLO...

- Give you the desires of your heart
verse

v. 4

- Adulterers and Adulteresses = people who sleep with people who they are not married to.
 - Know you not:
 - Friendship with the world = Enmity with God
 - You can not be both friends or in bed with the world and its values and maintain a healthy relationship with God.
 - Friend of the World = Enemy of God
 - James 1:27 = Unspotted by the World

- The World = system or entity that is hostile to God and His Word
 - Materialism
 - Immorality
 - Spiritual Blindness

v. 5

- Do you think the Scripture says in vain = Do you think the Bible says things for no good reason????
- The Spirit:
 - Dwells in us = written to Christians...not just some Christians but to all in the church because Romans 8:9 says all believers have the Spirit.
 - Lusts to Envy = God is Jealous over us and does not want us to be unfaithful.
 - Ex. 20:5 – is a jealous God
 - Ex. 34:14 – His name is Jealous

- Zech. 8:2 – With Great Fury of Jealousy

v. 6

- But He = The Hope has arrived...But God...
- Gives more Grace = He continues to pour forth, over and over, and over and over and over and over and over...the more we need the more He brings...so that there will be no shortage.
- God resists the proud = God will not share His glory with another...not even you...He does not want you to see His Grace that He continues to pour on to you as somehow something you deserve and created.
- Gives grace to the humble = When you “GET IT”, God releases more Grace and you Praise Him!!

More Verses on the Desires and the World

Psalm 37:4

Romans 7:23

I Timothy 6:17

I Corinthians 2:12

I Corinthians 1:20-21

Galatians 6:14

II Peter 1:4

I John 2:15-17; 3:1; 5:19

- **Satisfaction comes in knowing God's
Grace is Sufficient.**