

How the Worldly Speak and How the Christians Speak
James 4: 11-17

The worldly person speaks to slander and promote self whereas the Christian speaks as one filled with the Spirit and therefore speaks the word of God.

- Ephesians 5:15 - 21 - The will of the Lord is to be filled with the Spirit
- Slander has its origin in the Garden of Eden - Genesis 3:1-6
 1. Satan first slanders God's integrity (v.1)
 2. Satan slanders God's motives (v.5)

Considering other Christians, law, God and ourselves (v.11-12)

- I. Other Christians - Condemnation in judging others is prohibited but not evaluation of a Christian who is sinning.
 - A. Matthew 18:15-17 - A Mark of a Healthy Church
 - B. Matthew 7:1-5 - The judgment of condemnation (Krino)
 - C. Galatians 5:15 - Do not bite and devour other Christians
 - D. The view of other Christians is as family that has been bought with the blood of Christ before the foundations of the world - Ephesians 1:3-5
- II. Law - Governed by Love for God through obedience to the law giving us victory over slander - Exodus 20:5-6 (John 14:15)
 - A. Matthew 22:34-40 - Love is the ultimate expression of the law
- III. God - (v.12) - If we are not under the law then we are above the law as Satan has manifested in his desire to do so as well - Isaiah 14:13-14 - (2 Cor. 11:12-15)
 - A. Sin seeks to dethrone God - Only One can give the law and govern the law and save us from our rebellion - Isaiah 33:22 - One Lord and Savior
 - B. Slander is brazen reckless treason against a Sovereign lawgiver and judge
- IV. Ourselves - James is rebuking Christians who slander other Christians -
 - A. "Who in the world do you think you are?" - Romans 12:3 and 14:4
- V. A True Mark of a Christian (13-17) - To do the will of God as Christ did on earth.
 - A. John 6:38-40 - Those who desire and submit to God's will will be saved
 - B. To not seek the will of God shows the presence of pride - James 4:6-10
- VI. Ignoring God - Pride does not seek God's counsel - James 4:13-14
 - A. "Come now" - Isaiah 1:18-20 - The Lord calls us to hear His counsel
 - B. To reason with oneself is presumptuous and dangerous - Luke 12:16-21
 1. Ignorant of the future - Proverbs 27:1, Romans 8:28, Proverbs 3:5-6, Psalm 37:3-5
 2. Life is short - Isaiah 40:6-8
- VII. Independent from God (v.16) - Isaiah 47:7-10 - Those arrogantly deny God's will are in essence following in Satan's willful statement in Isaiah 14:13-14
- VIII. Insurrection of God's will (v.17) - Jonah is a classic example of knowing the will of God and refusing to do it. - Luke 12: 47-48
- IX. Intimate Desire to follow God's will (v.15) - Ephesians 6:5-7
 - A. The desire to do His will He will give to those who delight in Him (Psalm 37) and He will give you the energy to do it. Hebrews 13:20-21

James has given us another test of true faith in Jesus Christ which is the desire to do His will. - 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24