

God's Enemies are Never Satisfied

James 1: 1-6

10 March 2019

Series: Practical Christianity

James 4: 1-6

¹ What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members?

² You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask. ³ You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend *it* on your pleasures.

James 4: 4 - 6

⁴ You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. ⁵ Or do you think that the Scripture speaks to no purpose: “He jealously desires the Spirit which He has made to dwell in us”? ⁶ But He gives a greater grace. Therefore *it* says, “God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble.”

Selfish Pleasure Seeking Causes Conflict

- Conflict is evidenced as inevitable between people. V. 1.
- Conflict is evidenced by the civil war within man. Vv. 1b-2.
- Conflict is evidenced by being established as God's enemy. V. 2c-6.
 - God's enemies are identified.

Selfish Pleasure Seeking Brings Consequences

- Relationships are seriously damaged or destroyed. V. 1.
- Your life is miserable. Vv. 1b-2.
- Your final end is eternal death. Vv. 2c-6

Hedonism



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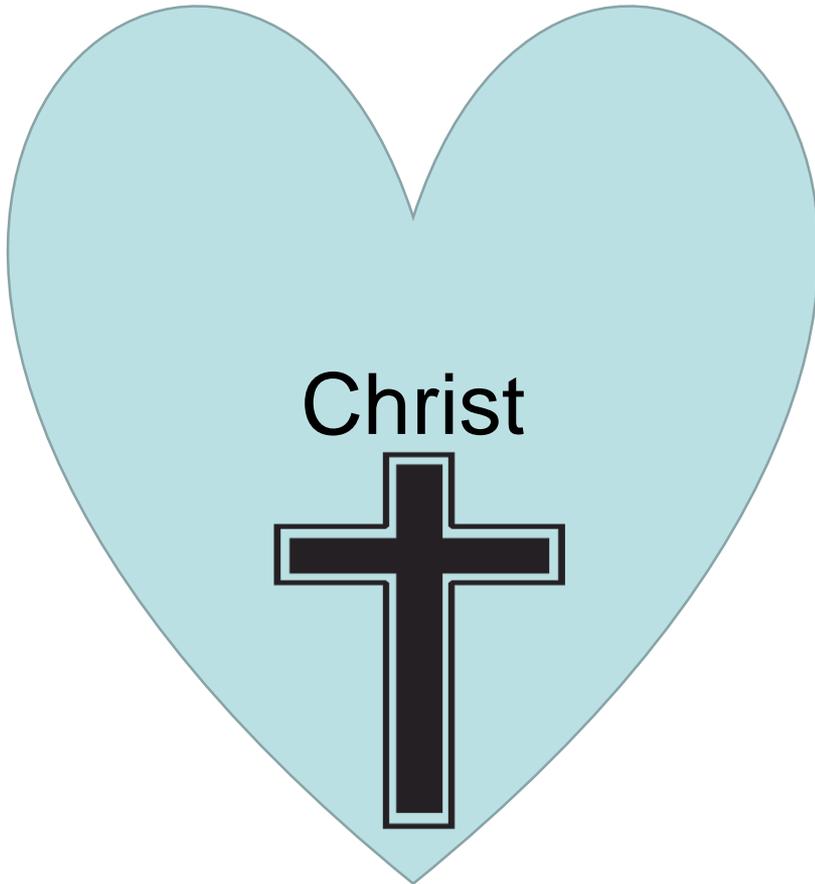
- Goal = Satisfaction or Fulfillment
- Life = Warfare and Battling
- Attitude = Pride
- Prayer = Unanswered
 - Don't Ask
 - Wrong Motives
- Scripture = Disregarded
- Focus = Worldliness
- Relation to God = Enemies

Selfish Pleasure Seeking Can be Cured.

- Recognize the source of the problem. Vv. 1-3.
 - Go to the source of the problem, remedy the heart.
- Realize that the world cannot give what it has never had. V. 4.
- Return to Scripture, humble yourself, put away pride and you will find God's favor.

Christian

Satisfaction / Frustration



Love

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- Goal = Glorify God
- Life = Peace in Persecution
- Attitude = Humility
- Prayer = Answered
- Scripture = Obeyed
- Focus = Godliness
- Relation to God = Loved Children

Conclusion

If your desires are to bring fulfillment to selfish pleasures, you will get frustration, conflicts, dissatisfaction, and ultimately death. If your desires are to bring glory to God, to serve Him, and let Him rule your life you will find satisfaction, fulfillment, peace, and joy even in the terrible struggles of life.