

"Are You an Enemy of God?"

Justin Worden – July 25, 2007
Tupos SM - Wednesday Night Live

James 4:4-5 (NASB) = "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. Or do you think that the Scripture speaks to no purpose: 'He jealously desires the Spirit which He has made to dwell in us?'"

I. Friend of the World / Enemy of God

- a. Friendship with the world = hostility to God
 - i. Friend = companion, associate
 - ii. Hostile / enemy = adversary, foe, rival
- b. CEV (v.4) says "You people aren't faithful to God! Don't you know that if you love the world, you are God's enemies? And if you decide to be a friend of the world, you make yourself an enemy of God."
- c. **What's a friend of the world do?**
 - i. Don't spend time with Him (games before God)
 - ii. Talk like the world (sinners)
 - iii. Walk like the world (places you go)
 - iv. Think like the world (in your head)
 1. music you listen to... "Satan's in the car with me! AH!HI!"
- d. Where's your companionship (your time spent)
 - i. **Day's Events Quiz (ask yourself):**
 1. How much time spent sleeping?
 2. How much time spent eating?
 3. How much time spent watching TV?
 4. How much time on PC?
 5. How much time outdoors/activities?
 6. *How much time reading Bible?*
 7. *How much time praying?*
 8. How much time left? (not much)
- e. Result of being a Friend of the World:
 - i. You become an "adulteress"
 1. not just lusting after another person

2. lusting after "things" (before God)
- ii. **Jam 4:4** - The oldest manuscripts omit "adulterers and," and read simply, "Ye adulteresses." God is the rightful husband; the men of the world are regarded collectively as one adulteress, and individually as adulteresses.

- f. Can't be a friend of God and the World (Rev 3:15-16)
 - i. "I wish you were hot or cold. So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth" (NASB)

II. Friend of God / Enemy of the World

- a. Priority! = "Give God what's right, not what's left"
 - i. "You must never sacrifice your relationship with God for the sake of a relationship with another person" (Charles Stanley)
- b. What's a friend of God do?
 - i. Spends time with "best friend"
 - ii. Tells others about Him
 - iii. Listens to Him / Talks to Him
 1. Prayer!!
 2. (A Bear Hunter's Prayer) "A country preacher decided to skip services one Sunday and head to the hills to do some bear hunting. As he rounded the corner on a perilous twist in the trail, he and a bear collided, sending him and his rifle tumbling down the mountainside. Before he knew it, the rifle went one way and he went the other, landing on a rock and breaking both legs. That was the good news. The bad news was the ferocious bear was charing at him from a distance and he couldn't move. 'Oh Lord,' the preacher p[rayed, 'I'm sorry for skipping services today to come out here and hunt. Please forgive me and grant me just one wish: please make a

Christian out of that bear that's coming at me. Please, Lord!' That very instant, the bear skidded to a halt, fell to his knees, clasped its paws together, and began to pray aloud right at the preacher's feet. 'Dear Lord, bless this food I am about to receive...in Jesus' name... Amen.'"

c. **Enemy of the world** = **"the world"**--in so far as the men of it and their motives and acts are aliens to God, for example, its selfish "lusts" (Jam 4:3), and covetous and ambitious "wars and fightings" (Jam 4:1).

d. Result = The Spirit will dwell in me (v.5)

- i. Dwell = inhabit, reside, settle (not temp)
- ii. "And do you suppose God doesn't care? The proverb has it that 'he's a fiercely jealous lover.' And what he gives in love is far better than anything else you'll find..." (Message)

III. **No In Between / Your Choice!**

a. Good vs. Evil, Love vs. Hate, God vs. World (there's no in between, no riding the fence)

b. He's a jealous God = wants His spirit to dwell in me!
i. **He wants me** (v.5) Wow!

c. CEV (v.5) Do you doubt the Scriptures that say, "God truly cares about the Spirit he has put in us"?

d. **His Holy Spirit (HS)** means...

- i. "To most of us, the HS seems mysterious. We can't fit him into a human form. The symbols used to represent him in Scripture (oil, fire, wind, dove) don't help much. The Bible teaches is that the HS, like God the Father and God the Son, is to be worshiped, loved, and obeyed. We can get to know him personally." (Foundations)

ii. The role of the Spirit:

1. regenerates (rebirth, from spiritually dead to spiritually alive)

2. baptizes (placing me into the body of Christ, one-time, universal experience)
3. indwells (1 Corinthians 6:19)
4. seals (ownership/protection)
5. the deposit of God's promise (guaranteeing our inheritance, God remains faithful [2 Tim 2:13])

e. It is your choice! (Joshua 24:15 = "as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord")

- i. In the face of a nation opposing Christ
 - ii. World vs. little ol' you (**Christ is in you!**)
- f. End of the chapter (v.17) = to not do right, it's sin!
- i. So?... now you have heard the right thing and you know what's right, between your relationship with God and loving the things of the world. What will you do with it? Will you do nothing with it? Nothing = sin!!!

Related music = "Friend of God" (by Michael Gungor)
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