

The Key To Grace

James 4:7-12(ESV)

James 4:7-12 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹ Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you. ¹¹ Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. ¹² There is only one lawgiver and judge, he who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor?

OUR PROBLEM

1. Our Natural tendency is toward **PRIDE AND REBELLION.**

- **Proverbs 16:18** Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.
- **Proverbs 3:34** Toward the scornful he is scornful, but to the humble he gives favor.
- **James 4:6** But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

2. We need **GRACE.**

- **Genesis 6:8** But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD. (NKJV)
- **Romans 3:21-24** But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it ²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

OUR SOLUTION

What is the **KEY TO GRACE** and how do we get what we so **DESPERATELY NEED**?

- The key to grace is **SUBMISSION.**

According To James How Do We Submit?

1. **RESIST** and **DRAW NEAR**

- James 4:-8 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

2. **WASH** and **PURIFY**

- **James 4:7-8** Submit yourselves therefore to God...Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

2. **GRIEVE** and **CHANGE**

- **James 4:7, 9** Submit yourselves therefore to God...⁹ Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom.

3. **HUMBLE** and **BE EXALTED**

- **James 4:7, 10** Submit yourselves therefore to God...¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.
- **1 Peter 5:6-10** Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, ⁷ casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. ⁸ Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.

A MEASURE OF YOUR HUMILITY

1. How much do I **TALK DOWN TO OR ABOUT OTHERS**?

2. How much do I **GOSSIP OR SLANDER OTHERS**?

3. How much do I **PUT OTHERS DOWN**?

4. It doesn't matter if what I am saying is **A LIE OR 100% TRUTH** if I am passing along information that will cause someone to appear **LESS IN THE EYES OF SOMEONE ELSE** I am exhibiting a lack of **HUMILITY** or a desire to have **MY PRIDE STROKED.**

James 4:11-12 Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. ¹² There is only one lawgiver and judge, he who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor?

1. You exalt yourself **ABOVE THE LAW!**

2. You exalt yourself **ABOVE GOD!**

3. You haven't embraced fully your true **IDENTITY!**

- The truth is we are all in the same boat. None of us is without sin, weakness or failure!
- Without Jesus we all **DESERVE HELL!**

IT'S NOT PERFECTION GOD REQUIRES, IT'S A HEART TURNED TOWARD HIM?

WITHOUT JESUS WHO ARE YOU?

HUMBLE YOURSELF UNDER THE MIGHTY HAND OF GOD!

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