



BOOK **OF** JAMES

FAITH IN ACTION



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❖ 2 opposing worldviews

But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth.

Such “wisdom” does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic.

For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.



James 3:14–16 (NIV)

But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure;
then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and
good fruit, impartial and sincere.



James 3:17 (NIV)

Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.



James 3:18 (NIV)



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❖ Why can't we just get along?

What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from **your desires that battle within you?** You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight...



James 4:1-10 (NIV)

but each person is tempted when they are dragged away **by**
their own evil desire and enticed.



James 1:14 (NIV)

I love God's law with all my heart. But there is another power within me that is at war with my mind. This power makes me a slave to **the sin that is still within me**. Oh, what a miserable person I am!



Romans 7:14–25 (NLT)

Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord. So you see how it is: In my mind I really want to obey God's law, but **because of my sinful nature I am a slave to sin.**



Romans 7:14–25 (NLT)

I must recognize that I have evil desires that live with me every day and so do the people around me.

People are not always going to respond in the right way.

I can't control others, but I can control my actions by choosing to live with a heavenly worldview.



I need to realize that I cannot run away from this problem.



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❖ A self-centered mindset affects my relationship with God

...You do not have because you do not ask God.

When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.



James 4:2-3 (NIV)

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.



James 1:2-4 (NIV)



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❖ I can't have it both ways

You **adulterous** people, don't you know that friendship with the world means enmity against God?

Therefore, anyone who chooses to be a **friend** of the world becomes an **enemy** of God.

Or do you think Scripture says without reason that he **jealously** longs for the spirit he has caused to dwell in us?



James 4:4-5 (NIV)



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- I can't have it both ways

❖ What if I have already messed up?

But he gives us **more** grace.

That is why Scripture says: “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.”



James 4:2-3 (NIV)

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.



1 John 1:9 (NIV)

God's law was given so that all people could see how sinful they were. But as people sinned more and more, God's wonderful grace became more abundant.



Romans 5:20–6:2 (NLT)

So just as sin ruled over all people and brought them to death, now God's wonderful grace rules instead, giving us right standing with God and resulting in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Romans 5:20–6:2 (NLT)

Well then, should we keep on sinning so that God can show us more and more of his wonderful grace?

Of course not! Since we have died to sin, how can we continue to live in it?



Romans 5:20–6:2 (NLT)

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- I can't have it both ways
- What if I have already messed up?



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