

First Words

I. The _____ for My Devotion

James 4:7a – Submit yourselves therefore to God.

My _____ – “therefore”

James 4:6 - But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”

My _____ – submit to God – “upotasso” – “to rank or arrange under”

1 Timothy 1:17 - To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

My _____ - I am to do it voluntarily and I am to do it immediately

Hebrews 12:9 - Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live?

“The problems of self will in desires, dialogue and decisions can be summed up in the idea of the individual assuming the place of God. The first step in solving this issue is to place oneself back in one’s rightful place – under God’s command” – Anonymous

II. The _____ of My Devotion

James 4:7b-8a - Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

A. My _____ – “and thus”

B. My _____

1. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

a. This principle is exemplified in the _____ of Jesus Christ

Matthew 4:10-11 - Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written, “ ‘You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.’ ” ¹¹ Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

b. This principle is encouraged in the _____ of Jesus Christ
1 Peter 5:8-9 - 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.

2. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.

a. This drawing near is really _____ to God
Zechariah 1:3 - Therefore say to them, Thus declares the LORD of hosts: Return to me, says the LORD of hosts, and I will return to you, says the LORD of hosts.

b. This drawing near has _____ from God
Hebrew 10:22 - Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

c. This drawing near has a _____ from God
John 14:21 & 23 - Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.” ...²³ Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him.

“James tells us that the way to resist the Devil is to draw near to God. The Devil will flee from you, because he doesn’t like God as company. The Devil will not get to you unless you get too far away from God. A wolf never attacks a sheep as long as it is with the rest of the sheep and with the shepherd. And the closer the sheep is to the shepherd, the safer it is. Our problem is that we get too far from God.”. - Dr. J. Vernon McGee

III. The _____ for my Devotion

James 4:8b-10 - *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.*

1. My necessary _____ - purity

1 Timothy 2:8 - *I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling.*

2. My necessary _____ – sincerity

Matthew 5:4 - *“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.”*

My necessary _____ - humility

1 Peter 5:5-6 - *Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” ⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you,*

“Are you laughing when you should be weeping over your sins? Are you resisting the devil or resisting the Lord?” – Dr. Warren Wiersbe

Psalms 73:23 -28 - *Nevertheless, I am continually with you; you hold my right hand. ²⁴ You guide me with your counsel, and afterward you will receive me to glory. ²⁵ Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you. ²⁶ My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever. ²⁷ For behold, those who are far from you shall perish; you put an end to everyone who is unfaithful to you. ²⁸ But for me it is good to be near God; I have made the Lord GOD my refuge, that I may tell of all your works.*

“Submission to God is the beginning, middle and end of the prodigals return from the familiarity with the world to the security of the Father’s home.” - Dr. D Hiebert



FAITH THAT WORKS

Study of the Book of James

**“Faith that Works with reference
to Self-Will” - pt. 2 - James 4:7-10**

**Presented by
Pastor Dave Watson
at Calvary Chapel**