
James 4:11-17: In these final verses of (C4), James warns us about "Evil Speaking" and "Evil Rejoicing or Evil Boasting".

First "evil speaking" ... This sin is very prevalent among fallen humans, whether it's slandering someone, gossiping about someone, or backbiting, which is talking bad about someone behind their backs.

If you wouldn't say it to them, don't say it when they're not there!

Speak not evil one of another, brethren".

Listen, this is an easy sin to fall into, and if we're not careful, we can fall into the bad habit of gossiping and backbiting about someone whom we disagree with, who differs from us..... and once you get mixed in among other gossipers/backbiters it's very easy to fall right in with them!

1 Corinthians 15:33-34

Hey, did you hear about so and so? Did you hear what he/she did or said? Don't fall into this trap brethren! Beloved, remember James wrote:

James 1:19: "Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath".

James 1:26: "If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain."

James 3:5: "Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold how great a matter a little fire kindleth".

James 3:9-10, Ephesians 4:29-5:2, Galatians 5:14-15, 1 Peter 2:1

None of our lives, my brethren, should be characterized by speaking evil of others..... gossip, and backbiting are terrible sins and terrible habits to fall into... if you have a problem with these sins, repent of them before the Lord, cry out for grace from your Lord to help you overcome this sin! And then purpose that you will NOT sin with your lips! *Psalm 15:1-3, 39:1, 101:5*

When WE DO speak evil of our brother or sister in Christ, we make ourselves "a judge", and in so doing, we are speaking evil of the law!

How am I speaking evil of the law you ask? Because you're transgressing the law by speaking evil of your brother or sister, and the law teaches us that we are to love our brother, sister, and neighbor!

Romans 13:8-10: It's not your place to speak evil of anyone, it's your place to love them!

But when we do speak evil of our brother or our neighbor, we set ourselves above the law and really against Christ,

the Lawgiver as our brother's judge, and that's not your place, nor mine! When we speak evil of our brother, it's as if we're saying, I am the law! James 4:12

Finally, evil boasting about the future!

These are also the thoughts of an untamed and proud heart, and of one who has not yet been humbled in the sight of the Lord!

James warns the spiritually thoughtless about the uncertainty of life, the brevity of life, and the fact that there is but a step between each of us and death! James 4:13-14

Go to now, ye that say, today or tomorrow WE WILL go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: Whereas YE KNOW NOT what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor, that appeareth for a short time, and vanisheth away."

When we were kids, we would ask my mom, what are we doing next week? If she was having a bad day, she would often answer, I might be dead next week! Proverbs 27:1, Ecclesiastes 9:11-12, Luke 12:16-21

We should always remember as written in Psalm 31:15: "My times are in Thy Hand", O LORD!

But TO SAY, I WILL DO THIS OR THAT today or tomorrow, and NOT rather, IF THE LORD WILL, I will do this or that today or tomorrow, is what the scriptures call evil boasting and sin!

Not my will, Lord, but Thine be done!