**“Living Out Your Faith through Humility”**

**James 4:1-12**

**AUTHORSHIP: It is quite generally agreed that James, called by Paul “the Lord’s brother,” (Gal. 1:19), was the writer of the epistle.**

**TO WHO ADDRESSED: Apparently to the Jewish converts who lived outside the Holy Land, possibly also to the devout Jews of the dispersion, ch.1:1.**

**MAIN THEME: Practical Religion, manifesting itself in good works, contrasted with mere Profession of Faith.**

**KEY TEXTS: James 1:27 – Religion that God the Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world; James 2:26 – As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.**

**I. BY LIVING A LUST FREE LIFE IN A FALLEN WORLD (James 4:1-3)**

1. **Lust – epithumeo, ep-ee-thoo-meh’-o; ….to set the heart upon, i.e. long for (rightfully or otherwise): - covet, desire, would fain, lust (after).**

**II. BY LIVING AS A FRIEND OF GOD AND AN ENEMY OF THE WORLD (James 4:4-6)**

1. **Friendship – philia, fil-ee’-ah; ….fondness: - friendship.**
2. **Enmity – echthra, ekh’-thrah; ….hostility; by impl. a reason for opposition: - enmity, hatred.**
3. **Friend – philos, fee’-los; prop. dear, i.e. a friend; act. fond, i.e. friendly (still as a noun, an associate, neighbor, etc.): - friend.**
4. **Jas. 2:23 – And the scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness,” and he was called God’s friend.**
5. **Enemy – echthros, ekh-thros; from a primary …. (to hate); hateful (pass. odious, or act. hostile); usually as a noun, an adversary (espec. Satan): - enemy, foe.**

**III. BY LIVING IN SUBMISSION TO GOD WHO WILL JUDGE THE WORLD (James 4:7-12)**

1. **Submit – hupotasso, hoop-ot-as’-so; ….to subordinate; refl. to obey: - be under obedience (obedient), put under, subdue unto, (be, make) subj. (to, unto), be (put) in subjection (to, under), submit self unto.**
2. **Resist – anthistemi, anth-is’-tay-mee; ….to stand against, i.e. oppose: - resist, withstand.**
3. **Humble – tapeinos, tap-i-nos’; ….depressed, i.e. (fig.) humiliated (in circumstance or disposition): - base, cast down, humble, of low degree (estate), lowly. / tapeinoo, tap-i-no’-o; ….to depress; fig. to humiliate (in condition or heart): - abase, bring low, humble (self).**

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**Sample Harvest Homes Questions**

**1) Which verses stand out to you?**

**2) What principles and lessons do you see in the word?**

**3) How can you apply these principles to your life?**

**4) What teachings or statements don’t you quite understand and want to study further?**

**5) What did you learn about God?**

**6) What did you learn about human nature?**

**7) What did you learn about your own relationship with God?**

**8) You believe that God is calling you to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**