

## When the Conflict is Us

Scripture(s): James 3:13-18

I. The first description of wisdom that urges us to make God's wisdom the one we pursue is that wisdom is measured by its fruit.

✓ Measure your wisdom by both your actions and your attitudes.

II. The second description of wisdom that urges us to make God's wisdom the one we pursue is that false wisdom destroys what we care about.

✓ Check your motives for competition as you live before others.

III. The third description of wisdom that urges us to make God's wisdom the one we pursue is the nature of \_\_\_\_\_ wisdom. Hearts that are truly at peace with God seek to make \_\_\_\_\_.

Proverbs 16:7 When a man's ways are pleasing to the LORD, He makes even his enemies to be at peace with him.

Mark 9:50 Salt is good; but if the salt becomes unsalty, with what will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

Romans 12:17-21 17 Never pay back evil for evil to anyone. Respect what is right in the sight of all men. 18 If possible, so far as it depends on you, be at peace with all men. 19 Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY," says the Lord. 20 "BUT IF YOUR ENEMY IS HUNGRY, FEED HIM, AND IF HE IS THIRSTY, GIVE HIM A DRINK; FOR IN SO DOING YOU WILL HEAP BURNING COALS ON HIS HEAD." 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

✓ Plant the seeds of \_\_\_\_\_ in what you say and do.

Our challenge: Pursue the wisdom of God as that wisdom which \_\_\_\_\_ your heart.

Scripture(s): James 4:1-6

I. The first way that the pursuit of pleasure destroys our Christian walk is that it causes \_\_\_\_\_. The destructive result of uncontrolled desire is a willingness to justify \_\_\_\_\_ behavior to get what we want.

1 Peter 2:11 Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts which wage war against the soul.

✓ Admit your \_\_\_\_\_ motives when you argue with others.

II. The second way that the pursuit of pleasure destroys our Christian walk is that it diminishes our \_\_\_\_\_ life. We do not ask because we are in the heat of a battle of which we instinctively know God would not \_\_\_\_\_.

✓ Make prayer about God's purposes being \_\_\_\_\_ and not merely about getting things from Him.

III. The third way that the pursuit of pleasure destroys our Christian walk is that it puts a \_\_\_\_\_ between us and God. The Spirit fights against this selfish pursuit of pleasure for a reason - \_\_\_\_\_.

James 2:23 and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness"—and he was called a friend of God.

✓ Make the Lord your chief desire by \_\_\_\_\_ your heart to His heart.

Remember this - Our Christian walk will be damaged significantly if we chase after God's \_\_\_\_\_ rather than God as our life's satisfaction and \_\_\_\_\_.

Our challenge: Make God your true goal, purpose and \_\_\_\_\_.

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