

James 4

King James Version (KJV)

4 From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members? (There was already fighting between congregations; and only 10-20 years after Jesus' crucifixion)

(There were preachers making up their own denominations and teaching from their own imaginations. They were already building up church hierarchies <deacons, priest, bishops, etc>. God doesn't need lieutenants and captains and generals. We are all equal under God)

²Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. (Preachers want to be above everyone else. They are egomaniacs, pretending to have the wisdom of God)

(That's why they write their own sermons, rather than teaching the Word of God, chapter by chapter, verse by verse. They think that they are improving on God's Word)

³Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts. (They want to be a legend in their own self righteous little minds. God won't help them to do that)

⁴Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. (Adulterers and adulteresses – idolaters; these are the preachers who add to God's Word, or change it; usually to suit their own purposes <ego & money>)

(Teaching God's Word truthfully and unchanged will turn the world against you; just as it turned the world against Jesus. God's Word is morally correct. The world is politically correct. The truth is absolute <right or wrong>. It is not "inclusive of all". The two are incompatible. You have to stand for one or the other)

⁵Do ye think that the scripture saith in vain, The spirit that dwelleth in us lusteth to envy? (Scriptures warn us. Lust, envy and ego are great temptations to the flesh man. Avoid them at all costs) Genesis-6:5

⁶ But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble. (Pride was Satan's undoing. It will also be ours, if we allow it. Be humble and be blessed by God)

⁷ Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. (Jesus gave us power over all of our enemies, including Satan) Luke-10:18

⁸ Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded. (Seek the ways of God, as written in the Bible; and stay away from the ways of the world. You can't do both)

NOTE: (We are in the world. We need to make a living for ourselves and our family. Do it honestly with honest work. God will bless you for it)

⁹ Be afflicted, and mourn, and weep: let your laughter be turned to mourning, and your joy to heaviness. (If you pursue the ways of the world, you will never find peace of mind and of spirit. You will just get rich. No one becomes a billionaire honestly. They all had to do something crooked in order to get that much wealth. No one needs that much. They should give some to others who need it)

Note: (If you earn a good living the honest way, you can be very prosperous and receive God's blessings. God doesn't want us to be poor. He wants us to work honestly and treat people fairly. If you become wealthy, don't forget to give to the needy. Charity is a blessing to others and a good work in God's eyes)

¹⁰ Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up. (God will bring you true happiness and peace of mind if you live by His Word. That is His promise to us)

¹¹ Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge. (Stay away from rumors and idle talk about other people. Only God is qualified to judge people to heaven or to hell) Matthew-10:28

NOTE: (Hell is the death of the soul; not the fire and brimstone place that ignorant preachers teach. The word hell should have been translated the grave <death of the soul>) Revelation-20:12-15

¹² There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that judgest another? (Concentrate on your own behavior and try to do right by God. Let God do the judging)

¹³ Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: (People tend to concentrate on worldly gains, and ignore their heavenly gains. That's a big mistake)

¹⁴ Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. (We cannot control our future in this flesh life. All we can do is to live at our best life for the present; and to stay in God's Word)

¹⁵ For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that. (God is in control of the universe. HE created it. HE controls it)

¹⁶ But now ye rejoice in your boastings: all such rejoicing is evil. (Evil people rejoice in their worldly riches; and in their power over others)

¹⁷ Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin. (If you know what to do to be in God's service, you need to do it. That means to live an honest healthy life and obey the Ten Commandments. Treat God right; and treat other people right. Be happy in your life and receive God's blessings)