

“The Spiritually Mature Will be Known as Peacemakers” 3/13/11

James 4:1-12

James- Pressing on Toward Spiritual Maturity

The spiritually mature will: 1) be patient in trials/testing; 2) practice the truth (through loving others; 3) control the tongue; 4) be a wise peacemaker, not a trouble maker; 5) be prayerful in various challenges (Warren Wiersbe on book of James)

“Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God.” (Matthew 5:9)

POINT 1- The peaceable person will be known for what they GIVE UP

- A. The wise and mature will be give up association with the FLESH (4:1-3; uncontrolled, unfulfilled, selfish; 2 Tim 3:4; Matt 5:22; 1 Cor 6:7)
- B. The wise and mature will be give up association with the WORLD (4:4-6; 1 John 2:15-17; Rom 12:1-2; James 1:27; 2 Peter 2:20; 1:4; It hates us: John 15:18-19; 17:14; Is condemned: 1 Cor 11:32; judged- John 12:31; convicted- John 16:8; has foolish wisdom- 1 Cor 3:19; lies under the power of Satan- 1John 5:19; does not know God- John 17:25; is passing away- 1John 2:17; not our home- Philippians 3:20)

World- system of thinking, thoughts, values, morals, attitudes, and actions that are opposed to a biblical worldview; it values envy, rivalry, competition, fame, wealth, success, and the increase of “self” (2 Corinthians 10:4-5).

- C. The wise and mature will be give up association with the DEVIL (4:7; Ephesians 4:26-27; 2 Corinthians 2:11; Ephesians 6:10-18)

Going Deeper *God wants us to be His children and give up selfish demands!*

POINT 2- The peaceable person will be known for how they GIVE IN

- A. The wise and mature will be giving in and drawing NEAR TO GOD (4:8-10; Isaiah 59:2; behavior/attitude; submit to God’s authorities)

“But on this one will I look: On him who is poor and of a contrite spirit, And who trembles at My word.” (Isa 66:2)

- B. The wise and mature will be giving in through no JUDGMENTALISM (4:11-12; Num 21:5; Ps 101:5; Lev 19:15-18; 1 Pet 4:8; Rom 14:4)

Going Deeper *God wants us to humble ourselves to Him and to love one another!*

For next week: Please read James 4:13-17; Proverbs 3:1-6; 16:9; 19:21; Psalm 37:23