

**Agape House of Worship  
Midweek Service & Bible Study**

**Book Study: Epistle of James  
Part 9 - James 4:13-5:6: Warning Against Boastfulness**

**Date: Wednesday, December 7, 2022  
Facilitator: Pastor Kip Wright**

| <b>Breakdown of the Study of the Book of James</b> |  |                                      |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Date</b>  | <b>Key Texts</b>                       | <b>Topic</b>                         |
| 10/12/2022   | Part 1 - Overview of the Book of James | Overview of the Book of James        |
| 10/19/2022   | Part 2 - James 1:1-18                  | Responding to Suffering and Trials   |
| 10/26/2022   | Part 3 - James 1:19-27                 | Listening, Doing and Speaking        |
| 11/2/2022  | Part 4 - James 2:1-12                  | Warning Against Favoritism           |
| 11/9/2022  | Part 5 - James 2:14-26                 | Relationship Between Faith and Works |
| 11/16/2022   | Part 6 - James 3:1-12                  | Taming the Tongue                    |
| 11/23/2022   | Part 7 - James 3:13-18                 | Reacting with Wisdom                 |
| 11/30/2022   | Part 8 - James 4:1-12                  | Submitting Yourself to God           |
| <b>12/7/2022</b>                                   | <b>Part 9 - James 4:13 - 5:6</b>       | <b>Warning Against Boastfulness</b>  |
| 12/14/2022   | Part 10 - James 5:7-20                 | Patience and Prayer                  |

**Warning Against Boastfulness - James 4:13-17 Amplified Bible**

<sup>13</sup> Come now [and pay attention to this], you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and carry on our business and make a profit.” <sup>14</sup> Yet you do not know [the least thing] about what may happen in your life tomorrow. [What is secure in your life?] You are *merely* a vapor [like a puff of smoke or a wisp of steam from a cooking pot] that is visible for a little while and then vanishes [into thin air]. <sup>15</sup> Instead you ought to say, “If the Lord wills, we will live and we will do this or that.” <sup>16</sup> But as it is, you boast [vainly] in your pretension *and* arrogance. All such boasting is evil. <sup>17</sup> So any person who knows what is right to do but does not do it, to him it is sin.

**Boast** – talk with excessive pride and self-satisfaction about one’s achievements, possessions or abilities, to praise oneself extravagantly in speech: speak of oneself with excessive pride

**Pretension** – claim or assertion, allegation of doubtful value

**Arrogance** – attitude of superiority manifested in an overbearing manner, offensive display of superiority or self-importance

**Why is this subject important to James and to God? Why does he need to warn us about boastfulness?**

**Important to James** – starts out come now (pay attention), saying something of value for us to take note of for our lives

**Two main parts - What not to do (verses 4:13-14), What to do (verses 4:15-17)**

**What not to do**

**Verse 14a – What may happen tomorrow**

**Proverbs 27:1 NIV** 27 Do not boast about tomorrow, for you do not know what a day may bring.

**Isaiah 46:10 New Living Translation** <sup>10</sup> Only I can tell you the future before it even happens. Everything I

plan will come to pass, for I do whatever I wish.

**Jeremiah 29:11 Contemporary English Version** <sup>11</sup> I will bless you with a future filled with hope - a future of success, not of suffering.

**Verse 14b - Life is short – proper perspective on life/time**

**Psalm 39:5 Common English Bible** <sup>5</sup> You've made my days so short; my lifetime is like nothing in your eyes. Yes, a human life is nothing but a puff of air!

**Psalm 90:4 NIV** <sup>4</sup> A thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night.

**What to do - three things we should say** – we shouldn't be so presumptive

- 1. *If the Lord wills*** – sovereignty, omniscient, control, authority (*Psalm 24:1 NLT*) (*Ephesians 5:17 NKJV*)
- 2. *We will live*** – preserves our lives (*Psalm 66:9 NIV*), keeps us among the living (*AMP*), *Acts 17:28 (CEV)*
- 3. *We will do this and that*** – should be in alignment with God's will, (*John 6:35 Message*), behavior & plans should consistently demonstrate dependence upon the Lord

***How do we align ourselves with God's will?***

| <b>What to boast about</b>                   | <b>What not to boast about</b>       |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| In God - Psalm 44:8 NKJV                     | Evil desires – Psalm 10:3            |
| Understanding to know Him - Jer. 9:24        | Wealth – Psalm 49:6                  |
| In the hope of the glory of God – Romans 5:2 | Idols – Psalm 97:7                   |
| In the Lord -1 Cor. 1:31                     | Tomorrow – Proverbs 27:1             |
| Weakness – 2 Cor. 11:30                      | Wisdom, Strength, Riches – Jer. 9:23 |
| Cross – Galatians 6:14                       | Themselves – 2 Peter 2:18            |

**Verse 17 - So any person who knows what is right to do but does not do it, to him it is sin.**

Addresses a lack of submission to God's will, which is called sin (Gr hamartia), “to miss the mark”, “to err”. Considered sin of omission.

**James 4:18-5:6 Amplified Bible - Misuse of Riches**

<sup>5</sup> Come [quickly] now, you rich [who lack true faith and hoard and misuse your resources], weep and howl over the miseries [the woes, the judgments] that are coming upon you. <sup>2</sup> Your wealth has rotted *and* is ruined and your [fine] clothes have become moth-eaten. <sup>3</sup> Your gold and silver are corroded, and their corrosion will be a witness against you and will consume your flesh like fire. You have stored up your treasure in the last days [when it will do you no good]. <sup>4</sup> Look! The wages that you have [fraudulently] withheld from the laborers who have mowed your fields are crying out [against you for vengeance]; and the cries of the harvesters have come to the ears of <sup>[a]</sup>the Lord of Sabaoth. <sup>5</sup> On the earth you have lived luxuriously *and* abandoned yourselves to soft living and led a life of wanton pleasure [self-indulgence, self-gratification]; you have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. <sup>6</sup> You have condemned and have put to death the righteous *man*; he offers you no resistance.