



# VICTORIOUS CHRISTIAN MINISTRY

## Weekly Bible Study - 21:10:2009

Website: [www.victoriouschristianministry.org](http://www.victoriouschristianministry.org)

### **STUDY 30: VICTORIOUS CHRISTIAN LIVING**

James 4:1-10

This epistle was written during the period when the Jews were politically governed by the Romans. These Jews became seditious and therefore had frequent wars with the Romans. Moreover, they created factions among themselves which often fight one with the other. Under a pretence of zeal for God and religion, they fought the heathen around them, destroyed their idols in an attempt to convert them. Many of the Jewish Christians against whose errors and vices this epistle was directed had fallen in with the fightings and wars in the community hence, degenerated spiritually. James, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit wrote to condemn their sin, and show them the way back to God and how to live the victorious Christian life.

#### **RESTORATION** (James 4:1-6,8-9)

##### **a. Sin exposed** (James 4:1-4)

Sin was not condoned, confirming the fact that God is angry at sin. It is possible to be once saved and forever lost if we meddle with sin - privately or publicly (1 John 3:8-9, Numbers 32:23).

The root of the fightings and wars was lust or evil desire in the heart. Sin committed outwardly is traceable to inward corruption (Matthew 12:33-37, Mark 7:21-23). A clean hand and a pure heart is necessary (James 4:8, Psalms 24:3-4). Compromise of the faith is adultery spiritually. They traded in their faith, hence became friends of the world and enemies of God.

##### **b. Solemn call to repentance** (James 4:5-6,8-9)

The Holy Spirit will not share the heart with sin (Joshua 7:10-12; 24:14-16, Deuteronomy 23:14; Ezra 10:2,11-13,44; Hosea 10:12, Isaiah 1:15-20, Acts 3:1, Revelation 3:20). True repentance is complete turning away from sin unto God. There must be a change of mind and attitude evidenced by penitence for sin and purposeful cleaving to God.

#### **THE OVERCOMING LIFE** (James 4:7)

##### **a. Submission of 'self' to God**

This is the point at which we got converted and God expects us to remain there (Ephesians 4:20). Each one of us has the free-will to surrender to God (Romans 6:16, John 6:66-69, Luke 9:23). Submission to His word, way and will makes the believer an overcomer.

##### **b. Resist the devil** (James 4:7, 1 Peter 5:8-9)

The devil is your arch-enemy. As a believer who is submissive to God, it is your duty to resist the devil: his temptations (Luke 4:3-13), suggestions (Proverbs 4:23, John 12:2,27-30), doctrines (Revelations 2:24-25), lies (Genesis 3:4), sicknesses

**Your Spiritual Welfare Is Our Concern**

and diseases (Luke 13:16), etc. We resist the devil by:

- (i) refusing to yield to temptations but saying what God says in His word about our conditions.
- (ii) rebuking him (Jude 9, Revelation 12:11, Acts 13:8-12).
- (iii) prayer (Luke 22:31-32, 40-46).

### **GODLY VIRTUES** (James 4:8,10)

Victorious Christian life is not based on the foundation of:

<b>Charisma</b>	<b>but</b>	<b>conduct</b>
<b>Gifts</b>	<b>but</b>	<b>grace</b>
<b>Fire</b>	<b>but</b>	<b>fruit</b>
<b>Power</b>	<b>but</b>	<b>purity</b>

After restoration there must be devotion and humility.

#### **a. Devotion** (James 4:8a)

A believer must spend time with God daily (Psalms 42:1-2; 27:4, Daniel 6:10, Ezra 7:10, Mark 1:15, Acts 2:42; 3:1, I Thessalonians 5:17, Luke 18:1, II Chronicles 22:19; 34:3, I Chronicles 16:11). A true believer is ever hungry and thirsty for fellowship with God.

#### **b. Humility** (James 4:6,10)

Humility is the yieldedness to obey the word of God on its totality, even when 'self' and loved ones are displeased. The backslidden Jewish Christians were told that carnal methods through fightings and wars; envy and covetousness will not lift them up from the oppression of the Romans but to humble themselves in the sight of the Lord (Proverbs 22:4, Isaiah 57:15, Matthew 18:4, Micah 6:8, Luke 14:10; 22: 24-26, 1 Peter 5:5).

### **CHORUS**

It is not faint but fight,  
It is not try but trust,  
It is not do right because I must  
But right because it's right  
I dare not trust my own,  
Or I shall surely fall,  
But trust in Him who died for me  
And let Him do it all.