James 4 • Overcoming the Flesh

1. (v.1-3) Our first enemy is the **flesh** which is focused on our personal **pleasures**.
2. (v.4-5) Our second enemy is the **world** which tries to seduce away our **faithfulness**.
3. (v.6-7) Our third enemy is the **devil** which tries to leverage our **pride**.

***Summary: Ephesians 2:1-3***

* *“…the course of this* ***world****…”*
* *“…the* ***prince*** *of the power* ***of the******air****…”*
* *“…the lusts of our* ***flesh****…”*

1. (v.8-10) The antidote to **pride** is being **sober** and **serious**, putting away all **sin**.
2. (v.11-12) The antidote to a **critical spirit** is being more concerned about your own **obedience** first.
3. (v.13-17) The antidote to arrogant **self-confidence** is knowing how say, “**If the Lord wills**” as plans are made **day-to-day**.

***Summary: James follows up establishing our 3 foremost enemies:..***

* + The **flesh** (v.1-3)
  + The **world** (v.4-5)
  + The **devil** (v.6-7)

***…with 3 exhortations to repent from the most damaging effects of these enemies…***

* **Pride** (v.8-10)
* **Criticism** (v.11-12)
* **Arrogant self-confidence** (v.13-17)

These work to bring **division** so as to destroy Christ’s intention of a **single**, **unified** body of believers who are united in **obedience** to His Word both in their **deeds** and **heart**. (John 17:22-23; Eph. 4:11-14)