

VICTORY THROUGH GRACE

James 4:6-7

MAIN IDEA: God provides grace for spiritual victory, but you must receive this grace.

7/2/17

An Overview of the Book of James:

- *Pressing Problems for the Believer's Concern (James 1:1-18)*
- *Practical Principles for the Believer's Conduct (James 1:19-4:18)*
 - Concerning Obedience (1:19-27)
 - Concerning Partiality (2:1-13)
 - Concerning Good Works (2:14-26)
 - Concerning the Tongue (3:1-12)
 - Concerning Wisdom (3:13-18)
 - Concerning Worldliness (4:1-10)
 - ✓ The Problem (4:1-5)
 - ❖ Displayed in Church Fights (4:1-3): affecting your relationship with others
 - ❖ Displayed in World Friendship (4:4-5): affecting your relationship with God
 - ✓ The Solution (4:6-10)
 - ❖ What God Will Provide for the Believer (4:6a)
 - ❖ How the Believer Must Respond to God (4:6b-10)

I. WHAT GOD _____ FOR VICTORY (James 4:6a)

- A. The same God who jealousy _____ our loyalty (4:5) also provides the _____ to maintain that loyalty (4:6a).**
- B. The grace that He _____ is exactly what we _____.**
- This grace is for those who are not _____: _____ favor (cp. 4:1-5).
 - This grace is for those who are _____: the _____ to do His _____.
 - ✓ This is a _____ grace: greater than our _____ (cp. 4:1-5) and _____ (cp. Rom. 5:20).
 - ✓ This is a _____ grace: it comes to us at our time of _____ (cp. Heb. 4:16).

II. WHAT GOD _____ FOR VICTORY (James 4:6b-7; cp. 4:10)

- A. The proper response to _____: _____ (James 4:6b, 10)**
- The contrast in _____ (cp. Prov. 3:34; I Pet. 5:5)
 - ✓ _____: one who thinks he is _____ and _____ than others
 - Not wanting to _____ to God's will and thus _____ in his sin
 - One who is self-_____, not needing God's _____, can accomplish it in his own _____
 - ✓ _____: a _____ attitude of _____ on God
 - Recognizing that he is in desperate _____ of God's _____
 - Recognizing his own _____ and his own _____ to deal with the problem
 - Depending totally on _____ to work in his life
 - The contrast in _____
 - ✓ God _____ the _____.
He arranges Himself _____ the proud, sets Himself in _____ array.
 - ✓ God gives _____ to the _____.
 - Grace that _____ and _____ the believer (4:6; cp. Heb. 4:16)
 - ❖ In times of _____ (Jas. 4:1-6; cp. Rom. 5:20)
 - ❖ In times of _____ (cp. Heb. 4:15-16)
 - ❖ In times of _____ (cp. II Cor. 12:9-10)
 - ❖ In times of _____ (cp. I Pet. 4:10)
 - Grace that _____ the believer (4:10)

B. The proper response to _____: _____ (James 4:7a)

- An expression of the _____ just mentioned (“therefore”) (cp. 4:6)
- Arranging yourself under His _____ (opposite of “_____”—4:6)
- Submitting yourself to God instead of holding on to _____ desires (cp. 4:1-3)
- Submitting your _____, _____, _____, _____, and _____ to God

C. The proper response to _____: _____ (James 4:7b)

- The essential recognition of our spiritual _____ (James 4:1-7; cp. 1:14)
 - ✓ The _____ and its desires (4:1-3)
 - ✓ The _____ system (4:4)
 - ✓ The _____ (4:7)
- The required response to the _____ (James 4:7b): _____
Taking your _____ against him, _____ him, _____ him
- The previous requirement for _____ (Jas. 4:7a)
 - ✓ _____ to God must precede _____ the devil.
 - ✓ Too often we _____ God and _____ to the devil.
- The provided resources for _____ (cp. Eph. 6:10-18)
 - ✓ The right _____ (Eph. 6:10; cp. Eph. 3:16)
 - ✓ The right _____ (Eph. 6:11-17a, 18)
 - ✓ The right _____ (Eph. 6:17b; cp. Matt. 4:1-11)
- The promised result of _____ (James 4:7b): he will _____ from you.

- Spiritual victory in your Christian life is impossible through your own strength . . . it requires God's _____.
- To receive God's grace as a believer, you must be willing to meet God's _____.
- God requires _____ and _____, recognizing your own desperate need and depending totally on Him.
- God requires _____ of the devil, as you submit to God and utilize His power.

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 - ❖ What God Will Provide for the Believer (4:6a)
 - ❖ How the Believer Must Respond to God (4:6b-10)

I. WHAT GOD PROVIDES FOR VICTORY (James 4:6a)

A. *The same God who jealousy demands our loyalty (4:5) also provides the grace to maintain that loyalty (4:6a).*

B. *The grace that He provides is exactly what we need.*

- This grace is for those who are not *worthy*: *undeserved favor* (cp. 4:1-5).
- This grace is for those who are *weak*: the *power* to do His *will*.
 - ✓ *This is a greater grace: greater than our desires (cp. 4:1-5) and sin (cp. Rom. 5:20).*
 - ✓ *This is a timely grace: it comes to us at our time of need (cp. Heb. 4:16).*

II. WHAT GOD REQUIRES FOR VICTORY (James 4:6b-7; cp. 4:10)

A. *The proper response to yourself: humility (James 4:6b, 10)*

- The contrast in *responses* (cp. Prov. 3:34; I Pet. 5:5)
 - ✓ **Proud: *one who thinks he is better and greater than others***
 - Not wanting to *submit* to God's will and thus *continuing* in his sin
 - One who is *self-sufficient*, not needing God's *grace*, can accomplish it in his own *strength*
 - ✓ **Humble: *a lowly attitude of dependence on God***
 - Recognizing that he is in desperate *need* of God's *grace*
 - Recognizing his own *sinfulness* and his own *inability* to deal with the problem
 - Depending totally on *God* to work in his life
- The contrast in *results*
 - ✓ **God resists *the proud*.**
He arranges Himself *against* the proud, sets Himself in *battle array*.
 - ✓ **God gives *grace to the humble*.**
 - Grace that *enables* and *empowers* the believer (4:6; cp. Heb. 4:16)
 - ❖ *In times of sin (Jas. 4:1-6; cp. Rom. 5:20)*
 - ❖ *In times of struggle (cp. Heb. 4:15-16)*
 - ❖ *In times of suffering (cp. II Cor. 12:9-10)*
 - ❖ *In times of service (cp. I Pet. 4:10)*
 - Grace that *exalts* the believer (4:10)

B. The proper response to God: submission (James 4:7a)

- An expression of the *humility* just mentioned (“therefore”) (cp. 4:6)
- Arranging yourself under His *authority* (opposite of “*resists*”—4:6)
- Submitting yourself to God instead of holding on to *selfish* desires (cp. 4:1-3)
- Submitting your *desires, plans, goals, rights, and will* to God

C. The proper response to Satan: resistance (James 4:7b)

- The essential recognition of our spiritual *enemies* (James 4:1-7; cp. 1:14)
 - ✓ *The flesh and its desires* (4:1-3)
 - ✓ *The world system* (4:4)
 - ✓ *The devil* (4:7)
- The required response to the *devil* (James 4:7b): *resistance*
Taking your stand against him, withstanding him, opposing him
- The previous requirement for *resistance* (Jas. 4:7a)
 - ✓ Submitting to God must precede resisting the devil.
 - ✓ Too often we resist God and submit to the devil.
- The provided resources for *victory* (cp. Eph. 6:10-18)
 - ✓ *The right power* (Eph. 6:10; cp. Eph. 3:16)
 - ✓ *The right defense* (Eph. 6:11-17a, 18)
 - ✓ *The right offense* (Eph. 6:17b; cp. Matt. 4:1-11)
- The promised result of *resistance* (James 4:7b): he will *flee* from you.

- *Spiritual victory in your Christian life is impossible through your own strength . . . it requires God's grace.*
- *To receive God's grace as a believer, you must be willing to meet God's requirements.*
- *God requires humility and submission, recognizing your own desperate need and depending totally on Him.*
- *God requires resistance of the devil, as you submit to God and utilize His power.*