

**Start, Feb 28.**

## **Lesson 6**

So I do not have to reprint your notes, I will go back from here.

James 4:11-15 requires a closer look.

*11 Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He that speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the law, and judgeth the law: but if thou judge the law, thou art not a doer of the law, but a judge. 12 There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: who art thou that judgest another? 13 Go to now, ye that say, To day or to morrow we will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain: 14 Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away. 15 For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that.*

James is considered the book of Proverbs for the New Testament. James emphasizes the practical aspect of the tongue.

### **When we speak evil of another, what do we become?**

A judge of the law

**Matthew 7:1** *Judge not, that ye be not judged. 2 For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged: and with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you again.*

**John 7:24** *Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment.*

**Romans 2:1** *Therefore thou art inexcusable, O man, whosoever thou art that judgest: for wherein thou judgest another, thou condemnest thyself; for thou that judgest doest the same things.*

**1 Peter 2:1** *Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,*

*2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby: 3 If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.*

### **Read Eph 4:20-32**

**List the commands you can find in this section.**

### **Look for and answer Questions:**

Eph 4:22, *according to the deceitful lusts;*

Here are a few:

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**1. What do the deceitful lusts do?** Doubt the truth that is in Christ

**2. Why are Lusts deceitful?** The key word is deceitful: –promise things they cannot deliver.

Both Peter (2 Pet 2:17) and Jude (1:12) call those promises that cannot deliver Clouds without water.

**3. Where must the new man start, v. 23? Spirit of your mind**

Deut 30:6, Ps 51:10, Jer 31:31-33, 32:39, Ezekiel 36:26, Heb 8:6-13, 10:16, 17.

**4. V. 25. How are some ways we lie?**

Every kind of deceit, hypocrisy (our actions do not reflect our profession of Christ), less than honest dealings, failure to mention the truth when it is needed to protect one's reputation, knowingly giving false impressions....

There is much more concerning the biblical doctrine of truth that we will not pursue at this point.

**5. V. 26, Angry: What is the difference between at should godly anger and ungodly anger?**

Godly anger leads to godly actions.

**Proverbs 15:1** *A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger.*

I have seen this work many times. Parents especially should use this with their children.

**6. Eph 4:27, how can a Christian give permission for the devil to work in his life?** The commandments of God are protection against the devil. When we step outside of his rules for life, we are in the realm of the devil.

And many more commands in this section, but our study is not in Ephesians.

**Back to Romans.**

**The next section is vv. 11-15**, where he expresses his desire and reason to see them.

V. 11 Paul had heard of their faithfulness to their profession even under the nose of Nero. So, he greatly desired to see them.

It is a joy and privilege to be around Christians who have proven their commitment to the faith.

In v. 13, he did not want them to think he did not want to come to Rome, so he told them that providence prevented his coming.

Man proposes, but God disposes.

Paul's desire to see them was not a desire for a personal fulfillment. Many times we pray for personal fulfillment.

Rather, his desire was based in what would benefit these people in the faith, edified. — His desire was to further establish and strengthen them in the faith. He wanted to establish them in the **meatier** things of the faith, not just the basic belief in Christ.

Paul had received from the Lord, and he desired to share what he had received with others.

The desire of any man who has been enabled by God should be to share with others what God has given.

I told my pastor in LA that I did not want to share everything with others, because I would have nothing left. He said, "Use it or Lose it." I have found that the more I share with others, the more there is to share.

My moto since then has been Christ's words in Matthew 10:8, "Freely ye have received, freely give."

**See Hebrews 5:12-6:3** *For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat. 13 For every one that useth milk is unskilful in the word of righteousness: for he is a babe. 14 But strong meat belongeth to them that are of full age, even those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil. 6:1 Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, 2 Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. 3 And this will we do, if God permit.*

*Mutual faith.* It should be comforting and enjoyable to share spiritual notes with other believers.

Paul is writing to the believers in Rome.

Paul's desire was to give further instruction. Only Scripture they knew of at the time was the Hebrew Old Testament. Paul desired to come to them to impart a fuller understanding of the work of God in Christ Jesus as had been revealed to and through him. He desired to further establish them in the faith of which the Old Testament only spoke.

His desire was to aid them in increasing in their knowledge and understanding of the Lord.

Romans 12 lists the gifts given by God for the benefit of the Church. We will deal with them when we get there.

Paul's goal was to see them firmly established in the faith.

V. 12. *That I may be comforted together...*

**Notice his humility.** Though an Apostle, his desire was not based in what he could do for them. Rather, it included what they could do for him.

He expected to be strengthened in his faith as he was with them and able to see first-hand the faith that was spoken of throughout the world.

Note:

**1.** As we see in Paul, a Christian will desire to be around other Christians of like faith, especially those of good reputation:

Hebrews 10:23 *Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)* 24 *And let us consider one **another to provoke unto love and to good works:*** 25 *Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.*

Paul was looking forward to being with a group of people who were known for their godliness.

Proverbs 27:17 *Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.*

**2.** The best thing to produce growth in grace and knowledge is to have one or more good Christian friends. I cannot remember all the Christians who abandoned their Christianity by hanging around non-Christians or hanging with those who were Christians in name only.

**2 Corinthians 6:14-18** warns against being closely associated with non-believers.

*Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? 15 And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? 16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 17 Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, 18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.*

**1 Corinthians 15:33** *Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.*

**3.** Paul expected to learn from these Christians. He expected to be strengthened in the faith by this group of people whom he had never met, and were new in the faith.

Comforted together by a mutual faith. The greatest blessing a minister can have is for his people to have confidence in him.

Calvin said, "There is none so poor in the church of Christ, that he cannot make some addition of importance to our stores." That is, even the least Christian can add to our Christianity if we have a willing heart.

V. 13.

Evidently, the church at Rome was basically a Gentile church.

Paul wanted them to understand that he was not ignoring them because they were gentiles. He assures them that he had many times tried to go to them, so he could have fruit among them, as among other Gentiles.

The Grace of God was at work in Rome, the capital of the pagan world of its day. But he had been hindered. How was he hindered? We do not know. We only know that it was not in God's timing yet.

We can speculate that by going to Rome as a prisoner, his testimony to this church and to the world would have been greatly strengthened. Nero was known for imprisoning about anyone he could, particularly Christians. When Paul went as a prisoner, it would have opened many doors for him that otherwise might not have been opened.

*Have some fruit...*

He did not want to go to see the country, nor to see the capital of Rome, nor because he liked to travel. His desire was to see these Christians, and have some fruit among them.

**Fruit...** His desire was to fulfill our Lord's words:

*John 15:16 Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.*

**Fruit...** Not only was his desire for the salvation of souls, but fruit can include instructing and strengthening believers, which he will do in this letter.

Galatians 5:22ff. He desired to increase their knowledge of the Lord Jesus, so they could grow in their spirit and actions.

To Here, 2/29/19