

# Drawing Near to God (Part 1)



James 4:7-9a  
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# The Call to Submit to God

- It is Voluntary (v.7a)
- It is Systematic (v.7b)
  - When you submit to God you resist the devil
  - One you submit to God and resist the devil, he will flee from you

# What it Means to Submit to God

- Draw Near to God (v.8a)
  - To submit to God you must draw near the God
  - James says when you draw near to God, He will draw near to you

# What it Means to Submit to God

- Repent (vv.8b-9a)
  - Cleanse your hands,  
you sinners

# What it Means to Submit to God

- Take heed thou prayest not with a reservation, be sure thou renounces what thou wouldst have God remit. God will never remove the guilt as long as thou entertains the sin. . . . It is desperate folly to desire God to forgive what thou intends to commit. Thou hadst as good speak out, and ask leave to sin with impunity, for God knows the language of thy heart, and needs not thy tongue to be an interpreter. . . . Hypocrisy is too thin a veil to blind the eyes of the Almighty. Thou mayest put thy own eyes out, so as not to see Him; but thou canst never blind His eyes that He should not see thee” (William Gurnall).