## James 4:11-12

- 1. A change of subject after the ten imperatives for repentance and humbling oneself, but still in line with the opening verses of chapter 3 (3:2-2) concerning the ethics of speech.
  - a. Also parallel to 2:1-13
- 2. These two verses flow like this:
  - a. The prohibition:
    - "Do not speak evil against one another."
  - b. Explanation of the stated prohibition:
    - "Whoever speaks evil against another or judges another, speaks evil against the law and judges the law."
  - c. Repeat with clarification the explanation of the prohibition:
    - "If you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge."
  - d. Reasoning for the prohibition, the foundational principle of these verses:
    - "There is one lawgiver and judge who is able to save and to destroy."
  - e. Rhetorical concluding question:
    - "So who, then, are YOU?...you who judges your neighbor?"

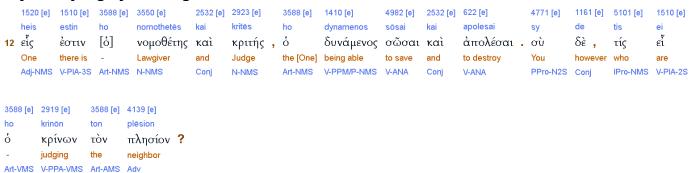
## James 4:11 – "Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge.

	3361 [e] Me $M\dot{\eta}$ Not Adv	katalal KOTO	leite αλαλεῖτε against	240 [e] allēlön ἀλλήλω one anothe RecPro-GM	er b	00 [e] adelphoi αδελφοί . prothers N-VMP	2635 [e] katalalön καταλα speaking a V-PPA-NMS	λῶν igainst	80 [e] adelphou ἀδελφοῦ [his] brother N-GMS	ē Ÿ	krinōn κρίνων	τὸν the	adelphon ἀδελφὸν brother	846 [e] autou αὐτοῦ , of him PPro-GM3S	2635 [e] katalalei καταλαλεῖ speaks against V-PIA-3S
non vó [the	nou ka LOV K	ai αì	krinei κρίνει		ei	de δὲ however	2919 [e] krineis Κρίνεις , you judge V-PIA-2S	ouk	ei Ei	a doer	3551 [e] nomou ς νόμου , of [the] Lav N-GMS	alla ἀλλὸ	2923 [e] kritës κριτής a judge N-NMS		

- 1. Notice the shift back to "brothers" and away from "you adulteresses" and "you sinners"
- 2. "speak against" or "slander" comes from *katalaleite* which is a form of the verb *katalaleo* /kat-al-al-eh-o/ meaning "to speak evil of" and is translated as "I speak evil of", "I rail at", and "I slander".
  - a. This verb is used 3x in 4:11
  - b. This verb is used by Paul:
    - i. Romans 1:30
    - ii. 2 Corinthians 12:20
  - c. By Peter in:
    - i. 1 Peter 2:1
    - ii. 1 Peter 2:12
    - iii. 1 Peter 3:16
  - d. Mariam and Aaron did this to Moses in Numbers 12:1-8
  - e. The wilderness generation did this to God in Psalm 78:19
  - f. Also Psalm 50:20

- 3. "judging" or "judges" is from *krinon* and kpinei which is a verb meaning "to judge" or "to decide" a. This verb is also used 3x in 4:11 and 1x in 4:12
- 4. "a judge" from *krites* meaning "a judge" and is translated as "a judge", "a magistrate" or "a ruler"
- 5. "a doer" from *poietes* meaning "a maker" or "a doer" and is translated as to describe a maker of poetry such as "a poet" and as "a performer", "a doer" or as a person who "carries out" a task.
- 6. "

## 4:12 – "There is only one lawgiver and judge, he who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor?



- 1. "lawgiver" from nomothetes meaning "a lawgiver" or "a legislator"
- 2. To judge another is to set yourself in the place of the Law, the Word and the Lord.
- 3. Matthew 13:24-30 and 13:36-43 The parable of the wheat and weeds show a desire to uproot the weeds, but Jesus calls for patient coexistence
- 4. Matthew 7:1-5
- 5. Luke 6:37
- 6. Romans 2:1
- 7. Judging and discerning:
  - a. 1 Corinthians 2:15
  - b. 1 Corinthians 11:31
  - c. 1 Timothy 3
  - d. James 5:20
  - e. 1 Timothy 5:20
  - f. Galatians 6:1
  - g. 2 Timothy 4:2
  - h. Ephesians 5:11
- 8. In 1 Corinthains Paul describes four types of people:
  - a. Natural man (2:14)
  - b. Spiritual man (2:15)
  - c. Infants in Christ (3:1)
  - d. Fleshly man (3:3)