

James 4:1-3
19 September 2021
Oswego RP Church
“War and Pleasure”

1. Where do the wars and battles among you come from? Is it not from this: from your pleasures that wage war in your members?
2. You desire and do not have. You murder and are jealous —yet you cannot get what you want. You battle and wage war. You do not have because you do not ask.
3. You ask and do not receive because you ask wickedly, so that you may spend on your pleasures.

I. Why are there wars among you?

A. Wars and battles

B. Your pleasures wage war in you (Gen. 3:6; Nu. 25; 2 Sam 11; 13’ Pro. 7:21-23; 20:1, 13; 23:1-8; 24:30-34; Mt. 5:27-30; 19:16-30; 27:1-10; Jn. 12:1-6; Acts 5:1-11; Rev. 3:14-20; 2 Tim. 3:1-5)

II. Pleasure’s campaign.

A. Desire (Gen. 3:6)

B. Murder (1 Kg. 21)

C. Jealousy (1 Sam. 18:6-9)

D. Battle (Nah. 3:1-4)

E. War (2 Sam. 15-18; 1 Kg. 22)

F. You cannot have it

G. You have not asked for it.

III. And then God says “No!”

A. “I prayed about it” (Gen. 4:1-4a; 2 Chron. 7:12-15; Mt. 7:7-11; 1 Kg. 22)

B. Rejected anyway (Gen. 4:4b-7; Is. 58:1-5)

C. Wicked prayer requests (Acts 8:9-24; Lk. 12:13-21; Mt. 6:19-24, 33)

D. Ask the generous God (1 Tim. 6:3-10; Jn. 3:16)