



# SUNDAY SERMON NOTES

AUGUST 31, 2003

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Aut Pax Aut Bellum

Conflict in your life?

Love not abounding in joy?

Wife? Husband? Children? Parents? Pastor?

Your assumption this morning should be that the conflict is unilateral and you started it.

It doesn't matter this morning that evil people in black conspiracies didn't treat snookums with the glory and honor deserved by snookums.

Think of your enemy as America.

This morning you are the French.

You may be everyone's enemy but your method declares you to be the World.

You are either going to be leading your county (thinking you are a nation) by your own passions or by God's.

Someone didn't (thank you, comment on your new hair, return the lawnmower with gas cause your father always...) and you expect the Palestinians to make peace with Israel. They won't and you won't because war is the state of the world.

Peace is in God.

Submit

Resist

Draw near

Cleanse

Purify

...to remove this double mindedness.

This should be crippling humiliation. You have served the Baals.

God is gracious.

This saves us from slander and gossip.

You now know who is the lawgiver and judge, who is the savior and destroyer.

And who are you?

JAM 4:1 What causes wars, and what causes fightings among you? **Is it not your passions** that are at war in your members? 2 **You desire** and do not have; so you kill. And **you covet** and cannot obtain; so you fight and wage war. **You do not have**, because you do not ask. 3 You ask and do not receive, because **you ask wrongly**, to spend it on your passions. 4 Unfaithful creatures! **Do you not know** that friendship with the world is enmity with God? **Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.** 5 Or do you suppose it is in vain that the scripture says, "**He yearns jealously** over the spirit which he has made to dwell in us"? 6 But he gives more grace; therefore it says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." 7 **Submit** yourselves therefore to God. **Resist** the devil and he will flee from you. 8 **Draw near** to God and he will draw near to you. **Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you men of double mind.** 9 Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to dejection. 10 Humble yourselves before the Lord and he will exalt you. 11 Do not speak evil against one another, brethren. He that speaks evil 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. 12 There is one lawgiver and judge, he who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you that you judge your neighbor?

## M E M O R A B L E V E R S E

Draw near to God and he will draw near to you.  
Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your  
hearts, you men of double mind.

*James 4:8*