



BELIEVE IT.

James: A Bible Study
CONTEMPT

I'M CONFLICTED BECAUSE

I HAVE A FOOT IN TWO WORLDS

What causes fights and quarrels among you?
Don't they come from your desires that battle within you?

²You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet,
but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight.

You do not have, because you do not ask God.

³When you ask, you do not receive,
because you ask with wrong motives,
that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

⁴You adulterous people, don't you know
that friendship with the world is hatred toward God?
Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world
becomes an enemy of God.

James 4:1-4

I'M ANGRY BECAUSE I'M CONFLICTED

My dear brothers, take note of this:
Everyone should be quick to listen,
slow to speak and slow to become angry,
²⁰for man's anger does not bring about
the righteous life that God desires.

James 1:19-20

ANGER AND FRUSTRATION

GROW INTO CONTEMPT

You have heard that it was said to the people long ago,
'Do not murder,' and anyone who murders will be subject to judgment.'

²² But I tell you that anyone who is angry with his brother
will be subject to judgment. Again, anyone who says to his brother,
'Raca,' [A term of contempt] is answerable to the Sanhedrin.
But anyone who says, 'You fool!' will be in danger of the fire of hell.

Matthew 5:21-22

c o n t e m p t (Pastor Paul's definition)
*a self-certain, self-superior disdain for anything we consider beneath us
and thus worthy of disrespect, criticism, scorn or ridicule.*

c o n t e m p t (wikipedia)
*an intense feeling or attitude of regarding someone or something
as inferior, base, or worthless — it is similar to scorn.
It's also used when people are being sarcastic.*

THEREFORE...

THEREFORE, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent
and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

²² Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what
it says. ²³ Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says
is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror ²⁴ and, after looking at
himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.

²⁵ But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom,
and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it
— he will be blessed in what he does.

James 1:21-25

THEREFORE, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there
remember that your brother has something against you,

²⁴ leave your gift there in front of the altar. First go and be reconciled
to your brother; then come and offer your gift. ²⁵ Settle matters quickly
with your adversary who is taking you to court. Do it while you are still
with him on the way, or he may hand you over to the judge,
and the judge may hand you over to the officer, and you may be
thrown into prison. ²⁶ I tell you the truth, you will not get out
until you have paid the last penny.

Matthew 5:23-26

A LOOK IN THE MIRROR

Rid yourself...

Humbly accept...

Look intently...

Do what it says...

Go and be reconciled...

Settle matters quickly...

NEXT STEPS

For further study:

40 Days In The Word workbook

Bible Study Methods by Rick Warren (available at JW bookstore)