

Captain, May I?

James 4:11-17

"Pride is subtle and shape-shifting. There is more of it at work in our hearts than we know, and more of it pulsing through our busyness than we realize. Pride is the villain with a thousand faces."



Kevin DeYoung

James 4:11-12

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.

There is only one lawgiver and judge, he who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor?



You shall not go around as a <u>slanderer</u> among your people, and you shall not <u>stand up against</u> the life of your neighbor: I am the Lord.

You shall not <u>hate</u> your brother in your heart, but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him.



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You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him.

You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but <u>you shall</u> love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.



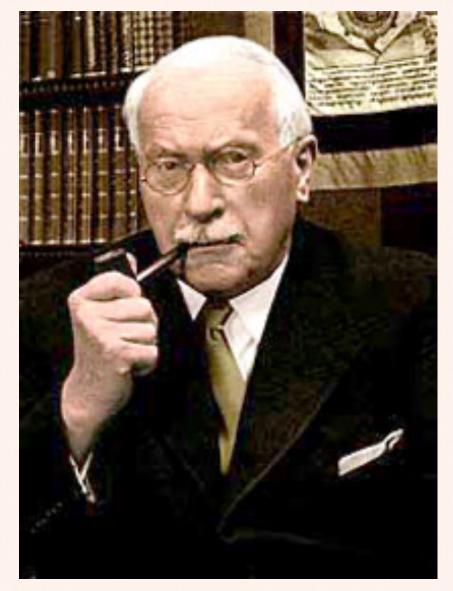
So let no one boast in men. For <u>all things are yours</u>, whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas or <u>the world</u> or life or death or the present or the future—<u>all are</u> yours,

Source Source 1 Corinthians 3:21-22

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"Although our conscious minds are avoiding our own flaws, they still want to deal with them on a deeper level, so we magnify those flaws in others."



Carl Jung

Me on my way to get the spec out of somebody else's eye.





Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

James 4:13-17

Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit"— yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes.

Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that." As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.



In <u>all</u> your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.



Verse 13: ("<u>We will</u>...")

Verse 15: ("If the Lord wills, we will...")





"Today or tomorrow we will go..."



"Today or tomorrow we will go..."

"...we will go into such and such a town ... "



"Today or tomorrow we will go..."

"...we will go into such and such a town..."

"... and spend a year ... "



- "Today or tomorrow..."
- "Today or tomorrow we will go..."
- "...we will go into such and such a town..."
- "... and spend a year ... "
- "We'll spend a year <u>there</u>..."



- "Today or tomorrow..."
- "Today or tomorrow we will go..."
- "...we will go into such and such a town..."
- "... and spend a year ... "
- "We'll spend a year <u>there</u>..."
- "We'll spend a year there <u>and trade</u>"



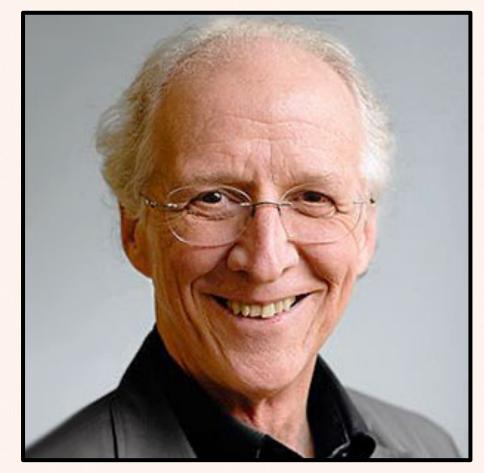
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"We'll spend a year there and trade and make a profit..."

"There is an operating belief that our future life is <u>knowable</u>, <u>durable</u>, and <u>controllable</u>.

James says that all three of those beliefs are <u>false</u>:

- Tomorrow is unknown.
- Life is a vapor.
- And you don't have decisive control over anything."



John Piper



"Lord, let me know my [life's] end And [to appreciate] the extent of my days; Let me know how frail I am [how transient is my stay here].

"Behold, You have made my days as [short as] hand widths, And my lifetime is as nothing in Your sight. Surely every man at his best is a mere breath [a wisp vapor that vanishes]! Selah.



But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God."



And he told them a parable, saying, "The land of a rich man produced plentifully, and he thought to himself, 'What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?'

And he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry."



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Isaiah 14:13-14 (God, speaking of Satan)

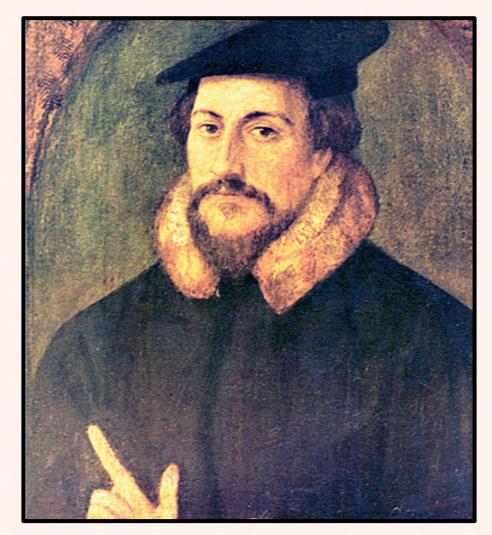
You said in your heart, 'I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God I will set my throne on high; I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far reaches of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.'



The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps.

[Jesus, Paul, & the other apostles didn't always verbalize this dependence in every decision that they made, but]...

"they had it as a principle fixed in their minds, that they would do <u>nothing</u> without the permission of God."



John Calvin

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Religious Hypocrisy

