MALLAEIMALL James 4:1-12

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THE ALLEGIANCES OF YOUR HEART WILL SHAPE YOUR LIFE.

¹ What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? ² You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. 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 You adulterous people! 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 to no purpose that the Scripture says, "He yearns jealously over the spirit that 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 double-minded.



⁹ Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

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. 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?

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<u>"Passions"</u> – Gk. Hēdonē Passionate pursuit of pleasure, often with a lust for more.

"Hedonistic" or "hedonism."

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ALLEGIANCE TO SELF **DESTROYS AND** DIVIDES COMMUNITY

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ALLEGIANCE TO SELF BLINDS AND DECEIVES US

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ALLEGIANCE TO SELF IS ROOTED IN SPIRITUAL INFIDELITY.

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ALLEGIANCE TO GOD BEGINS WITH HUMILITY

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ALLEGIANCE TO GOD **DELIVERS US FROM** SPIRITUAL FORCES **OF DARKNESS**

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ALLEGIANCE TO GOD REQUIRES BOTH INTERNAL AND **EXTERNAL PURIFICATION**

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