

Bible Study 12 – Steps of repentance – James 4:7- 12

The military depends on the chain of command. Each rank knows its place. Each submits to the officers above it. The private submits to the sergeant who submits to the lieutenant who submits to the captain who submits to the major who submits to the colonel who submits to the general. And that's only a simplified version. If the chain of command breaks, the enemy doesn't flee, but the unordered soldiers do. The enemy picks them off one by one and battles and wars are lost. Christians are engaged in a spiritual battle (Ephesians 6:12). In James 4:1-6 the enemy is selfishness and pride.

The context	This letter was written to Jewish Christians who had been scattered by persecution. The theme is that Christian faith expresses itself in a life of godliness. It addresses: persevering through trials & temptations, obeying God's Word, discriminating against others, putting faith into action, controlling our language, the relationship between wisdom & behaviour, being in conflict with God & others, and steps of repentance.
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PART 1 Read & summarise each section – James 4:7-12

Steps of repentance (v.7-10)	
Slander (v.11)	
Judging motives (v.12)	

PART 2 Things I discovered in this passage

1. What I learnt about God, Jesus or the Holy Spirit.

2. What I learnt about people like us.

3. Summarise a key verse in your own words.

4. In your opinion, what are the most important biblical principles being taught?

5. Which other parts of the passage caught your attention?

6. How can we submit ourselves to God (v.7)?

7. Which parts of the passage were difficult to understand? What questions come to your mind?

Let's humbly confess and repent of our sins & not judge people's motives.



