

James 4:11-12 Part II

The Evil of Gossip and Slander

1. Summary of James' Argument:

- a. Prohibition: Do not speak evil against one another. (11a)
- b. Implication: In doing so you are speaking evil against the law. (11b)
- c. Condemnation: In doing so you are usurping God. (12)

If we judge a brother (when the law does not), then we condemn the law as inadequate to deal rightly with that brother.

2. Additional Implications:

- a. There is another way of JUDGING contrary to the law:

If we judge our brother (contrary to the Law's _____) then we condemn the law as inadequate and usurp the role of God.

- i. By _____ to another, instead of your _____. –Matt 18:15
 - ii. By _____ a matter that has been _____. –Prov 17:9
 - iii. By judging outside your _____. –Luke 12:14; 1 Cor 5:12
 - iv. By judging _____ and _____. –1 Sam 16:7; Prov 20:5
 - v. By judging with insufficient _____. –Deut 19:15; Matt 18:16
- b. _____ evil of others does great harm to the _____:
 - i. It is a hallmark of _____. –Jam 1:26; 1 Tim 5:11-15; Rev 12:10
 - ii. It sows _____, _____ and _____. –Jam 3:5-6, 13-16

3. Additional Applications:

- a. Things are _____ than you think:
 - i. We are predisposed to _____ this sin. –Jam 4:1-2; Prov 26:20-22
 - ii. It comes from a _____ heart that enjoys playing _____. –Jude 1:9
 - iii. It comes from a _____ heart. –Lev 19:16-18; Matt 22:39
- b. Do not give such speech a _____. –Prov 17:4; 1 Tim 5:19
- c. _____ to those whom you have _____. –2 Cor 7:10-11

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. 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?