

## James 4 • Overcoming the Flesh

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1. (v.1-3) Our first enemy is the **flesh** which is focused on our personal **pleasures**.
2. (v.4-5) Our second enemy is the **world** which tries to seduce away our **faithfulness**.
3. (v.6-7) Our third enemy is the **devil** which tries to leverage our **pride**.

### **Summary: Ephesians 2:1-3**

- "...the course of this **world**..."
  - "...the **prince** of the power **of the air**..."
  - "...the lusts of our **flesh**..."
4. (v.8-10) The antidote to **pride** is being **sober** and **serious**, putting away all **sin**.
  5. (v.11-12) The antidote to a **critical spirit** is being more concerned about your own **obedience** first.
  6. (v.13-17) The antidote to arrogant **self-confidence** is knowing how say, "**If the Lord wills**" as plans are made **day-to-day**.

### **Summary: James follows up establishing our 3 foremost enemies:..**

- The **flesh** (v.1-3)
- The **world** (v.4-5)
- The **devil** (v.6-7)

**...with 3 exhortations to repent from the most damaging effects of these enemies...**

- **Pride** (v.8-10)
- **Criticism** (v.11-12)
- **Arrogant self-confidence** (v.13-17)

These work to bring **division** so as to destroy Christ's intention of a **single, unified** body of believers who are united in **obedience** to His Word both in their **deeds** and **heart**. (John 17:22-23; Eph. 4:11-14)