



inside out

A SERMON SERIES IN THE BOOK OF JAMES

**MESSAGE NOTES & SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE
OCTOBER 10, 2021**

What words would you use to describe the believers this letter is written to?

There are only two kinds of wisdom – human wisdom and God’s wisdom

There are only two kinds of results – ungodly and Godly

There are only two kinds of responses – hostility and humility

There is ultimately only one question to be answered – Who is my authority?

DIGGING DEEPER:

1. After reading James 3:13-4:12, does the spiritual state of the church, less than 20 years after Jesus' ascension to Heaven, surprise you? If so why? If not, why not?
2. James uses some very strong, harsh words to describe the believers he is writing to. Is he being too harsh? What impact should it have on us that these words are the inspired observations of the Holy Spirit?
3. How do you suppose the believers came to be in such a spiritual state?
4. If James were writing the church in America today, do you think his assessment would be similar? Why?
5. As always, with the diagnosis, God provides the remedy. According to verses 4:7-10, what are the specific steps we must take to remedy or prevent such a spiritual condition creeping into our lives or our church?
6. Does the spiritual remedy given in verses 4:7-10 seem severe? If so, why? If not, why not?
7. What things can keep us from embracing the teaching given to us in verses 4:7-10?
8. What must happen in order for us to take this rather strong medicine given to us by God in order to live the life of godly wisdom he has provided for us?
9. James is writing to a group of believers. Do you find that the relationships we experience today in the church help or hinder our walking the life of Godly wisdom encouraged in this passage? What might we do to experience more mutual support and encouragement as we seek to walk in God's wise way?