

# JAMES 4:1-10

## Real Faith Produces Genuine Humility

### “The Perils of Playing God” –Charles Swindoll

#### Toward Others: 4:11-12

##### 1. καταλαλεω (Gr.) – katalaleo – “speak against” (vs. 11)

- a. Warnings from Biblical History
  - i. Numbers 12:8 – Aaron and Miriam *speak against* Moses for marrying a Cushite woman.
  - ii. Numbers 21:5 – The people of Israel *speak against* God by complaining about their conditions in the wilderness.
  - iii. Psalm 50:20 –The psalmist says a wicked person will *speak against* his brother, slandering him with lies.
  - iv. Job 19:1-3 – Job’s friends *spoke against* Job, insulting him and crushing him with their words.
  - v. 1 Peter 2:12; 3:16 – Unbelievers *speak against* Christians slandering them as evildoers.
- b. Warnings from Unbiblical Futures
  - i. “Now stop me if I’m wrong, but...”
  - ii. “Now, I don’t mean to be critical, but...”
  - iii. “Perhaps I shouldn’t say this about him/her, but...”
  - iv. I really like So-and-So as a person, but...”

##### 2. Confrontation and Condemnation (Vs. 11)

- a. We are not to be gullible or permissive.
- b. Confrontation – building a person up
- c. Condemnation – tearing a person down

##### 3. Playing God(vs. 12)

- a. Lucifer (extra credit)
  - i. **Isaiah 14:12-17**
  - ii. “I will raise my throne above the stars of God.”
  - iii. “I will sit enthroned...”
- b. One Law Giver
  - i. νομοθετηζ (Gr.) – nomothetes – legislator
  - ii. Not in a democratic way of electing
  - iii. Not someone under the law
- c. One Judge
  - i. κριτηζ (Gr.) – krites – judge
  - ii. Also, not in a democratic way of electing

- iii. Not someone under the law
- d. 2 Possible Laws
  - i. Old Testament Law
  - ii. Law of Liberty – “Love neighbor as yourself...”

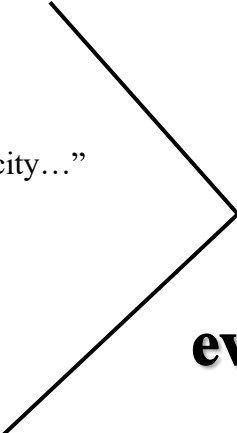
**QUESTION: Why is it easier to point out sin in others?**

## **Toward Self: 4:13-17**

### **1. Rules For Playing God (vs. 13)(Swindoll Commentary, 98)**

- a. Set Your Own Schedule.
  - i. "Today or tomorrow..."
- b. Select Your Own Path
  - i. "...we will go to such and such a city..."
- c. Place Your Own Limits
  - i. "...and spend a year there..."
- d. Arrange Your Own Activities
  - i. "...and engage in business..."
- e. Predict Your Own Outcome
  - i. "...and make a profit..."

**God's Will must  
be considered in  
every aspect of life!**



### **2. Problems with Playing God with Our Lives (Vss. 14-16)**

- a. As humans, we don't know what the future will bring.
- b. As humans, we have no assurance of a long life.
- c. As humans, we don't know the Lord's will.

### **3. 2 Ways to Stop Playing God (vs. 17)**

- a. Know the Right Thing To Do
- b. Start Doing the Right Things

**QUESTION: What's the difference in searching the Will of God and asking Him to bless your endeavors?**

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#### 1. καταλαλεω (Gr.) – katalaleo – “speak against” (vs. 11)

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  - 1 Peter 2:12; 3:16 – Unbelievers *speak against* Christians slandering them as evildoers.
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_
- “Now stop me if I’m wrong, but...”
  - “Now, I don’t mean to be critical, but...”
  - “Perhaps I shouldn’t say this about him/her, but...”
  - I really like So-and-So as a person, but...”

#### 2. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (Vs. 11)

- a. We are not to be \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ – building a person up
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ – tearing a person down

#### 3. \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 12)

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ (extra credit)
- Isaiah 14:12-17**
  - “I will raise my throne above the stars of God.”
  - “I will sit enthroned...”
- b. \_\_\_\_\_
- νομοθετηζ (Gr.) – nomothetes – legislator
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- c. \_\_\_\_\_
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- iii. Not someone under the law
- d. 2 \_\_\_\_\_
  - i. Old Testament Law
  - ii. Law of Liberty – “Love neighbor as yourself...”

**QUESTION: Why is it easier to point out sin in others?**

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**1. \_\_\_\_\_ For Playing \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 13)(Swindoll Commentary, 98)**

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be considered in  
every aspect of life!**

**2. \_\_\_\_\_ with Playing \_\_\_\_\_ with Our Lives (Vss. 14-16)**

- a. As humans, we don't know what the \_\_\_\_\_ will bring.
- b. As humans, we have no assurance of a \_\_\_\_\_ life.
- c. As humans, we don't know the \_\_\_\_\_ will.

**3. 2 Ways to \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 17)**

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ the Right Thing To Do
- b. Start \_\_\_\_\_ the Right Things

**QUESTION: What's the difference in searching the Will of God and asking Him to bless your endeavors?**