

PRACTICAL FAITH

A Letter from James



Submission for Grace
James 4:7-10

1

INTRODUCTION

- James has been dealing with the infighting and inconsistent lives of followers of Jesus in the churches
- We ended last week with him quoting Proverbs 3:34 and the promise for more grace
- *But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble."*
James 4:6-7

2

What comfort there is in this verse! It tells us that God is tirelessly on our side. He never falters in respect of our needs, he always has more grace at hand for us. He is never less than sufficient, he always has more and yet more to give. Whatever we may forfeit when we put self first, we cannot forfeit our salvation, for there is always more grace. No matter what we do to him, he is never beaten....His resources are never at an end, his patience is never exhausted, his initiative never stops, his generosity knows no limit: he gives more grace. ~Motyer

3

- James gives us a contingency in receiving this grace
- It comes by *humility through submission* to God
- He teaches us four areas of submission which is a guarantee that we receive this ongoing and unfathomable grace from God through Jesus

4

SUBMISSION TO HIS RIGHTFUL LORDSHIP

⁷ Submit yourselves therefore to God.

5

SUBMISSION TO HIS INFLUENTIAL PRESENCE

^{7b} Resist the devil,
and he will flee from you.

⁸ Draw near to God,
and he will draw near to you.

6

SUBMISSION TO HIS ATONING FORGIVENESS

^{8b} Cleanse *your hands*, you sinners,
and purify *your hearts*, you double-minded.

⁹ Be wretched and mourn and weep.

Let your laughter be turned to mourning
and your joy to gloom.

7

SUBMISSION TO HIS PROMISED EXALTATION

¹⁰ Humble yourselves *before the Lord*,
and he will *exalt* you.

8

RESPONSE

- Lordship - Presence - Forgiveness - Exaltation
- This is an invitation to *all* to receive His *saving* grace
- This is a special call to *His children* to receive His *continuing* grace
- Prayer

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