

Stopping the Sick Sin of Slander

Doing the Work of the Devil with the Sin of Slandering James 4:11-12 Chris Mueller 2-20-22

Introduction:

James 4:11 *Do not speak against one another, brethren. He who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks against the law and judges the law; but if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge of it. 12 There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the One who is able to save and to destroy; but who are you who judge your neighbor?*

In the Scripture, slander is said to destroy friendships, cut deep irreparable wounds, destroy people, stir up contention, spread strife, and create foolishness.

Philippians 2:15 *prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world,*

1 Timothy 3:2 *... must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable,*

Slander is to speak about someone, confrontation is speaking to someone privately

Slander is to condemn others, confrontation is to correct others

Slander is to destroy others, confrontation is to disciple others

Slander is blasting others, confrontation is building up others

#1 Slander is an A against Christians **11a** *Do not speak against one another, brethren. He who speaks against a brother or judges his brother,*

Matthew 18:6 *who ever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to stumble, it would be better for him to have a heavy millstone hung round his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea*

#2 Slander is A of heart **11b** *speaks against the law and judges the law; but if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge of it.*

Matthew 7:1 *Do not judge so that you will not be judged.*

Romans 2:1 *... for in that which you judge another, you condemn yourself; for you who judge practice the same things.*

#3 Slander is A _____ like you are God *12a There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the One who is able to save and to destroy*

John 7:24 Do not judge according to appearance, but judge with righteous judgment.

1 Corinthians 5:12 For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Do you not judge those who are within the church?

13 But those who are outside, God judges. REMOVE THE WICKED MAN FROM AMONG YOURSELVES.

God alone gave His law and God alone will judge people by His law.

Innocent until proven guilty.

Go to them, but never talk *about* them.

#4 Slander is A _____ motives *12b but who are you who judge your neighbor?*

Romans 12:3 For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think

Romans 14:4 Who are you to judge the servant of another? To his own master he stands or falls; and he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

TAKE HOME:

A. Feel the fear of being a _____ for the Slanderer

B. Think about others _____

C. Guard your mouth from slander, and _____ slander when you hear it

D. Know that Christ alone can free you from _____ now and forever

Questions for Growth in Christ

1. How do the people of the world view being slandered, and how do they view slandering others?
2. How do untaught believers make excuses about slandering others?
3. What will it take for you to stop slandering and to stop listening to slander?
4. How can speaking something that is true actually become slanderous?
5. How can you view others in a way that helps you to stop slandering?
6. What steps can you take this week in order to believe the best of others?
7. Is there anyone you should ask forgiveness of because you know you slandered them?

