

## THE PROHIBITION TO NOT JUDGE OTHERS

(James 4:11-12)

### I. THE CONDITION MANIFESTING WORLDLINESS (4:1-6)

### II. THE SOLUTION TO WORLDLINESS (4:7-10)

### III. THE PROBLEM WITH JUDGING EACH OTHER (4:11-12)

#### A. The PROHIBITION to believers (4:11a)

1. As human beings, when humility is lacking we tend to “*speak evil*” or literally \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ others.

\* Since this prohibition is a command, what does this imply?

2. This “*speaking evil*” is broader than slander, it may include...

a. Willful, \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_ of faults that are real

c. Needless \_\_\_\_\_ of real faults

d. Critical, derogatory speech that is \_\_\_\_\_ intended to \_\_\_\_\_  
others against that person being spoken against.

3. The fact that this term is used in 1 Peter 2:12 and 3:16 of the persecution of Christians by unbelievers tells us just how \_\_\_\_\_ these \_\_\_\_\_ had digressed in these local churches.

**B. The JUSTIFICATION for the Prohibition (4:11b-12)**

1. When you speak evil of another brother in Christ, you essentially find yourself \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of Christ (2:8), which is to *“love your neighbor as yourself.”* (v. 11b)
  
2. When you choose to \_\_\_\_\_ another brother rather than love him in the Lord, you are saying in effect, *“\_\_\_\_\_ than the law of liberty (1:25; 2:12), or I am exempt from obeying it”*. (v. 11c, cf. Gal. 5:1, 13)
  
3. James gives a really good reason that finite human beings should NOT play judge and jury, it is because there is only One Lawgiver and Judge. (v. 12a)
  - a. This sets God apart as \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ from His creation. (Rom. 14:1-13)
  
  - b. God is unique in that He alone is the one who \_\_\_\_\_ law, and He alone is the One who \_\_\_\_\_ His law.
  
4. In God’s sovereignty, He alone has the ability *“to \_\_\_\_\_ and to \_\_\_\_\_”*.(v. 12b, cf. Matt. 10:28)
  
5. James’ harsh bluntness is expressed in a \_\_\_\_\_ to those who would treat fellow Christians in such a manner— *“Who are you to judge another?”* (v. 12c)

\* How can you personally apply this truth in your own life?