



TALK IS CHEAP

A STUDY OF JAMES

What version of you is the “real**” you?**



Not many of you should become **teachers**, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness.

² For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not **stumble** in what he says, he is a **perfect** man, able also to bridle his **whole body**.

³ If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. ⁴ Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a **very small** rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵ So also the tongue is a **small** member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is **set ablaze by such a small fire!**

⁶ And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. ⁷ For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, ⁸ but **no human being can tame the tongue**. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

⁹ With it we **ble**ss our Lord and Father, and with it we **cu**rse people who are made in the likeness of God.

James 3:9

ESV

¹⁰ From the same mouth come **blessing and cursing**. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. ¹¹ Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? ¹² Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

James 3:10–12

ESV

¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not **boast** and be **false** to the truth.

James 3:13–14

ESV

¹⁵ This is not the **wisdom that comes down from above**, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice.

James 3:15–16

ESV

¹⁷ But the **wisdom from above** is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. ¹⁸ And a harvest of **righteousness** is sown in peace by those who **make peace**.

James 3:17–18

ESV

The test of your relationship with God is not just how you talk about **him, but how you talk about **people you don't like**.**

