



- (James 3:14–16 ESV) But if you have **bitter jealousy** and **selfish ambition** in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. 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 4:1–3 NCV) **Do you know where your fights and arguments come from? They come from the selfish desires that war within you.** 2 You want things, but you do not have them. **So you are ready to kill and are jealous of other people,** but you still cannot get what you want. So you argue and fight. You do not get what you want, because you do not ask God. 3 Or when you ask, you do not receive because the reason you ask is wrong. You want things so you can use them for your own pleasures.
- (1 Corinthians 3:1–3 ESV) But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, **but as people of the flesh,** as infants in Christ. 2 I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, 3 **for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way?**

- (Ephesians 2:1–3 NCV) In the past you were spiritually dead because of your sins and the things you did against God. 2 Yes, in the past you lived the way the world lives, following the ruler of the evil powers that are above the earth. That same spirit is now working in those who refuse to obey God. 3 **In the past all of us lived like them, trying to please our sinful selves and doing all the things our bodies and minds wanted.** We should have suffered God's anger **because we were sinful by nature. We were the same as all other people.**
- (Philippians 2:14–16 ESV) **Do all things without grumbling or disputing,** 15 that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, 16 holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.
- (James 5:8–9 ESV) You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. 9 **Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged;** behold, the Judge is standing at the door.



**T**he opportunity of a lifetime ... literally ... our only opportunity ... one life ... one time ... to honor Christ and stand against the darkness.