

WANT WARS 3

James 4:11-12

Do not speak evil against one another, brothers.

James 4:11

Believing the gospel is not a _____.
FAITH in the gospel is a dynamic, powerful force through which God is DETERMINED to transform _____ of our _____. He is after every relationship, every thought, the deepest longings and affections of our hearts.

1. James pronounces a complete moritorium on "evil-speaking."

kata =

laleo =

Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.
1 Peter 2:12

... having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.
1 Peter 3:16

- attacking _____ or attacking _____?
- _____ or _____?
- "you are wrong" to "you are _____"

The command "do not speak evil" is, more specifically, "do not defame" or "do not denigrate." A defamatory word may be _____: we do not have to tell lies in order to defame. But the fact that it is true gives us no right to say it. True or false, it makes us _____ to the other person.
Alec Motyer

2. James exposes the _____ from which "evil-speaking" flows.

► Who are we talking about? _____

"And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." The second is this: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." There is no other commandment greater than these.
Mark 12:30-31

► Who are we fooling? _____

The Old Testament denounces evil speaking, both against _____ (e.g. Numbers 21:5) and _____ (e.g. Psalm 49:20) oftener than any other offense."

James Adamson

► Who is the judge? _____

Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God. For who sees anything different in _____? What do you have that _____ did not receive? If then _____ received it, why do you boast as if _____ did not receive it?
1 Corinthians 4:3-7

► Who are you?

Defamation is forbidden not as a breach of _____, nor even as a breach of _____, but as a breach of _____. If we are really low before God (6-10) we have no 'altitude' left from which to 'talk down' to anyone.