

## **James 3:10-13 - The Rejection of Compromise**

Written by Tim Black

Wednesday, 04 March 2009 02:00 -

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### **James: A Handbook on Holiness**

#### **The Rejection of Compromise**

##### **James 3:10-13**

#### **General outline:**

1.

#### **The Way to Holiness: The Divine Perspective 1:2-27**

1.

The Trial-Temptation Complex 1:2-18

2.

The Word of God 1:19-27

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3.

### **The Principles of Holiness: The Biblical Framework 2:1-26**

1.

The Law is the Structure of Holiness 2:1-13

2.

Faith is the Dynamics of Holiness 2:14-26

3.

### **The Implementation of Holiness: The Christian Experience 3:1-4:10**

1.

The Obstacle to Victory: Human Impotence 3:1-9

1.

The Fact of Human Impotence 3:1-5

2.

The Root of Human Impotence 3:6-9

3.

The Nature of Victory 3:10-18

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### **James 3:10-13**

#### **The Impropriety of Compromise**

10 From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.

#### **The Impossibility of Compromise**

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.

#### **The Challenge of Compromise**

13 Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom.

#### **Discussion Questions:**

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1.

V. 10 – Are we morally obligated to be consistently gracious in our speech?

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2.

Vv. 11-12 – Springs and plants produce fruit “according to their kinds” (Gen. 1:11); according to their nature. From what kind of heart does blessing come? \_\_\_\_\_ Cursing? \_\_\_\_\_ Which kind of heart does a Christian have? Consider Matt. 7:15-20.

3.

Springs, figs, olives, and grapes provide us food & drink. How do words of blessing & cursing “feed” other people when they take them in? Consider Prov. 18:21. \_\_\_\_\_

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4.

James says this inconsistency is impossible in nature. Is it impossible in the Christian? Consider John 15:1-17; 1 John 1:8-10; 3:6, 9; 5:18.

5.

V. 13 – Notice the ministerial trajectory of a life-producing tongue: by the Spirit, a heart of wisdom speaks godly words  
humbly accompanied by works  
so  
others are blessed  
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