

James 4:11–17



11 Do not speak against one another, brothers and sisters. He who speaks against a fellow believer or judges a fellow believer speaks against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but its judge. 12 But there is only one who is lawgiver and judge—the one who is able to save and destroy. On the other hand, who are you to judge your neighbor? 13 Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go into this or that town and spend a year there and do business and make a profit.” 14 You do not know about tomorrow. What is your life like? For you are a puff of smoke that appears for a short time and then vanishes. 15 You ought to say instead, “If the Lord is willing, then we will live and do this or that.” 16 But as it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. 17 So whoever knows what is good to do and does not do it is guilty of sin.



Proper Planning

1. Why would one speak evil of another (4:11)?
2. What type of judgment is discussed in James 4:11?
3. How would one judge the law (4:11)?
4. What power does our lawgiver have (4:12)?
5. Is it wrong to plan for the future (4:13–15)? Explain.
6. Why is our life like a *vapor* (4:14)?
7. How should we view tomorrow (4:15)?
8. Define *arrogance* (4:16) [Gr. *alazoneia*].
9. Explain James 4:17. What is the *good* in this passage?