

## Lessons Learned About God, Life, and Man

1. The source of human conflict is the sinful desires that fight and war within us; they lead us to lust, covet, and murder to get what we want, 4:1-2.
2. If you want something, all you have to do is ask God. However, if you ask for something sinful or with sinful motives, then you won't get anything from Him, 4:2-3.
3. There are two choices on how to live your life: there's doing things the way everyone else in this world does them and then there's doing things God's way. Choosing the former is declaring war against God; choosing the latter is choosing the role of adulterer or adulteress in your relationship with God, 4:4.
4. The last thing God wants is for us to give our time, energy, devotion, and affection to another; His Spirit who dwells in us yearns jealously for us, 4:4-5.
5. You can make yourself God's enemy and He will resist you as you war against Him; but He would rather show you grace, He would rather you yearn for Him as He yearns for you, 4:4-6.
6. As cunning, deceptive, and powerful as Satan is, he's very easy to defeat: all you have to do is submit to God's truth, resist the Devil's lies, and he will flee. All you have to do is draw near to God and He will come to your rescue, 4:7-10.
7. If you're living in sin, even gleefully living in sin, all you have to do is repent, humble yourself before the Lord and He will lift you out of it, 4:8-10.
8. To speak evil of or judge a fellow Christian (in a sinful manner) is to not only set yourself above God's Law, but God Himself as Judge, Jury, and Executioner. God is the only Lawgiver, Savior, and Executioner, 4:11-12.
9. Those who are arrogant enough to think that they can control their future should realize that their life is but a vapor that can disappear in an instant. Instead, they should realize that their life not only depends on God to continue, but to prosper, 4:13-16.
10. Sin is not just doing bad things; sin is also **not** doing the good (right) things, 4:17.
11. The way of Satan leads to warring, fighting, lusting, murder, coveting, selfishness, judging others, pride, relying solely on yourself, arrogance, i.e., it leads to Satan guiding your every thought, word, and action. The way of the Lord leads to asking God for assistance, selflessness, responding to God's Spirit, humility, repentance, abiding by what God says, relying on God for your life and prosperity, i.e., it leads to the Lord guiding your every thought, word, and action, 4:1-17.