

Cheating on the Lord

James 4:4-5

***Am I committing
spiritual adultery?***

FRIENDSHIP

✓ wonderful

✓ dangerous

✓ emotional

ADULTERY – A covenant of marriage
separates those individuals from all others.
It is a line which **limits** all other
friendships.

“friendship with the world...”

[philia = emotional love; affection]

In the Christian worldview as described by Jesus, we can no more have two loves ("God" and "world") than we can legally have two spouses.

(Mt. 6:24, 19:1-12)

WORLD... value system of fallen mankind that is hostile to God, even insisting there is no God, no moral absolutes, and no moral accountability.

The sinful mind is hostile to God. It does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. Those controlled by the sinful nature cannot please God. (*Rom. 8:7-8*)

Called “the world,” it is actually a **spiritual** kingdom [darkness] manifested in “the world” of mankind.

The “world” champions SELF
indulgence/satisfaction/serving/glory

What does “friendship” with the WORLD look like?

- uncritical acceptance of worldly values
- desire for fame, popularity, or admiration from “the world”
- exaltation of individual “rights”

✓ abortion ✓ divorce ✓ sexual identity
 ✓ homosexual marriage

- assumption of “moral authority” of media, movie stars, etc.
- exaltation of entertainment, fashion, sports, etc.
- rejection of divine absolutes or divine authority.
- obsession with money, possessions, experiences, pleasure, etc.

JESUS “My Kingdom is not of this world”.
(Jn 18:36)

THE WORLD?

✓ Separation from...

✓ Death to...

✓ Denial of...

✓ Hatred toward

Continuing habitual
friendship/affection/attraction
to the “world” is evidence
of hostility/hatred toward God
(just as adultery expresses hostility
toward marriage).

GOOD NEWS No matter how compelling your past “friendship” with the world, if you turn to God with love and trust, he will change your heart, your perspective, and your loyalty!

BAD NEWS. The hostility between the Father of Lies and the Lord of Truth continues on. You do not get to change. that. You only get to choose WHO gets your love & loyalty.

Anyone can **switch** sides, but no one can be devoted to **both** sides.

(For either side) a DEFECTOR becomes an ENEMY.



James 4:5

- the spirit that dwells within us desires to envy...
- the spirit he caused to live within us envies intensely...
- the spirit God has placed within us is filled with envy...
- God longs jealously for the spirit he has placed within us...

GOD is JEALOUS for your SOUL!
?How could he NOT be?

He did not put you in “the world”
to have you deny of defy him!

FRIEND or FOE?