

ARE YOU  
'SERIOUS'?

James uses 2 words of address (*vs. 8*)

- He speaks to the **fanciful** (*sinners!*),  
“I’m sure it will turn out OK.”
- He speaks to the **fickle** (*double minded!*),  
“I love God and love the world.”

His reality check is that to God, SIN is SERIOUS. Therefore; it must be serious to God's children also.

## SIN (Two NT words)

- missing the “mark” [*God’s expectation* > **disappointment!**]
- crossing the “line” [*God’s limitation* > **defiance!**]

A sinner, whether disappointing God's expectations or defying God's limitations, has nothing to rejoice over!

In fact, our attitudes toward sin should be the opposite of lightheartedness.

Wash you hands... **be done** with it.

Purify your hearts... **dismiss** temptation,  
rather than **entertaining** it.



Grieve/mourn/wail... understand the **spiritual tragedy** of rejecting God.

Change your laughter to mourning...  
the Devil's work is to make sin seem  
acceptable, funny, or inconsequential.  
This is **deception** at work.

***Luke 6***... “Blessed are you to who weep now, for you will laugh... Woe to you who laugh now, for you will mourn and weep.”

Humble yourself before the Lord...  
This must be my response to BOTH  
my sinfulness and God's salvation!

***Mt. 5:3***... “Blessed are the poor in spirit  
[*humble*] for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”