

CAN'T WE ALL JUST GET ALONG?
JAMES 4:1-5 / 10-1-17 / AM

I. WHAT'S THE SOURCE OF OUR DIVISION?

- A. James addresses this question in the opening verse of chapter four—4:1.
- B. James' answer is that it's an "inside job."---"**within you**".
 - 1. It's not some outside agitator that stirs the pot of dissention.
 - 2. The Greek word for "**desires**" is the same place we get the English word "**hedonism**".
 - a. Hedonism is the pursuit of pleasure at all costs.
 - b. This battle is between our "**old sin nature**" and our "**new spiritual nature**".

II. WHAT'S THE SCOPE OF OUR DIVISION?

- A. First, James says, this division affects our relationships with others.
 - 1. James says in our pursuit of what we want we kill each other—4:2a.
 - 2. James also says in our pursuit of what we want we covet—4:2c.
- B. James says this division also affects our relationship with God.
 - 1. First, self-reliance damages our relationship with God—4:2c.
 - 2. Second, selfish prayers damage our relationship with God—4:3.
 - 3. Third, spiritual adultery also damages our relationship with God—4:4-5.

III. WHAT'S THE SOLUTION FOR OUR DIVISION?

- A. The first step is to admit the division comes from within, from us.
- B. The second step is to acknowledge that Jesus is our only answer—4:6.