

June 23, 2024 AM
Paul Gotthardt
(#26 in series)

UNDIVIDED

A Study on the Book of James

SPEAKING EVIL OF ONE ANOTHER

James 4:11-12

Two hidden areas of prideful sin:

- Pridefully speaking _____ of one another (vv. 11-12)
- Pridefully making _____ without God (vv. 13-17)

Definition:

Slander (speaking evil of one another) describes many kinds of harmful speech: questioning legitimate authority (Numbers 21:5), slandering someone in secret (Psalm 101:5), bringing incorrect accusations (1 Peter 2:12; 3:16). It refers to mindless, thoughtless, careless, critical, derogatory, untrue speech directed against others.



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The Bible records the devastating effects of slander.

- It _____ friendships. (Proverbs 16:28; 17:9)
- It reveals foolish character. (Proverbs 10:18)
- It _____ deep wounds. (Proverbs 18:8; 26:22)
- It's associated with godlessness. (Proverbs 11:19)
- It stirs up _____. (Proverbs 26:20)
- It spreads strife. (Proverbs 6:19)
- It _____ people. (Proverbs 11:9; Isaiah 32:7)

Big Truth:

We will be _____ about speaking evil of others ONLY when we see our sin from God's _____.

What does this text teach us about speaking evil of one another?

- Speaking evil of others reveals that we think we're _____ than others. (v. 11a)
- Speaking evil of others shows that we think we're above God's _____ and don't need to obey Him. (v. 11b)
- Speaking evil of others shows that we think we're _____ to God and, therefore, have the right to _____ others. (v. 12)