Message Outline



Let "Yes" be "Yes"

James 5:12

I. Introduction

"Don't criticize one another." (James 4:11a, CSB)

"There is one lawgiver and judge." (James 4:12a, CSB)

"But who are you to judge your neighbor?" (James 4:12c, CSB)

"Today or tomorrow we will travel to such and such a city and spend a year there and do business and make a profit." (James 4:13b, CSB)

"Instead, you should say, 'If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.'" (James 4:15, CSB)

"Brothers and sisters, do not complain about one another." (James 5:9a, CSB)

II. Let “Yes” be “Yes”

James 5:12 (CSB)

12 Above all, my brothers and sisters, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or with any other oath. But let your “yes” mean “yes,” and your “no” mean “no,” so that you won’t fall under judgment.

“I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.” (Matthew 26:63b, CSB)

“You have said it.” (Matthew 26:64:a, CSB)

“I call on God as a witness, on my life, that it was to spare you that I did not come to Corinth.” (2Corinthians 1:23, CSB)

“God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in telling the good news about his Son - that I constantly mention you.” (Romans 1:9, CSB)

Josephus

Every statement of theirs is surer than an oath and with them swearing is avoided, for they think it worse than perjury. For they say that he who is not trustworthy except when he appeals to God is already under condemnation. (War 2:135; Ant 15:371)

“But let your ‘yes’ mean ‘yes,’ and your ‘no’ mean ‘no.’ Anything more than this is from the evil one.” (Matthew 5:37, CSB)

“Woe is me for I am ruined because I am a man of unclean lips.” (Isaiah 6:5b, CSB)

“Then one of the seraphim flew to me, and in his hand was a glowing coal that he had taken from the altar with tongs. He touched my mouth with it and said: Now that this has touched your lips, your iniquity is removed and your sin is atoned for.” (Isaiah 6:6-7, CSB)

Takeshi Yozawa
Tokyo Baptist Church
February 18 & 19, 2023

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class 101 Membership

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