

- a. This passage takes up God's response to our sinful spiritual adultery. The question for us is: what will God do?

God's response is two-fold: chase and challenge. Of course, each of these is a grace-response. God has to do nothing yet because of the covenant with His son and His promises to His people, He acts.

Yet, often, even in our repentance from sin, we **expect** God to forgive us as if He is obligated to do so. Consider your own repentance, does this describe you?

- b. Each of the seven moves in James' repentance formula is fairly easily applied. Consider each one for prayer and action and take a practical step this week to deal with them.

Submit therefore to God.

Lord, in what areas have I been living as if I am lord and master of my life?

Resist the devil.

Lord, when do I easily give in to temptation and sin?

Draw near to God.

Lord, how have I refused to approach you?

How have I stayed away to punish myself thinking that's what's necessary?

How have I forgotten you are my Father and my Husband?

Cleanse your hands.

Lord, who do I need to approach in repentance?

What do I need to stop doing?

What do I need to repair?

Purify your hearts.

Lord, what are my idolatrous tendencies?

How do I cling to things and people instead of You?

Be distressed, mourn, weep, and turn off laughter.

Lord, am I serious about my sin?

Where am I not taking Your call to holiness and faithfulness seriously?

Humble yourself.

Lord, show me the areas where I am proud and do not yield to You.