

4:11 Do not speak evil of one another, brethren. He who speaks evil of a brother and judges his brother, speaks evil of the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge.

4:12 There is one Lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy. Who are you to judge another?

4:13 Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit";

4:14 whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.

4:15 Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that."

4:16 But now you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil.

4:17 Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.

From today's sermon

It seems that each person has his or her own standard of value judgment, and each person has a feeling that "I am right and will not compromise on this, no matter what anyone else says. When we have such feelings toward each other, arguments and fights seem to occur. This is expressed in the last words of the Book of Judges in the Old Testament.

In those days Israel had no king, so each one did what was right in his own eyes.

Israel, God's people, lacked the faith to seek what was right in God's sight. Therefore, people were scattered all over the place. But if people humbly seek God's will, they can be united in His will. As it says in Chronicles 16: "The eyes of the Lord are open to the whole earth.

"The eyes of the Lord go through the whole earth, and he reveals his power to those who are wholeheartedly devoted to him."

You are right. It is encouraging to face life's challenges with such confidence. But we are fallible, weak human beings. If we pray and ask for God's guidance and power, how can we not seek to rely on it? Before we think that we are the judges of the world and that we are qualified to condemn others, we should stoop to God's authority, wisdom, and power, praying and seeking before the Lord for the future, the future that we do not yet know, so that we can move forward in life without fear or conceit, fulfilling what we need to do. I believe that we can move forward in life without fear or conceit, fulfilling what we need to do.

Good morning everyone. It is another beautiful autumn day. This week we will start the month of November. I hope you are all doing well in the cold and warm weather.

We are reading the book of James, which explores our hearts. The church calendar has also

turned to the "9th Lord's Day before the Nativity. When we look forward to the Nativity of the Lord, the mornings are dark, the autumn evenings are drizzling, and the cold is increasing, but after Christmas, it hits bottom and begins to get brighter. Thank you, God.

11 Brothers. Do not speak evil of one another. For he who speaks evil of his brother or judges his brother is an abuser of the law and a judge of the law. If you judge the law, you are not its doer, but its judge.

12 But he alone is the lawgiver and the judge, and he alone is able to save and to destroy. But who art thou that judgest thy neighbor?

We think we are right, and therefore we easily judge that person as being wrong. And we do it to each other. But the Bible asks the question, "Who are you yourself to judge others? We judge people from high places, pretending to be judges. But that is God's role. So we are pretending to be God. We are the keepers of the law, not the keepers of the law. The weak cannot lead the weak. The one who breaks the law cannot be the lawgiver.

It seems that each person has his or her own standard of value judgment, and each person has a feeling of "I am right in this, no matter what anyone else says, and I cannot compromise on it. When people feel this way about each other, arguments and fights seem to occur. This is expressed in the last words of the Book of Judges in the Old Testament.

In those days Israel had no king, so each one did what was right in his own eyes.

Israel, God's people, lacked the faith to seek what was right in God's sight. Therefore, people were scattered all over the place. But if people humbly seek God's will, they can be united in His will. As it says in Chronicles 16: "The eyes of the Lord are open to the whole earth.

"The eyes of the Lord go through the whole earth, and he reveals his power to those who are wholeheartedly devoted to him.

There is only one Legislator and Judge. He alone is the legislator and the judge, and we are to believe in and fear Him. He is able to save and destroy. It is up to Him to forgive and not forgive, to judge and not judge. He does not judge us, but forgives us and delivers us from sin and from death through his beloved Son, Jesus Christ.

God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son. For God so loved the world that

he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.        John 3:16

We can fear and be afraid of him, knowing the plight of his love, bowing down and giving thanks, praising and honoring him, serving him with thanksgiving, realizing that we are nothing, and humbly going forward before him, forgiven and strengthened.

This week, we will keep in mind the words, "There is one who is both Legislator and Judge," as we continue to move forward. I hope that we will be able to know our place in the world and not be arrogant, that we are not in a position to judge anyone, that we are not to judge our neighbors, and that God alone is the law-maker, the judge of right and wrong, and the one who alone should judge. I hope that you will know your own position. Even if I feel that such and such person is wrong, doesn't understand, misunderstands my position, is immature, rude, or arrogant, I am in the same boat as them, and we are all on the same boat, so I should leave those people in the hands of the merciful God and focus on overcoming my own shortcomings. I want to realize that I am just fine as long as I focus on overcoming my own shortcomings.

13 Listen carefully. Listen carefully to those who say, "Today or tomorrow, I will go to this town or that town, stay there for a year, do business, and make a profit.

14 Ye know not what the morrow shall be. What is your life? Ye are but a mist that appears for a little while, and then vanisheth away.

We have many plans in our minds. But we want to realize that these things, these things in the future, are not within our control. We do not know what will happen in the future. In fact, we don't even know what will happen one second ahead. Therefore, we must humble ourselves in God's hands.

15 Rather, you should say, "If it is the Lord's will, I will live and do this and that.

16 But you are proud. All such pride is evil.

This is said to be pride. It means, "Don't act like you can do something you can't do," and

"Know your place. These words may sound harsh, but they are words of inexpressible comfort. We do not know what the future holds. We do not have the wisdom of the many. We are quick to get carried away and act as if we are the king of the naked king. But even such a shallow person is nothing but a person who speaks ill of those around him or her, judges, and creates discord and strife. But God, who understands everything, is with us, and the One who forgives everything is with us. Therefore, do not speak evil of others, do not judge, but submit yourselves to the One who is in authority, and give thanks to Him for the grace of forgiveness. Do not make public statements about what is to come, even though you do not know anything. The Bible teaches us today that the pride of man is of no avail, but humility and faith are our strength.

17 If a man knows the good that is to be done and does not do it, it is a sin to him. Thus we are given guidance. We are given faith and wisdom. We are privileged to be able to do God's will in response to being informed in this way. We must not squander this opportunity. What a blessing it is for us to be informed of the good that needs to be done. How can we hesitate to take advantage of this precious opportunity when we have no map of our lives, when we are in the middle of nowhere, not knowing where to go, wandering in sin and filth, and only my eyes can find me and tell me what is good to do?

The eyes of the Lord go through the whole earth, and he reveals his power to those who are wholeheartedly devoted to him."

Hebrews 10:38 My righteous shall live by faith. If he forsakes the faith, my soul has no pleasure in it.

10:39 But we are not those who forsake faith and perish, but stand on faith and have life.

Hebrews 3:13 Exhort one another daily in "this day," lest any of you fall into the deceitfulness of sin and harden your hearts.

3:14 For if we hold fast our first confidence to the end, we shall be partakers of Christ.

3:15 For it is said, "If you have heard His voice today, do not harden your hearts, as when you turned away from God.

We can stand in faith and live by His grace in life, in light, in hope, and in His power. We thank the Lord.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank you for today's worship. Thank you so much for always watching over us, strengthening us, guiding us, and protecting and leading us in the perfect plan of the Lord toward the unseen future days, so that we can go on day by day without fear. May we not make judgments based on what we see because of our arrogance, but may we humble ourselves before God, asking for guidance and praying as we go forward this week. Reveal Your power to us as we seek Your will. Bless our families and the people in our community. We pray in the name of the Lord Jesus. Amen.