- "Do not swear" is introduced by the negative conjunction of prohibition of, μη (mé). This is followed by the present active imperative of prohibition of the verb, ὄμνυμι (ómnumi): "To take or make an <u>oath</u>: (ὅρκος [hórkos])."
- 3. This negative mandate refers to a total prohibition of swearing whether in heaven or on earth.
- 4. James goes on to include any other oath one might have in his vocabulary and referred to as "any other oath." The restrictions are considered to cover all aspects of swearing which are prohibited by the imperative mood.
- 5. The targets of this imperative are in the context of James 5:9 through 12 which are pastors-teachers or evangelists. These men were imputed one of these spiritual gifts at the moment of salvation. Some of these men pursue a communication gift while others do not.
- 6. It never crossed my mind until the 1970s, but the nuances had already begun to reveal themselves since I was inspired to pursue broadcasting. I earned a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in broadcast communications and a minor in print journalism at The University of Alabama. Post graduation, I worked in television at Montgomery's WSFA Television, the Alabama ETV studios on the Auburn campus, and developed the studios on the Troy University campus.
- 7. I mention all this because from childhood I was very willing to communicate verbally while relaxed before classmates and from public venues which ultimately led me to pursue a major in communications at Alabama.
- 8. Having an early career in electronic communications and some print, were the underpinnings of what would eventually be revealed to me that the trends to communicate verbally could just as well be expressed from a pulpit, provided I would prepare myself for the ministry.
- 9. Having the "gift of gab," as my dad referred to it, this may also have been indicators that, of all the assets I had been provided, believe it or not, one was the spiritual gift of pastor-teacher. If I am not fired by Grace Doctrine before February of 2025, I will have logged 40 years as the pastor of this local church. My first sermon at GDC occurred in mid-January 1985.
- 10. Numerous men, of both Old and New Testaments, became communicators of divine truth both written, oral, or both. God the Father knew who these men were and at the right time in history, led them to either write, teach, or do both.

- 11. With a wife and three children, for whom I was responsible, I nevertheless made the decision to pull up stakes in south Alabama and move from a town of 12thousand Trojans to the multi-million souls living in Houston, Texas, and placed my family into the congregation of Berachah Church, 2815 Sage Road, pastored by Rev. Robert B. Thieme, Jr.
- 12. For over seven years we attended Bible classes every day, Sunday through Friday. Doctrine was taught seven hours a week. I volunteered to teach the students of Berachah Prep School until I left Houston for the environs of St. Louis County, Missouri, in January 1985.
- 13. Presently, we are studying the *Letter of James* and have advanced in our studies to chapter 5, verse 12 which reads as follows:

James 5:12 <u>But</u> [$\delta \acute{e}(d\acute{e})$: the parenthesis is closed following verse 11. This resumes the context that began at James 5:9] above all fellow believers, <u>do not swear</u> [$\mu \grave{\eta}(m\acute{e})$ + the present active <u>imperative of prohibition</u> of imperative mood # 47 of the verb, $\check{o}\mu\nu\nu\mu\mu$ [$\acute{o}mnumi$]: do not engage in Operation Subterfuge (EXT)

- 14. James, chapter five, verse twelve, continues our study of verbal reversionism. In verses one through six, we had a study of monetary reversionism. Verses seven and eight, the solution to it. Verses nine through twelve, verbal reversionism. Beginning in verse thirteen we see the solution.
- 15. The word, which begins verse twelve is a particle to resume a discourse and which closes the parenthesis which occurred in verses 10 and 11. James 5:9 addresses verbal reversionism with a criticism. Verses ten and eleven, are a dissertation on studying adversity for blessing.
- 16. In verse twelve, the text resumes with the issue of verbal reversionism. Verse nine emphasizes the slander, criticism, maligning, and judging of others, especially of the pastor-teacher. The particle, $\delta \epsilon$ ($d\epsilon$) is used to resume the discourse in verse 12 and, in effect, closes the parenthesis.
- 17. The particle indicates that verses ten and eleven was an interruption. The purpose for that interruption was to take a discourse on the fact that there is suffering for blessing. This doesn't happen to be the type of suffering in this passage; but there is suffering for blessing.
- 18. The translation should be, "before all things." The discourse started out with, indicating the fact that, in verse nine, verbal reversionism results in suffering for discipline. Now, however, just because a person may be a verbal reversionist and suffer from it, there is other type of suffering, which is designed for blessing.
- 19. Now, back to verbal reversionism, and suffering for discipline in James 5:12:

James 5:12a{ This resumes the
fellow believers, do not
fellow believer

{ This resumes the context from James 5:9 } But above all fellow believers, <u>do not swear</u> [$\mu \dot{\eta} (m \tilde{e})$ + the present active of prohibition of imperative mood #47 of the verb, $\dot{o}\mu\nu\dot{\omega}$ (*omnúo*] ...

- 20. Όμνύω means to, "make a promise with an oath;" "to cover a lie by making an oath in the name of something that will function as a subterfuge." Always, <u>omnúō</u> indicates that the content of what is said, is a lie. But, in order to make it appear as the truth, make some kind of a solemn oath with it: "Subterfuge: Deception is a general term for any sort of deceiving by whatever methods or for whatever motive."¹ And, in that solemn oath, precede it with prefixes: "As God is my witness, thus and thus is true," when in reality it is not true at all. This is using God to confirm a lie. This also may be called, "Operation Subterfuge."
- 21. "But above all, my brethren (fellow believers)." This refers to members of the family of God. Man enters the family of God by personal faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. These believers are presented as fellow believers: "brothers and sisters."
- James 5:12a{ This resumes the context from James 5:9 } But above all
fellow believers, do not swear [μὴ (mḗ) + the present active of
prohibition of imperative mood # 47 of the verb, ὄμνυμι
[ómnumi]: do not engage in Operation Subterfuge ...
- 22. The negative $\mu \dot{\eta}$ ($m\dot{e}$) plus the imperative mood indicates that the believers to whom this was originally addressed were doing it. In fact, they were believers involved in verbal reversionism through speech. The present tense is a durative application which is called "retroactive linear aktionsart"²; and it indicates that these believers have been doing this ever since they got into verbal reversionism.
- 23. The active voice: the reversionistic believer uses a front for his lies to try to make them appear as the truth. Ergo: "Operation Subterfuge."
- 24. The victim of verse nine, according to what's coming up, is the pastor-teacher. The victim in verse twelve is the pastor-teacher, again. The victim can be anyone in verbal reversionism. But, in this context, it is the authority pastor-teacher has been rejected.

¹ "Deception": Subterfuge: Deception is a general term for any sort of deceiving, by whatever methods or for whatever motive," ed. Philip Babcock Gove, *Webster's Third New International Dictionary of the English Language: Unabridged* (Springfield: Merriam-Webster, Inc., 2002), 585.

² "Aktionsart," *Aktionsart* is a more objective statement of the *actual nature* of the action or situation. This is based not on the tense-form of the verb which specifies action, but on a combination of lexis (what the word means in context, this is what many intermediate and advanced Greek grammars and some commentaries are discussing when they talk about such categories as iterative, customary, tendential, gnomic, and so on. (Rodney J. Decker, *Reading Koine Greek* [Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2014)], 226).

- 25. Since his authority is rejected, he has become the object, the target for criticism in verse nine. In verse twelve, he has become the object of a series of attacks by means of subterfuge.
- 26. The lie in this context is associated with the truth but used to cover up the lie. This indicates both instability and dishonesty by those in verbal reversionism.
- 27. Now the verbal trap is sprung. The subterfuge begins first by an appeal, "Do not swear" followed by three elements: "either by heaven," followed by the second, "or by earth," or by any other "oath."
- 28. Now, what is used as a front? Our first phrase says: "either by heaven." This refers to using God as a front. "As God is my witness", people often say to cover up a lie.
- 29. God is used as the front. God is associated with truth; and, therefore, if you want to make a lie more impressive, then mention the fact that God is the witness that you are telling the truth.
- 30. We have already used the word "subterfuge" as a definition of this idea. Here is another, also from *Webster's Third New International Dictionary of the English Language* under the entry, "front":

Front, the outward, visible, or feigned bearing or behavior of a person as contrasted with his true or essential character, feelings, or condition; a person, group, or thing that is used to cover up or mislead concerning the identity or the usual illegal, harmful, or self-serving true character, purpose, or activity of the actual controlling or directing agent. (p. 914)

- 31. Another offshoot of this is to stand up in a congregational meeting and say, "It's God's will that we do it this way." That is merely an opinion. When an opinion is expressed as an absolute, it becomes a lie. To use God to front for the lie is, again, Operation Subterfuge, using something associated with truth in order to "front" for either an opinion set up as an absolute, or a lie to "front" as the truth.
- 32. Under Operation Subterfuge, a person can verbally speak a lie, and present it as a truth; take an opinion, assert it as an absolute. Doctrine is absolute. In either case, the speaker must have a façade for acceptability. God, the Bible, a noted theologian, an article, a book, or a newsletter. The next phrase in verse 12 is "either by heaven." This presents God as its Creator.
- 33. There are other ways, also, of covering a lie by setting up something that appears to be true. i.e., "either by heaven." This refers to a person using another person to cover for his lies. Someone who is usually recognized as being truthful.

- 34. The next phrase: "with any other oath," the oath being: "I swear on my mother's grave," or, "I swear on a stack of Bibles," or, "I cross my heart and hope to die." All of these are fabrications.
- 35. Now, what this verse does not mean what it appears to mean because of a poor translation. This verse does not refer to profanity. When a believer enters reversionism, one of the signs of his reversionism is dishonesty, fabricating lies, and using something for a front. Reversionism is a life of pretense, of fabrication, of mendacity, and of dissimulation.
- 36. The whole concept of reversionism is a fraud which will obviously express itself in a verbal way. This deception of life is wrapped up in pious assaults in the name of God.
- 37. An institution that stands for the truth is the court of law. It is absolutely necessary that whatever is bona fide evidence must be presented. The person who presents the evidence must tell the truth, in so far as he has observed whatever is involved, a crime, or anything else; to put his hand upon the Bible, to swear that he will "tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth." The lie is, therefore, a picture of this type of mendacity. Perjury is swearing "with any other oath."

James 5:12*a* <u>But</u> [$\delta \acute{e}$ ($d\acute{e}$)] most importantly before all things, members of the family of God, stop lying [**present active imperative #47 of the verb ǒµvoµı** (*ómnumi*)], or making promises with a solemn oath, <u>neither by heaven</u>—using God as a front, <u>neither by earth</u>, using something regarded as sacred or honest, or respectable, <u>neither a solemn oath</u>, which is perjury when this is violated ...

- 38. These sins are cited to be in opposition to those under discussion are in status quo reversionism: 1. Neither by heaven, 2. Neither by earth, 3. Neither a solemn oath.
- 39. These are references to the fact that believers are in reversionism, entering into verbal reversionism, always functioning under Operation Subterfuge; and, they always have a front for what amounts to the soul's involvement is a <u>Ménage à Trois</u>, the French term for a "household of three." (Click on link below to the visual.) <u>The Soul's Ménage à Trois in James 1:13–15</u>:

James 1:13 <u>No one may ever assert</u> **[IM #8]** when he is tempted, "I am continuously being tempted from the ultimate source of God"; for God—not tempted by evil, and He never temps anyone.

James 1:14 But each one is reluctantly dragged away through temptation when he is enticed by his own sin nature's lust pattern.

v. 15 When the lust pattern's agent provocateur copulates with free will, it creates a ménage à trois resulting in a pregnancy and, when sin gives birth, it delivers a child born dead. (EXT)

40. This takes us to the phrase, "but your yes is to be yes, and your no, no" followed by some analysis. Let's mention two Old Testament heroes who are mentioned by James in his Chapter 5: Job in verse 11, which we are <u>presently</u> studying, and Elijah in verse 17 to follow:

James 5:11 Behold [customary present active indicative of the verb, $\mu\alpha\kappa\alpha\rhoi\zeta\omega$ (*makarizō*)]! We count blessed [aorist active participle of the verb, $\delta\pi\omega\mu\epsilon\nu\omega$ (*hupoménō*)] those having endured [culminative aorist active indicative of the verb, $\delta\rho\alpha\omega$ (*horáō*)]. You have heard of the endurance of Job and you have seen the outcome of the Lord's dealings, that He is full of compassion and is merciful. (EXT)

James 5:17 Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the earth for three years and six months. (NASB)

- 1. In the supergrace life the believer has capacity for freedom, capacity for life, capacity for love, capacity for happiness, capacity for prosperity, capacity for grace. In addition to that, the supergrace believer has nobility.
- 2. True human nobility is found in the supergrace hero. We will study Elijah at the end of this passage in verse 17.
- 3. If the supergrace hero is a noble person, nobility must always be related to the truth and cannot be related to lies.
- 4. It is Lucifer who fell from a high position, the highest rank any creature has ever occupied. He fell through lying and deceit. When he came to the woman in the Garden, he said; "The wages of sin is not death. You will not die. God is just trying to protect His power over you. He is afraid that you will become as smart as He is."³

³ In Isa. 14:12 (KJV), the proper noun, Lucifer, is the Latin word for "light-bearer," and is used to translate the Hebrew word (*Heylel*), which means "radiant star." The *New American Standard Bible* translates *Heylel*, "Star of the Morning." The Hebrew text continues with the phrase (*ben-Shachar*, translated "son of the dawn") in all major English versions. Star of the Morning, Son of the Dawn refers to the superior officer of the Dark Side, the cherub-ranked fallen angel known by the monikers, Satan or devil, but whose real name is *Heylel ben-Shachar*. Employing the Latin noun, Lucifer, conveniently summarizes all of these translations. (Joe Griffin, *One Day at a Time*, ed. by John Cameron Smith (St. Charles: Joe Griffin Media Ministries, 161.)

- 5. This really appealed to the woman. She wanted to be as smart as God. Thus, she partook of the forbidden fruit to find out, not that she was as smart as God, but to find out how brilliant God really was. This did not work out for her.
- 6. Now, man can, under grace, be a noble creature. He can be honest and forthright. He can have nobility of soul. But the nobility of soul is in the super-grace area.
- 7. However, verbal reversionism caused by Operation Subterfuge, is a part of that lack of nobility that comes to the believer in reversionism.
- 8. The believer, then, building an Edification Complex of the Soul, or a super-grace believer, has nobility of soul, and therefore, honesty. He is honest, therefore, in the content of his speech. He is candid. He is frank. He is open without fraud, without deceit, without deception. This reveals his nobility of soul.
- 9. This is also why the pastor-teacher must get to supergrace as quickly as possible: because, he is dealing with the truth, and he must always present the truth as it stands, without equivocation, and without compromise, no matter who it hurts, himself or anyone else.
- 10. So far, the expanded translation of James 5:12 reads this way:

James 5:12*a* But most importantly before all things, members of the family of God, stop lying, or making promises with a solemn oath, <u>neither by heaven</u>—using God as a front, <u>neither by earth</u>, using something regarded as sacred or honest, or respectable, <u>neither a solemn oath</u>, which is perjury when this is violated ...

- 11. The verse continues in the New American Standard Bible with: "but your yes is to be yes, and your no, no," ...
- Now, we have a second use of δέ (dé), translated, "but" in the adversative use which sets up a contrast. This time it is to contrast between reversionism and supergrace: ... "but your yes is," the present active imperative mood #48 of the verb, εἰμί (ειμί).
- 13. It's an absolute status quo verb. The present tense and the imperative mood are a command to perpetuate something. It should always be that way; there should be no exception to it: "your yes is to be yes, and your no, no."
- 14. This is an idiom which demands honesty and straightforwardness of soul. It demands nobility and integrity of soul. It demands an expression of the soul's content in speech. Honest, noble, related to doctrine, related to establishment.
- 15. Honesty and integrity are words that describe principles based on truth and properly subscribed to carry the ideas of absolutes. Our government and an enlarging number of the nation's citizens have adopted the lie to achieve personal advantages to the disadvantage of others.

- 16. This leads us to observe the present Zeitgeist of the staggering foundation of what's left of client-nation United States. Here are some observations that presently define the potential downfall of our country, by the intervention of multiple actors that have far different notions of how it ought to be governed.
- 17. What follows is a synopsis of what may serve as a synopsis of what was viewed as serious threat to our republic at the time. Yet for over a half century the nation has somehow survived. What was discussed then were pertinent threats but by the grace of God has not yet come to pass.
- 18. Yet, when the Dark Side, under the relentless influence of Lucifer and his army of fallen angels, is obligated to carry out his pernicious strategy of global tyranny, then it only requires the shrinkage of thought and resultant failure of application by believers to foment a global rebellion.
- 19. The human minions who have unknowingly allied themselves with the current political administrators have become the worker bees to give the idea of global domination over to demons and unbelievers.
- 20. This situation is made evident by what has occurred globally over the last three years with prospects it will continue for another year or so and possibly for at least another five years.
- 21. All the Bad Guys have the personnel, the armaments, the strategies, and the inclination to foment World War III. Presently armed and ready are: Russia, China, Iran, all three armed with nuclear weapons with the intent to enforce their will on the West.
- 22. Aiding and abetting these enemies are those whose eyes are focused on personal political power and wealth by leaders who do not recognize that they will not survive to enjoy fruits of victory due to military defeat.
- 23. The United States cannot defend itself against the three powers, each nuclear armed, which have their focus on what may well be easy pickings for an ill-prepared target.
- 24. Over the past three years, the nation has been systematically invaded by the dregs, criminals, and miscreants from over 160 countries. Around 8 million have casually walked across the nation's southern border with another several million at least to follow if a new administration has the wherewithal to deal with the chaos.
- 25. Into this environment is not the peace and prosperity previously enjoy during the previous administrations but instead by those presently in control whose clear intent is to foment division among their own citizens in favor of those who invade the country without any restraint.

- 26. While this increasing number of people continue to arrive daily, the streets of the larger cities of America are as dangerous as those in third-world countries. The lawless burn, riot, rob, destroy, kill, and leave devastated behind the smoking ruins of what hours before were businesses which insolvent insurance companies were unable to cover.
- 27. What is described above does not mean these things will occur since we have no one who can prophesy the future. But one this is for sure: should the nation somehow survive this self-induced cacophony there may be some way to restore order.
- 28. We have just learned in James 5, verses 9–12, that when hard times come, those who learn from their mistakes have the option to either cave into the pressure or make decisions to change their ways of thinking toward biblical and establishment absolute and piece their lives and/or the nation back together.
- 29. Retrospectively, we already should have learned a lot from the last three-plus years of chaos. What this nation and its leaders have fomented on its citizens, businesses, property, income, and freedoms over this time is quite enough of a tutorial to instruct the souls of the attentive that those who unleashed this madness on the citizens should never again allow revolutionaries to get another chance to try it again.
- 30. However, if those who brokered this rebellion simply thought it was worth another effort, they may well be encouraged to run the same play again. If that comes to past, then we will know the answer to this literally "explosive question": we all will be hoist by our own petards.
- 31. It is interesting how all this has played out over three-plus years. For years we have built up our military by concern over the military machinations of the Russians, Chinese, and now, even Iranians to hold them at bay. But these three adversaries have been lurking about for decades.
- 32. What if that trifecta was just being patient? What if they were able to discern that with patience, American's loss of thought would play right into their hands? What if the American government astoundingly just opened its southern border and welcomed in every riffraff from160 countries to casually walk across the southern and northern borders, view them all on television, well-dressed, yet with nothing more than that they could carry. None have run across; all have just leisurely strolled along confident they would be taken care of with phones, credit cards, places to live, and with carte blanch latitude to rob, pillage, attack, or murder.

- 33. Who is it that has primarily allowed this to occur in the clear light of day? Not the "new citizens." Most are dressed to the nines. Not the dreaded bad guys from Russia, China, and Iran. Not even our Dear Leader. There is a tactic in football called "flooding the zone." When the defense has a breakdown, the offense has a field day. Primarily, the zone that was flooded was the State of Texas and to a less degree by California and New Mexico and the Canadian influx from the north. These borders continue to be crossed unmolested well into the invasion's fourth year.
- 34. Who opened the zone? Not Vladimir Putin, not Che Jinping, and not Ali Khamenei. They've enjoyed their time off in favor of Joseph Robinette Biden Jr. These three are probably planning to just play golf with eyes on Augusta for several rounds at the Masters.
- 35. Why was the overthrow of previous client nations so easily done? Well, probably all of them were, but ours could surely be near the top of the list. It will go down as an embarrassing display of Duck Soup. Easy pickings!
- 36. How therefore did our client nation become so vulnerable? First, it is important to remember that since the fall in Eden, the angelic conflict has been administered by Lucifer and his fallen angels. God has his troops identified as believers in Jesus Christ.
- 37. Lucifer's army has eternal life and superior intellect and resources. God's troops are Homo sapiens with less intellect but equipped to grow in grace and accrue immutable absolutes for the contest. However, Lucifer never lets up. He has a superior force that can only be overwhelmed by those who deploy divine viewpoint. Lucifers forces never die. God's get older and gradually do die.
- 38. During the vacillations of the angelic conflict there occurs a gradual loss of thought in any client nation. Serious study of the Word of God requires consistency, concentration, spiritual growth, retention, and application.
- 39. The downfall of a client nation gradually occurs when those who have advanced die off when at the same time there is a spinoff into negative positive volition. Into that vacuum rushes the cosmic lie.
- 40. When this loss of thought occurs, then historical downtrends begin to allow the strategies and tactics of the lie to slowly gain the advantage. As the situation deteriorates, then the advantage swings toward Lucifer's more prepared and intellectually superior warriors. Remember, those who fight in Lucifer's army are the ones who have systematically taken down all client nations thus far from Rome to Europe while the USA is presently standing as the next client nation on deck.

(End JAS-19. See JAS-20 for continuation of study at p. 191.)