

# **“Drawing Near to God”**

## **James 4:8**

### Introduction

- I. How far away do you think God is (Acts 17:27)?
- II. Did you know that God wants you to be near to Him (James 4:8)?
- III. It will be our choice as to how close to God we really are (Isa. 59:1-2).

### Discussion

- I. Why draw near to God?
  - A. Reverence and fear (Psm. 76:7; 90:11; 111:9; Rom. 2:5).
  - B. Power and wisdom (Psm. 147:5; Heb. 4:13; Rev. 19:6).
  - C. Love, mercy, and compassion (Psm. 86:15; 1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Pet. 3:9).
- II. How do sinners draw near to God?
  - A. Through Christ and His blood (Eph. 2:13, 18; Heb. 7:25).
  - B. Hearing and learning of the Father (John 6:44-45).
  - C. According to God's Will (Heb. 7:19; 10:9-10).
- III. How do Christians draw near to God?
  - A. With a true heart (Heb. 10:22; Psm. 34:18).
  - B. Through prayer (Psm. 145:18; Heb. 4:16).
  - C. Through worship (1 Cor. 10:16; Heb. 13:15).
  - D. Through living godly lives (1 John 1:7).
- IV. Be careful not to be drawn away from God!
  - A. Our hearts can be far from Him (Matt. 15:8-9).
  - B. We can draw back unto perdition (Heb. 10:39).
  - C. We can ignore and disobey His Word (Jer. 6:16; 18:12; James 4:17).

### Conclusion

- I. God wants us to be near to Him.
- II. Our choices and actions dictate just how close we really are to God.