

authorities, everything points to an easy-to-understand conclusion, yet the unstable person thinks they know better than everyone and everything else.

Not only is a double minded person unstable and unreliable, they are often the epitome of arrogance. They will frequently speak of the many great things that they have done and the wisdom that they have. If you always think you are right and everyone else is wrong, please read your Bible carefully. You have placed yourself in a very precarious position.

*“Pride goeth before **destruction**, and an haughty spirit before a fall.”*
(Proverbs 16:18)

*“A man's pride shall **bring him low**: but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit.”* (Proverbs 29:23)

“But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.”
(James 4:6)

Can You Be Trusted?

God is very interested in the integrity of people. His desire is that His people walk in a manner that is worthy of His Name.

*“A **GOOD** name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour*

rather than silver and gold.”
(Proverbs 22:1)

“Better is the poor that walketh in his integrity, than he that is perverse in his lips, and is a fool.”
(Proverbs 19:1)

A double minded person cannot earn a “good name”. Who can trust them?

A double minded person is easily swayed. Smooth talkers will readily deceive the double minded. One day they believe one thing and the next day they believe another.

While they may quote Scripture, they are not truly rooted in the Word of God!

Can God and His people rely on you?

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**CAN YOU BE
COUNTED ON?**

By: Robert W. Dallmann

*“A **double minded** man is **unstable** in all his ways.”* (James 1:8)

*“Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye **double minded**.”*
(James 4:8)

Obviously being *double minded* is not a virtue. The Greek word used in these verses for double minded, is the word “dipsychos”. This word means:

wavering, uncertain, doubting, divided in interest (See the Strong's Concordance G1374.)

The Greek word for "unstable" is "akatastatos" (Strong's G182). This word means:

CAN YOU BE COUNTED ON?

unstable, inconstant, restless

Therefore, a person of divided interests, a doubter, cannot be trusted or relied on!

Who Is James Addressing?

When studying Scripture, it is always important to know who the author's intended audience is. Is the writer addressing believers? Is he talking about the heathen? These questions must be answered in order to accurately apply the passage.

In this case, James is instructing Christians. This can be seen in the following verses:

*“**My brethren**, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; ⁽³⁾ Knowing this, that the **trying of your faith** worketh patience.”*
(James 1:2-3)

*“**Submit** yourselves therefore **to God**. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.”* (James 4:7)

James is not speaking to unbelievers. The ungodly are not double minded, they knowingly or unknowingly are singly serving their master, the god of this world, Satan. (See 2 Corinthians 4:4)

James is warning Christians against having divided loyalties. He tells us that unreliable Christians should not expect to receive anything from God.

Does God Answer Your Prayers?

“But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. ⁽⁷⁾ For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.” (James 1:6-7)

If God is not answering your prayers, is it possible that you are “double minded”? Here are a few things to consider that might help you identify your stability as a believer.

- Can my pastor and other spiritual leaders count on me?
- Do I talk about people behind their backs?
- Do other Christians trust me?
- Do I form my doctrines based upon what my favorite teacher says or do I study the Bible myself to develop my convictions?
- Do my convictions change often? Am I swayed by every wind of doctrine?

- If I knew someone exactly like me, would I trust them with my life?

If one gives serious consideration to these thoughts and questions, God can use this meditation to reveal our hearts to us. Once the condition of our own heart is illuminated, God will work on correcting issues in our lives.

Who Are You To Judge Another?

*“**Humble yourselves** in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up. ⁽¹¹⁾ **Speak not evil one of another**, brethren... ⁽¹²⁾ There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy: **who art thou that judgest another?**”*
(James 4:10-12)

*“Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth **take heed lest he fall.**”*
(1 Corinthians 10:12)

Double minded people are normally haughty. They pass judgments from a self-righteous and arrogant position.

Even though the Bible may clearly state something, and it is so plain that young children understand it, the double minded person's pre-conceived *opinions* are correct. All of the facts, all of the spiritual