

James 5:12a { This resumes the context from James 5:9 } But above all fellow believers, do not swear [μή (*mē*) + the present active of prohibition of imperative mood #47 of the verb, ὀμνύω (*omnúō*)] ...

20. Ὀμνύω 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, *omnúō* 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 [μή (*mē*) + the present active of prohibition of imperative mood # 47 of the verb, ὀμνύμι [*ómnumi*]: do not engage in Operation Subterfuge ...

22. The negative μή (*mē*) 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 5:12a But [δέ (dé)] most importantly before all things, members of the family of God, stop lying [present active imperative #47 of the verb ὀμνῶμι (ómnumi)], or making promises with a solemn oath, neither by heaven—using God as a front, neither by earth, using something regarded as sacred or honest, or respectable, neither a solemn oath, 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 *Ménage à Trois*, the French term for a “household of three.” (Click on link below to the visual.) The Soul's Ménage à Trois in James 1:13–15:

James 1:13 No one may ever assert [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 tempts 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 presently studying, and Elijah in verse 17 to follow:

James 5:11 Behold [customary present active indicative of the verb, μακαρίζω (*makarízō*)]! We count blessed [aorist active participle of the verb, ὑπομένω (*hupoménō*)] those having endured [culminative aorist active indicative of the verb, ὁράω (*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.)

