Introduction:

The term “double minded” means “two-spirited, i.e. vacillating (in opinion or purpose).” Truly, there are many double minded people in today’s world. We even find double minded people in churches where we are supposed to believe that the Bible is the inerrant Word of God and that through it God has revealed to mankind unchanging truths, solid doctrine, and unswerving principles. Sadly, however, many people are not prepared to believe God meant what He said and said what He meant; therefore, they are not willing to take a stand for God on doctrine, principles, or issues that are mentioned in Scripture. For one reason or another, people would rather vacillate in their opinions and purposes than to live according to solid, unmoveable, unchangeable truths that are taught in the Bible.

This morning, God has a message for us that will help us to see that He does not approve of the one who is double minded in their opinions and purposes and that He certainly is not double minded. We will also see two reasons why we should not be double minded in our opinions and purposes and that the practice of “singleness of heart” is His will for His churches.

The term double minded is only found twice in the Bible – Jam. 1:8; 4:8 (both of which are our text for this sermon).

I. God does not speak favourably about the double minded person.

A. In Jam. 1:8, God states that this person is unstable (inconstant) in all his ways. Note! – the double minded, unstable person, to their own destruction, is guilty of twisting, perverting the Scriptures – 2 Pet. 3:16, “As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest [to twist; pervert], as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction.”

B. In Jam. 4:8, God commands the double minded person to purify their heart (implying that there are spiritual impurities [some sort of sin] in the heart of the one who is double minded – Sin of unbelief? Sin of distrust? Sin of rebellion?).

II. God is certainly not a double minded Person, One who vacillates in opinion and purpose.

Job 23:13, “But he is in one mind, and who can turn him…”

Mal. 3:6, “For I am the LORD, I change not…”

Heb. 13:8, “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.”
III. God gives us reasons as to why we should not be double minded in our opinions and purposes. Let us note two of these reasons:

A. It is impossible to serve two masters - Mt. 6:24, “No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.” Note! – 1 Tim. 6:9-10.

B. Christians are to be stedfast and unmoveble (the opposite of vacillation) – 1 Cor. 15:58, “Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast [settled], unmoveable [immoveable], always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.” The Bible stands like a rock undaunted and so should we.

IV. God does not want double mindedness to be present in His churches. His will is for “singleness of heart” to prevail.


Phil. 1:27, “Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel:”

Conclusion:

The cure for double mindedness is to simply believe that what God said, He meant. God is certainly not a double minded Person; neither does He want us to be double minded people.

If we want God to look upon us favourably, we need to live as He would have us to live; i.e., with singleness of heart – believing, obeying, and standing upon His truth. Let us make sure that we believe that the Bible is the infallible, inerrant, and unchanging Word of God. Upon that premise, let us learn what God says in His Book and allow Him to implant Biblical convictions in our hearts. (BTW – the Holy Spirit teaches only one truth concerning Bible truths.) As God’s people, let us joyfully determine that we are not going to doubt His truths, His doctrines, and His principles; but, with singleness of heart, unflinchingly and unswervingly stand upon and for that which He teaches in His Holy Word.