

JAMES
LESSON 1
CHAPTER 1: 1 – 12
REAL FAITH IS MATURE, INSIGHT, AND STABLE

***JAMES IS ALL ABOUT SPIRITUAL GROWTH. THE EPISTLE OF JAMES IS A CALL FOR GENUINE SPIRITUAL CHANGE IN THE LORD. THE CALL IS NOT FOR THE FAINTHEARTED. FROM THE FIRST VERSE TO THE LAST, JAMES EXPECTS GREAT THINGS OF THOSE WHO TAKE GOD SERIOUSLY – JAMES MESSAGE IS THE REWARDS OF HUMBLE OBEDIENCE – JAMES TELLS US WITHOUT HESITATION THAT ANYONE WHO HEARS THE VOICE OF GOD AND MAKES A PERSONAL COVENANT TO OBEY GODS VOICE WILL NEVER BE THE SAME AGAIN.**

***JAMES IS ONE OF THE MOST EXCITING AND LIFE CHANGING STUDIES OF GODS WORD.**

***THIS WILL BE A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY AND LIFE – GIVING CHALLENGES AT EVERY TURN. YOU COULD SAY THAT JAMES IS A ROADMAP FOR AUTHENTIC SPIRITUAL FORMTION.**

***JAMES IS A VEHICLE THAT WILL MOVE YOU TOWARD YOUR SPIRITUAL GOALS.**

***SO IN THE SPIRIT OF JAMES, THE TIME FOR TALKING IS OVER.**

***ITS TIME TO TAKE ACTION**

***KEY VERSE: JAMES 1: 5**

A. INTRODUCTION:

***WE MUST UNDERSTAND, THERE CAN BE NO TRUE UNDERSTANDING OF GODS WORD APART FROM PRAYER. PAUL GAVE US A GREAT EXAMPLE HAS HE INTERCEDED ON BEHALF OF THE EPHESIANS.**

***EPHESIANS 1: 17 – 18**

***LETS PRAY AND ASK GOD TO GIVE US “THE SPIRIT OF WISDOM & REVELATION AS WE STUDY JAMES.**

B. DISCOVER

a. WHEN WE STUDY GODS WORD WE MUST DISCOVER THE TRUTHS THAT’S IN GODS WORD.

***DISCOVER COMES THE GREEK WORD (APOCALUPSIS) LITERALLY TO UNVEIL OR TO REVEAL. IT IS FROM THIS WORD WE GET THE NAME OF THE LAST BOOK OF THE BIBLE (REVELATIONS).**

b. THE FIRST 12 VERSES OF JAMES IS ON FIRE, HE LAID OUT THE LIFE LINE. A LOT OF KEY WORDS AND FACTS CONTAINRD IN THESE TEXT – WE NEED TO UN – COVER WHAT GOD IS SAYING IN THESE VERSES.

***UN – COVER / UN – COVERING, THE GREEK WORD FOR TRUTH IS ALETHEIA AND LITERALLY MEANS “NO COVER”.**

***WHO ARE THE 12 TRIBES MNTIONED IN VERSE 1?**

c. TWELVE TRIBES REFERS TO CHRISTIANS WHO WERE PERSECUTED BY DRIVEN OUT OF AND SCATTERED FROM JERUSALEM.

***ACTS 8: 1**

d. SINCE JAMES WAS THE LEADER OF THE JERUSALEM CONGREGATION, IT WAS ONLY NATURAL THAT HE WRITE TO THEM REGARDING THEIR FAITH.

e. JAMES GIVES US TWO WORDS:

1. TRIALS – JAMES 1: 2

2. TEMPTATION – JAMES 1: 13

f. TRIAL IN THE GREEK IS (PEIRASMOS). IT IS ALSO THE SAME WORD FOR TEMPTATION.

g. JESUS IN THE LORDS PRAYER USES THIS WORD

***MATTHEW 6: 13**

***1 PETER 4: 12**

h. KEY WORDS TO START OF THE BOOK OF JAMES

***WHY DOES JAMES FOLLOW UP ON THESE TRIALS AND TEMPTATION WITH THE WORD WISDOM?**

***WHO IS JAMES?**

1. THE LAST BROTHER OF THE LORD

2. A SERVANT OF GOD

3. SON OF ALPHAEIUS

4. THE BROTHER OF JOHN, THE SON OF ZEBEDEE

5. PRIOR TO JESUS DEATH & RESURRECTION ALONG WITH HIS BROTHER DID NOT BELIEVE

6. AUTHOR OF JAMES

7. THE LEADER OF THE CHURCH IN JERUSALEM

8. HE WAS NUMBERED WITH THE BELIEVERS IN ACTS 1: 14

C. DISCOVER

a. WE MADE AN OBSERVATION OF JAMES, DISCOVER, NOW LETS DISCERN, INTERPRET.

b. SOME KEY THAT JAMES GAVE US WAS:

1. COUNT IT ALL JOY WHEN FALLING INTO VARIOUS TRIALS.
2. TESTING OF YOUR FAITH PRODUCES PATIENCE
3. PERFECT / MUTURE
4. LACKS WISDOM
5. GIVES TO ALL LIBERALLY
6. ASK IN FAITH, WITH NO DOUBTING
7. DOUBLE – MINDED MAN, UNSTABLE IN ALL HIS WAYS
8. THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE RICH AND POOR
9. BLESSED IS THE MAN WHO ENDURES TEMPTATION
10. HE WILL RECEIVE A CROWN

*PSALM 25: 4

D. DEVOTE

a. THE IMPORTANT CONCEPTS IN THIS STEP OF THE STUDY ARE COMMITMENT AND OBEDIENCE. IT IS TRULY HERE WE ARE INDUCTED OR DRAWN INTO THE WORD.

b. WE NEED TO GRASP ON WHAT THE TEXT MEANS

*QUESTION: WHAT DOES THIS SCRIPTURE MEAN TO ME PERSONALLY?

*THE DEVOTE STEP IS THAT PERSONAL PART OF THE WHOLE STUDY

c. KING DAVID WAS NO STRANGER TO SPICTURE CRISES IN HIS LIFE, HERE IS HIS PRAYER

*PSALM 51: 7

d. DAVID KNEW THAT GOD ALONE WAS THE ANSWER TO HIS SPIRITUAL NEEDS

*QUESTION:

1. IS GOD PLEASED WITH THE WAY I HAVE BEEN RESPONDING TO TRIALS IN MY LIFE? JAMES 1: 2
2. DO I HAVE ENOUGH SPIRITUAL PATIENCE TO LET GOD HAVE HIS PERFECT WORK IN MY LIFE?
JAMES 1: 4
3. IN LIGHT OF MY SPIRITUAL JOURNEY THUS FAR, WHERE DO I NEED GODS WISDOM MOST?
JAMES 1: 5
4. AM I A DIVIDED PERSON BEFORE GOD? DO YOU DOUBT GOD AND HIS WORD?
5. HOW DO I REALLY FEEL ABOUT THE RICHES OF THIS WORLD?

e. CONFESSION – GREEK WORD IS (HOMOLOGEO) LITERALLY MEANS TO SAY THE SAME THING – TO SAY THE SAME THING AS THE SPIRIT THAT IS TO BE WILLING TO AGREE WITH THE SPIRIT CONCERNING THE SHORTCOMINGS AND SINS IN OUR LIFE. WE MUST BE READY TO ALLOW THE HOLY SPIRIT TO DO HIS PERFECT WORK IN US AS WE STUDY THE BIBLE.

***HEBREWS 13: 21**

E. DISCIPLE

***THE DEVOTE STEP FOCUSED ON THE INTERNAL WORK**

***THE DISCIPLE STEP IS CONCERNED WITH THE EXTERNAL MANIFESTATION OF GOD IN OUR LIVES**

***QUESTION: WHAT THE SCRIPTURE REQUIRE ME TO DO**

***THE DISCIPLE STEP IS A CALL TO ACTION**

***IN LIGHT OF WHAT I HAVE LEARNED FROM JAMES 1: 1 – 12 I NEED TO COMMIT TO:**

1. REJOICE IN THE MIDST OF TRIALS, KNOWING IN FAITH THAT GOD IS WORKING ALL THINGS FOR MY GOOD. ROMANS 8: 28

2. ASK FOR DIVINE WISDOM WHEN FACING CHALLENGING TIMES IN MY LIFE

3. TAKE THE PATH OF FAITH AND RESIST SUCCUMING TO DOUBT

4. MAINTAIN A PROPER PERSPECTIVE ON THE MATERIAL THINGS OF THIS WORLD

5. SET MY EYES ON THE “CROWN OF LIFE” RATHER THAN HAVING MY IDENTITY AND FUTURE BE DETERMINED BY THE VALUES OF THIS WORLD.

***WE ARE, NOT ONLY CALLED TO BE DISCIPLES, BUT CALLED TO DISCIPLE OTHERS**

***JAMES NOT ONLY CALLS US TO BELIEVE SOMETHING, BUT HE WANTS US TO ACT ON WHAT WE BELIEVE**

***JAMES 1: 22**

**NEXT WEEK
JAMES 1: 13 – 27**

REAL FAITH IS NOT SHALLOW OR EMPTY

