

JAMES LESSON – 10
CHAPTER 5: 10 – 20
REAL FAITH BELIEVES IN PRAYER

KEY VERSE: JAMES 5: 19, 20

A. INTRODUCTION

a. THSES TWO VERSES CAPTURE THE ENTIRE VISION OF JAMES. ALL OF HIS WARNINGS AND PROPHETIC EXHORTATION WERE INTENDED TO BRING BACK THOSE WHO HAD WANDERED FROM THE TRUTH. HIS BURNING ZEAL WAS TO TURN SINNERS FROM THEIR SIN SO THEY COULD ESCAPE THE CERTAIN FATE OF DEATH.

***JAMES 1: 15**

b. ALL OF HIS PLEADINGS, THROUGH HARSH AT TIMES, WERE TO BRING GOD’S ATONING GRACE TO BEAR UPON THE SIN PROBLEM SO THAT INNUMERABLE SIN’S MIGHT BE ERADICATED.

c. IN THIS LAST SECTION, JAMES RECAPS ALL OF THE MAJOR THEMES HE HAS ADDRESSED IS HIS EPISTLE JAMES IS SUMMARIZING EVERYTHING HE HAS SAID THUS FAR. IN THESE VERSES ALLOW YOUR MIND TO RECALL ALL OF THE FINE POINTS THE APOSTLE HAS PRESENTED THROUGHOUT HIS EPISTLE.

d. WE NEED TO ASK FOR THE SPIRIT’S HELP IN MAKING THE LIFE – IMPACTING MESSAGE OF JAMES REAL IN OUR LIVES.

***PRAY**

***JAMES TAUGHT US THAT WITHOUT THE HELP OF THE SPIRIT, WE CANNOT RIGHTLY FOLLOW THE PATHS TO DISCIPLESHIP – THIS IS THE KIND OF KNOWLEDGE THAT LIES AT THE HEART OF TRUE SPIRITUALITY.**

***PSALM 25: 4 – 5 – THE PSALMIST PRAYS**

***WE NEED TO PRAY AND ASK GOD TO REVEAL HIS WAYES, TEACH US HIS PATHS AND GUIDE US.**

***JAMES 5: 10 – 20**

B. DISCOVER

a. JESUS HAS SAVED THE BEST FOR LAST. MANY ECHOES AND REFERENCES TO THE OLD TESTAMENT IN THIS FINAL SECTION OF HIS EPISTLE – WE NEED TO DRAW OUT THE RICH CONNECTIONS THAT JAMES HAS MADE TO THE PROPHETS OF OLD.

***JAMES 5: 10**

b. JAMES, EXPLICITLY SPEAKS OF THE PATIENCE THAT THE PROPHETS DEMONSTRATED IN THE FACE OF SUFFERING.

***QUESTION: HOW MIGHT JAMES EXHORTATION TO PATIENCE IN THE MIDST OF TRIAL (JAMES 5: 10 – 11) RELATE TO WHAT HE HAS ALREADY SAID IN JAMES 1: 2 – 3?**

***JAMES 1: 12 WHAT DOES JAMES MEAN IN THE VERSE?**

***JAMES 5: 11 WHAT IS JAMES SAYING ON THE REWARDS THE SAINTS WILL RECEIVE AT THE SECOND COMING?**

***HOW DO THE WORDS OF JAMES IN 5: 13 CONTRAST WITH WHAT HE HAS ALREADY SAID IN JAMES 1: 13 – 16?**

C. DISCERN

***JAMES 5: 10 – 20 WORDS REPEATED**

- 1. PRAYER**
- 2. SICKNESS**
- 3. HEALINGS**

***JAMES 5: 11 JAMES REFERS TO JOB, DESCRIBES HIM AS AN EXTRAORDINARY EXAMPLE OF BEING PATIENT IN THE MIDST OF TRIAL**

a. UNLIKE THOSE WHO BLAMED GOD FOR THEIR TRIALS AND TEMPTATIONS JOB REFUSED TO DO SO

***JOB 13: 15**

***JOB WAS A MAN WHO PRAYED GREAT PRAYERS**

***JOB 16: 19 – 21 WHAT AN AMAZING PRAYER**

b. IT SEEMS THAT LONG BEFORE THE INCARNATION AND ASCENSION OF CHRIST, JOB HAD A VISION OF THE LORDS INTERCESSION FOR US

***HEBREWS 7: 25**

***ROMANS 8: 34**

***JOB MAY EVEN BE SPEAKING OF THE INTERCESSION OF THE HOLY SPIRIT LONG BEFORE THE DAY OF PENTECOST**

***ACTS 2: 4**

***ROMANS 8: 26 – 27**

c. THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS WILL HELP YOU IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATION OF THE STUDY

1. JAMES 5: 10 – 20 GRANTS US RARE INSIGHT INTO THE WORSHIP EXPERIENCE OF THE EARLY CHURCH – WE SEE SINGING OF SONGS – THE OFFERING OF PRAISE, LAYING ON OF HANDS, - ANOINTING OF OIL.

2. JAMES 5: 16 THE WORD CONFESS LITERALLY MEANS “TO SAY THE SAME THING” OR TO AGREE WITH GOD

3. JAMES SPEAKS ABOUT ELEMENTS THAT CAN BE FOUND IN NATURE, SUCH AS RAIN, SOIL AND CROPS.

d. HERE ARE SOME POINTS THAT WILL GUIDE YOUR THOUGHTS AS YOU SEEK TO COMBINE AND COORINATE EVERYTHING THAT HAS COME TO LIGHT IN THIS PASSAGE.

1. HOW MIGHT THE “PRAYER OF FAITH,” JAMES 5: 15 RELATE TO THE “GOOD AND PERFECT GIFTS COMING DOWN FROM THE FATHEROF LIGHTS” JAMES 1: 17?

2. WHAT KIND OF CONNECTIONS DO YOU THINK JAMES WANTS US TO DRAW BETWEEN THE EXPERIENCE OF PRAYER, FAITH, AND THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS JAMES 5: 13 – 16?

3. JAMES 5:17 WHY DOES JAMES CITE THE PERSON AND EXPERIENCE OF ELIJAH?

D. DENOTE

a. THERE IS SO MUCH IN THIS PASSAGE THAT CALLS OUT TO US AS BELIEVERS – JAMES WOULD HAVE US TO PATIENTLY ENDURE PERIODS OF STRESS AND TRIALS

***JAMES 5: 12**

***JAMES EXHORTS US TO BE EFFECTUAL IN PRAYER**

***THIS IS THE “BIG THING” OF OUR CHRISTIAN LIFE – THINGS WE NEED TO CONTINUALLY PRAY ABOUT**

b. ONE OF THE MOST DRAMATIC STORIES IN THE LIFE OF JESUS WAS THE DESPERATE PLEA OF A FATHER FOR HIS SON

***MARK 9: 17 – 27 – JESUS SAID IN V. 23 – 24. THE POINT HERE IS THAT EVEN IF WE DO NOT HAVE PERFECT FAITH THAT DOES NOT MEAN OUR PRAYERS WILL GO UNANSWERED.**

***AS YOU SEEK TO RESPOND TO JAMES CALL IN THESE SCRIPTURES, ACT ON THE FAITH THAT YOU HAVE IN ORDER THAT GOD MIGHT GRANT YOU EVEN MORE INCREASE OF FAITH.**

c. THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ARE DESIGNED TO HELP YOU COMMIT TO A HIGHER LEVEL OF FAITH IN THE LORD

1. WHAT TYPES OF TRIALS QUICKLY EXHAUST YOUR PATIENCES?

2. DO YOU FEEL CONFIDENT IN JUST GIVING YOUR WORD, OR DO YOU HAVE TO RESORT TO SWEARING IN AN ATTEMPT TO GET PEOPLE TO BELIEVE YOU?

3. WHEN IN TROUBLE, IS YOUR FIRST IMPULSE TO PRAY?

4. WHEN YOU ARE HAPPY, DO YOU, WITHOUT THINKING, BEGIN TO SING PRAISES TO THE LORD?

5. WHEN SICK, DO YOU HAVE FAITH TO BELIEVE THAT THE LORD CAN HEAL YOU BY THE LAYING ON OF HANDS AND THE ANOINTING OIL?

E.

a. WHEN MAKING COMMITMENTS TO THE LORD, IT REQUIRES CONCRETE ACTION IF THEY ARE GOING TO HAVE REAL MEANING IN OUR LIVES.

***WE MUST ACT UPON OUR COVENANT WITH THE LORD**

b. A COMMITMENT TO GOD

1. I WILL LET MY YES BE YES AND MY NO BE NO

2. I WILL TAKE MATTERS INTO MY OWN HANDS WHEN ENCOUNTERING TRIALS AND DIFFICULTIES, OR WILL I TURN TO FAITH – PRAYER – PRAISE AND THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS WORKING THROUGH OTHERS TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF LIFE.

3. REFUSE TO BE DEFENSIVE WHEN I AM IN THE WRONG I WILL CONFESS MY FAULTS TO THOSE CONCERNED AND SEEK TO RECEIVE THEIR FORGIVENESS.

***JAMES 5: 19 – 20**

a. JAMES TALKS ABOUT DISCIPLING OTHERS, WE ARE TO REDIRECT THOSE WHO HAVE WANDERED FROM THE FAITH.

***THE ENTIRE GOAL OF MAKING DISCIPLES IS TO TURN SINNERS FROM THEIR SIN, DIRECT THEM TOWARD SALVATION, DELIVER THEM FROM DEATH, AND BY GODS GRACE, BE INSTRUMENTAL IN COVERING A MULTITUDE OF SINS.**

***EPHESIANS 1: 17 OUR PRAYER, GOD GRANT ME THE SPIRIT OF WISDOM AND REVELATION, SO THAT WE CAN FULFILL THE GREAT COMMISSION AND LEAD MANY ON THE PATH TO DISCIPLESHIP.**

