

Just live it.

Do not merely listen to the word, and
so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

James 1:22

To all those who desire to know Him better,

“Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.” – James 1:2-4

Welcome to this study of James. My hope is that over the next few weeks this book comes alive to each of us as we strive to listen to God’s word and study it well. My prayer, echoing James, is that we as men would be faithful to the truth and continue to walk in it.

This is an inductive Bible study which means its aim (and ours) is to allow the text to speak for itself as we humbly listen to God’s words. These pages are a guide to help you to learn how to dig deep as you study the Bible and apply it to your life. This study is designed to help you become a confident and competent student of the Bible.

A few ideas to get the most out of this study:

- **Prepare well.** If you are willing to spend 1 ½ to 3 hours on this study every week you will enjoy the study and see it come alive. Every section of the Bible Study is important so make the most of each. Don’t be afraid to ask for help or advice on how to complete the study well. Remember that this word will thoroughly equip you for every good work. (1 Tim 3:17).
- **Make attending study a priority.** As we study the Bible we are not just a study group, but a fellowship, a subset of the body of Christ. As you gather with your study every week God can use the words and lives of others to challenge and encourage you, and He can use your life to do the same. To this end I encourage you to share the ideas and thoughts that God has given you during Bible Study.
- **Pray!** Bible study is a spiritual activity. We are not studying physics we are interacting with the Word of God and communing with our Lord. Ask God to open your ears to hear His word and pray that He would use it to transform your life. Pray before beginning each study and pray as you work on it. Pray for God to give you applications from His word.

The goal of Bible study is to be transformed into men who will transform the world for Christ. If you devote your heart, mind, time, and energy to studying God’s word He will change you. If you are changed by God, you will change the world.

So dive in, dig deep, and see what riches our God has in store. “But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him.” – James 1:5

Michael

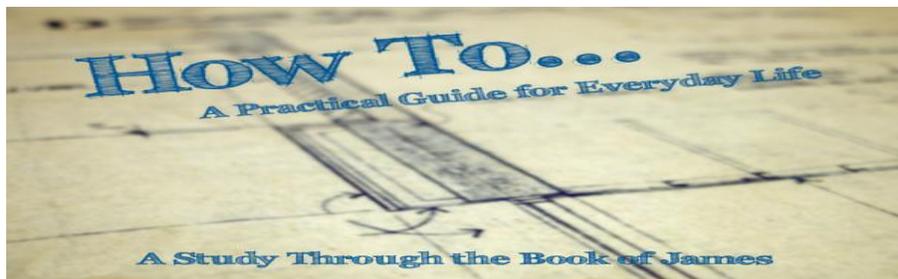


Table of Contents

Introduction

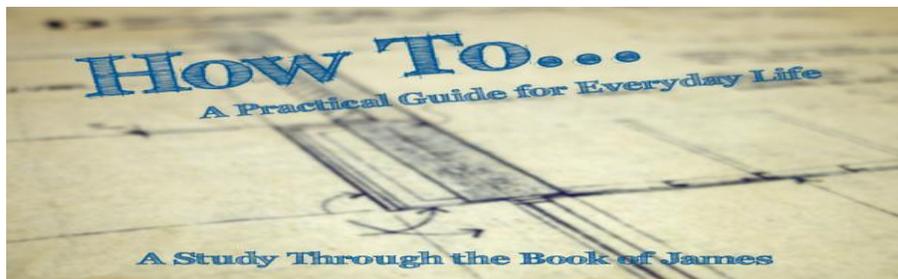
Approaching God's Word	4
Introduction to James	5
How to do this Bible Study	7

James Bible Study

Study 1: Overview	13	<i>Memory verse(s): James 1:16-17</i>
Study 2: James 1:1-18	22	<i>Memory verse(s): James 1:2-3</i>
Study 3: James 1:19-27	27	<i>Memory verse(s): James 1:19-20</i>
Study 4: James 2:1-13	32	<i>Memory verse(s): James 1:27</i>
Study 5: James 2:14-26	37	<i>Memory verse(s): James 2:17-18</i>
Study 6: James 3:1-18	42	<i>Memory verse(s): James 3:17-18</i>
Study 7: James 4:1-17	47	<i>Memory verse(s): James 4:6-8</i>
Study 8: James 5:1-19	52	<i>Memory verse(s): James 5:15-16</i>
Study 9: Book Summary	57	<i>Memory verse(s): James – TBD</i>

Appendix

Sample book outline	62
Sample God Chart	63
James NASB	64
James NIV	70
James ESV	76



Approaching God's Word:

Preparation.

Before beginning any Bible study, it is important to remind ourselves again of the nature of Bible study – it is an act of worship and relating with God. To study the Bible is to interact with God through His divine revelation – it is an inherently spiritual activity.

Pray.

When considering the nature of the task – seeking God Himself (not mastering a passage) – it follows that if we are to do our task well, God Himself ought to be involved in the process! Make prayer a regular part of studying the scriptures. Remember that we are not studying simply to know about God and His plan for us, but rather to KNOW Him and be transformed.

Check your Spiritual Disposition.

“Sin will keep you from the Word or the Word will keep you from sin” (Bob Van Zante, 2003). Is there any sin between you and God that you need to deal with first? Are you approaching the God of the Word humbly and prayerfully, hopefully and submissively. Be sure that you are ‘quick to listen and slow to speak’ when listening to the word.

Make Time.

Good Bible study takes effort. Excellent Bible study takes time. We must slow down and consider carefully the wonderful truths of God's Word. We must approach the Scriptures patiently and consistently. Set aside 2 sessions of at least 45 minutes to work on the study, rather than trying to cram last minute. Give God's Word the time and thought that He deserves. God is worth it!

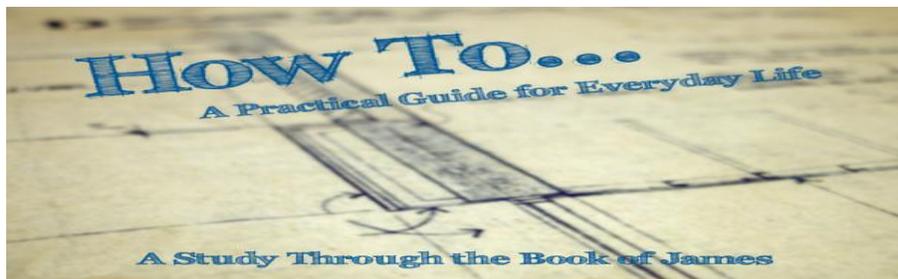
Humility.

All Christians must approach God's Word with great humility, “knowing they know little, longing to learn more and looking to God himself to open to them his own word” (J.I. Packer, *A Quest for Godliness*, 1990). As you come to interpret the Bible make sure that you do it with utmost humility.

A key principle to remember when determining a passage's meaning is: **Never say “definitely” when the evidence only leads you to “probably.” Never say “probably” when the evidence only leads you to “possibly.” And never say “possibly” if there is no evidence at all.**

Vulnerability.

As we approach God's word and study it in fellowship with one another we must open our lives to its transforming power. It is important to apply the scripture to our lives and not just think about how it could be applied. Bible study is more than a study group, it is a fellowship, where sharing real life struggles, fears, and joys is a way to be encouraged and be transformed by God together.



Introduction to James

Dr. Constable's Notes on James 2010 Edition – www.soniclight.com

“The writer of this epistle was evidently the half-brother of our Lord Jesus Christ (Gal.1:19) and the brother of Jude, the writer of the epistle that bears his name (cf. Matt. 13:55). This was the opinion of many of the early church fathers and writers.¹ This James was not the brother of the Apostle John, the son of Zebedee, who suffered martyrdom early in the history of the church (Mark 1:19; Acts 12:2). Neither was he the son of Alphaeus (Mark 3:18) or the father of Judas (Luke 6:16). He was the leading man in the Jerusalem church who spoke at the Jerusalem Council (Acts 15:13-21; cf. 12:17; 21:18; 1 Cor. 15:7). Some commentators believed that the similarities in the Greek of this epistle and James' speech in Acts 15 support his identification as the writer.² The fact that the writer wrote this epistle in very good Greek should not rule this James out. He would have been fluent in both Aramaic and Greek as a gifted Galilean.”

Josephus said that James died in A.D. 62.³ Josephus did not name the date, but he identified James' death with that of Portius Festus who died in A.D. 62. So James wrote the letter before that date. Many commentators believed that James' lack of reference to the Jerusalem Council (A.D. 49) suggests that he wrote before that meeting. This is a very tenuous argument, however, since the issues James dealt with in this epistle are different from those the Jerusalem Council discussed. Reference to the Jerusalem Council in this letter would have been unnecessary. Traditionally James wrote early, however. It seems that his epistle was probably the first divinely inspired one and that James composed it in the middle or late 40s, perhaps A.D. 45-48.⁴ Many scholars have taken James' lack of references or allusions to other inspired New Testament epistles as additional support for this position. I believe there is no substantial reason to doubt the traditional early date.⁵

Timeline

Jesus' public ministry	28-30 AD
James the son of Zebedee martyred	44 (see Acts 12:2)
Book of James written	45-48
Jerusalem Council	49
James the brother of Jesus meets with Paul	55/56 (see Acts 21:18ff)
James the brother of Jesus martyred	62
Jewish rebellion	66-70
Romans destroy Jerusalem, Christians flee	70
Domitian is Emperor of Rome	81-96
Gospel of John is written	85-90

Special Features and Purpose

There are several unique features of this epistle. It contains no references to specific individuals who were the original recipients. There is no concluding benediction. There is a large number of imperatives in the letter, about one for every two verses. There are many figures of speech and analogies, probably more than in all of Paul's epistles.⁶

¹E.g., *The Ecclesiastical History of Eusebius Pamphilus*, 2.23. Eusebius lived about A.D. 265-340. For fuller discussion, see Peter H. Davids, *The Epistle of James*, pp. 7-9; Ralph P. Martin, *James*, pp. xxxiii-lxi; and Joseph B. Mayor, *The Epistle of St James*, pp. i-lxv.

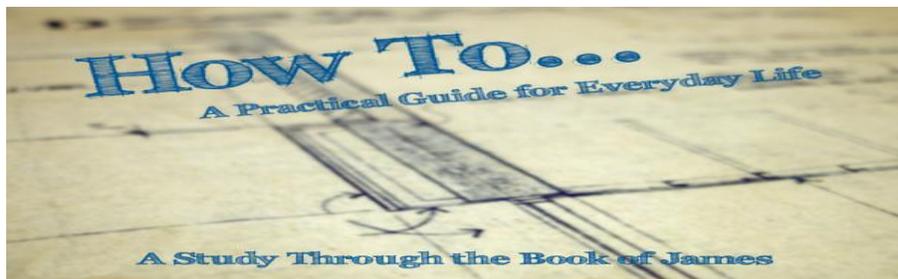
²E.g., D. Edmond Hiebert, *James*, pp. 17-18.

³Flavius Josephus, *Antiquities of the Jews*, 20:9:1.

⁴See Donald W. Burdick, "James," in *Hebrews-Revelation*, vol. 12 of *The Expositors Bible Commentary*, p.162.

⁵For a thorough discussion of the date, see Mayor, pp. cxliv-clxxvii; or Davids, p. 4, who catalogued the opinions of 64 modern commentators regarding the date of composition.

⁶J. Ronald Blue, "James," in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: New Testament*, p. 816.



James also alluded to over 20 Old Testament books. He referred to many Old Testament characters including Abraham, Rahab, Job, and Elijah as well as the Ten Commandments and the Law of Moses. One commentator observed that this book "has a more Jewish cast than any other writing of the New Testament."⁷ There are many references to nature. This was characteristic of the Jewish rabbis' teaching in James' day and the teaching of the Lord Jesus Christ. There are also many allusions to Jesus' teaching in the Sermon on the Mount.⁸ Yet there are only two references to Jesus (1:1; 2:1), which led Martin Luther to question whether this book was worthy of being in the New Testament.⁹ The margin of the Nestle Greek Testament version of James identifies 38 references to statements in Matthew. Both books seem to have been written about the same time, namely, in the late 40s.

"Both writers [Matthew and James] seem to have to do with a similar type of community . . ."¹⁰ Leading themes in James include perfection, wisdom, and the piety of the poor.¹¹ "As soon as we read through the letter of James we say to ourselves, "This man was a preacher before he was a writer."¹² "In style it reminds one now of the Proverbs, now of the stern denunciations of the prophets, now of the parables in the Gospels."¹³

"The Epistle of James is without doubt the least theological of all NT books, with the exception of Philemon. . . ." Three doctrines come to the surface more often than any others, and of these the most prominent is the doctrine of God. In keeping with the ethical nature of the epistle is the repeated stress on the doctrine of sin. And, surprisingly, the third most prominent theological theme is eschatology."¹⁴

"The epistle of James is no more anti-Pauline than is the Sermon on the Mount."¹⁵

PURPOSE

"The design of the Epistle is on the one hand to encourage those to whom it is addressed to bear their trials patiently, and on the other hand to warn them against certain errors of doctrine and practice."¹⁶

"The purpose of this potent letter is to exhort the early believers to Christian maturity and holiness of life. This letter deals more with the practice of the Christian faith than with its precepts. James told his readers how to achieve spiritual maturity through a confident stand, compassionate service, careful speech, contrite submission, and concerned sharing. He dealt with every area of a Christian's life: what he is, what he does, what he says, what he feels, and what he has."¹⁷ "The chief aim of the Epistle is to strengthen the faith and loyalty of the Jewish Christians in the face of persecution from rich and overbearing Jews who were defrauding and oppressing them."¹⁸

As you read through James, look for James' exhortation toward maturity and holiness.

⁷Mayor, p. ii. ⁸See Virgil V. Porter Jr., "The Sermon on the Mount in the Book of James, Part 1," *Bibliotheca Sacra* 162:647 (July-September 2005):344-60; idem, "The Sermon on the Mount in the Book of James, Part 2," *Bibliotheca Sacra* 162:648 (October-December 2005):470-82. See the charts in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: New Testament*, pp. 817 and 818, for James' references to nature and the Sermon on the Mount.

⁹William Barclay, *The Letters of James and Peter*, p. 28.

¹⁰E. M. Sidebottom, *James, Jude, 2 Peter*, p. 14). See also Davids, pp. 47-48, for a chart of similarities between verses in James and those in the Synoptic Gospels, and Martin, pp. lxxv-lxxvi, for common links between Matthew and James.

¹¹Martin, pp. lxxix-lxxxvi.

¹²J. Alec Motyer, *The Message of James*, p. 11.

¹³Mayor, p. i. 2010 Edition *Dr. Constable's Notes on James 3*

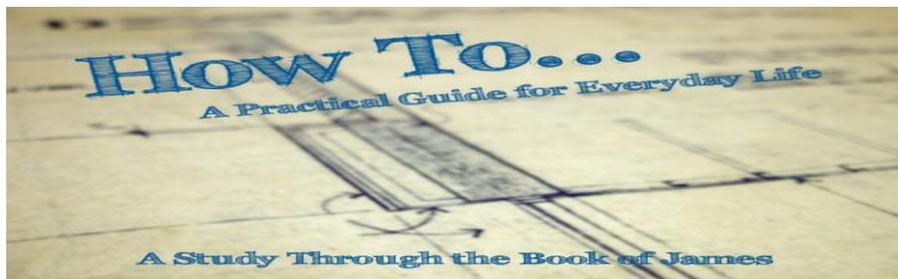
¹⁴Burdick, pp. 164-65.

¹⁵George M. Stulac, *James*, p. 16.

¹⁶Mayor, p. cxxviii.

¹⁷Blue, p. 818.

¹⁸A. T. Robertson, *Word Pictures in the New Testament*, 6:6.



How to do this Study:

For this study we will use a three-part procedure to help you take your understanding of context and use it in studying the Bible. The goal is to discover what God has spoken through the scripture and avoid reading our own meaning or ideas into the text. The following three steps outline the method we will use to discover the intended meaning of James and be transformed by it.

1. Observe
2. Interpret
3. Apply

① Observations

The main purpose of the observation section is to answer the question: **What does it say?** Making observations is simply noticing what has been written, not explaining what it means. **It helps us to allow the Bible itself to be the object of our study**, slowing us from making premature applications or wandering away from the text to look for meaning. Don't think lightly of this part of Bible Study. Good observations lead to good interpretations which lead to good applications.

Some helpful hints:

- List the key words and themes – especially those that you might study more in depth later.
- Answer the 5 W's and an H (Who, What, When, Where, Why & How's) of the passage?
- Look for literary structures, such as comparisons and contrasts. Note connectives and prepositions, such as "but," "if," & "therefore," etc.
- Starting from your initial outline of James (completed in overview), make a more detailed outline of the passage you are studying.
- Make note of things in the passage that are repeated, related, interesting, difficult, etc.

② Interpretation

Ask Questions

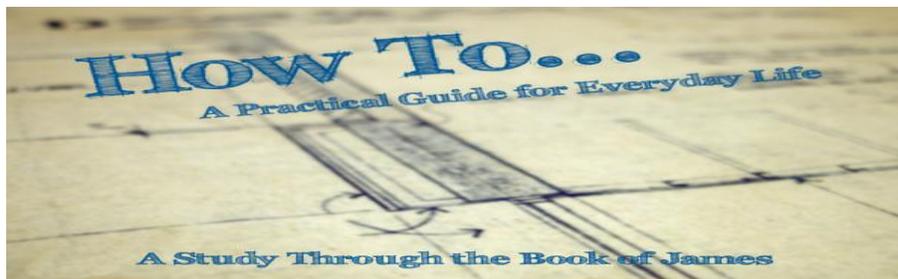
Asking good questions is the heart of good Biblical interpretation. When interpreting the Bible we "must allow the text to have maximum control" (Vern Steiner). Therefore we need to let the questions arise from the text itself. "The text itself should set the interpretive agenda whenever possible...Far too frequently, the interpreter is too eager to speak to the text, or even into the text, rather than listen attentively to it" (John H. Hayes & Carl R. Holladay, *Biblical Exegesis*, 1987).

Matter: What is the text saying? (this is the *Observations* section above)

Manner: How is the text saying it?

Meaning: What does the text mean?

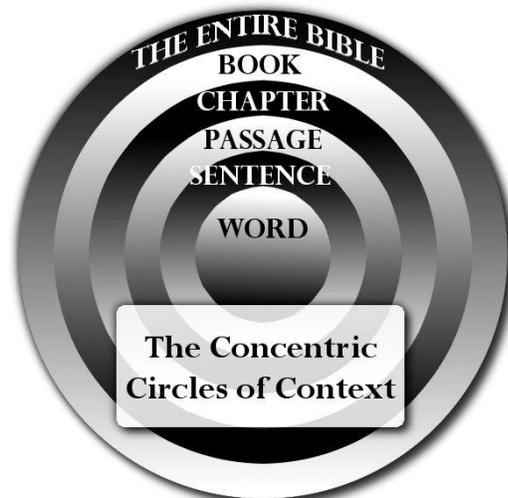
Motive: Why does the text mean this? What is the purpose of communicating this?



Discover the Context

Once we've asked interpretive questions, where do we go for answers? The most important part of interpretation is to understand the passage within the correct context.

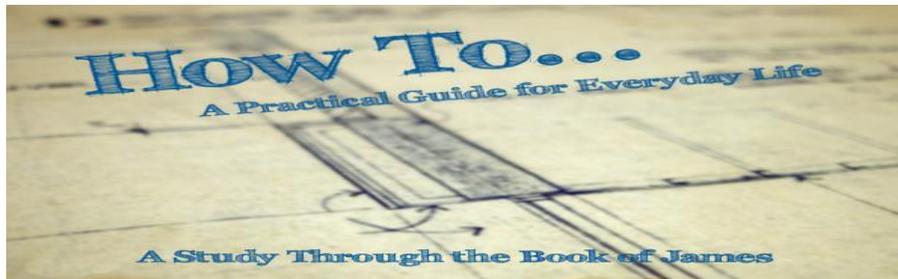
1. **CONTEXT:** This section is used to think through how the passage you are studying fits within its context. The circles of context are shown to the right. Working outward on this diagram helps us to maintain the correct context as we interpret the scripture.
2. **CORRELATE:** In this section we will look at the entire Bible as the context for a passage. For example, in studying a verse that uses the word 'abide' in 1 John, it may be helpful to find other bible passages that use this word. The following tools are helpful in finding and using parallel passages to interpret 1 John.
 - a. Look up similar topics, ideas, people, phrases, or words in other passages.
 - b. Use a Bible concordance to find similar passages. (search for a particular word)
 - c. A digital concordance is available at www.blueletterbible.org or www.biblegateway.com.
 - d. Use a bible with cross references or a book like the *Treasury of Scripture Knowledge* to find parallel passages.
 - e. Look up Bible passages you are familiar with that relate.
3. **CHRIST:** This section is an opportunity to study words or actions of Jesus that relate to this passage. Many passages or ideas in 1 John relate to the life and teaching of Jesus. This context can be very helpful in understanding 1 John.



You may be wondering, "Why is context so important?"

Keeping the scriptures in context protects us from heresy. Many common heresies or false religions come from misinterpreting one verse or passage by removing it from the appropriate context. It is also important to remember that each passage or verse of James was written as part of a whole letter. Imagining trying to understand chapter 7 of a novel without reading the chapters before and after it. Just as James is one work, the entire Bible is God inspired (1 Tim 3:16) and cohesive. Each book serves as part of God's intended message to humankind.

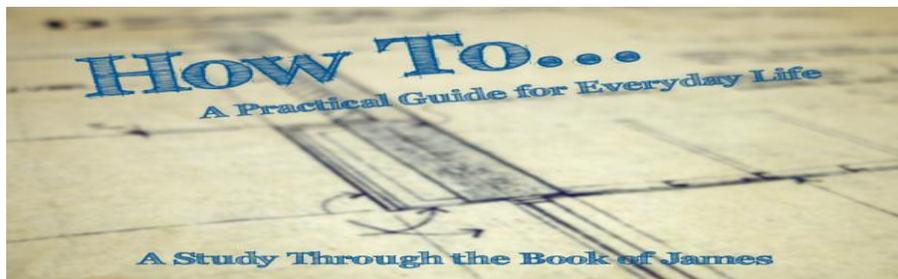
The Key to context: **Let scripture interpret scripture.** This way God is allowed to speak, and we are freed to listen.



Study Key Words

This section of the Bible Study is aimed at better understanding words that are important to the book of James and the passage. Each week 1 word will be given as a suggestion to study. As time allows, you may choose to study other words also. The following tools are helpful in doing word studies:

- a. Use a Bible Dictionary and/or English Dictionary
- b. Look up the word in a concordance to find it throughout the Bible.
- c. A digital concordance is available at www.blueletterbible.org or www.biblegateway.com.
- d. Study the Greek word – Strong’s Lexicon, Key word study Bible, www.blueletterbible.org



③ Application

Reflection and Summary

This section is to help you summarize what you have observed, asked, and interpreted from the text. The summary statement is your 1-2 sentence summary of the passage and what it means. Carefully formulate your summary from the interpretations you have made using the context and key words. What does the passage mean?

You will also choose a key verse. This is not just a verse you like, it is the verse that is key to the meaning of the entire passage.

Application Questions

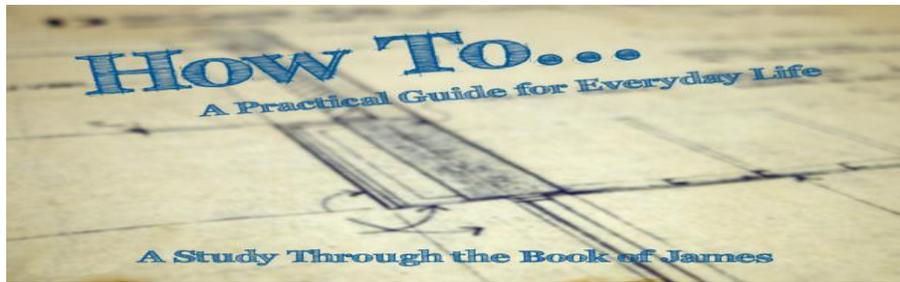
Part of the wonder of Bible study is that we are not only responsible to work diligently at understanding the intended meaning of a passage, but we are also responsible to respond to the intent of that meaning.

Scripture exists to be obeyed, for as James 1:22 says, “Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.” We must respond to the intended message of the text with obedience. This response is often referred to as *application*.

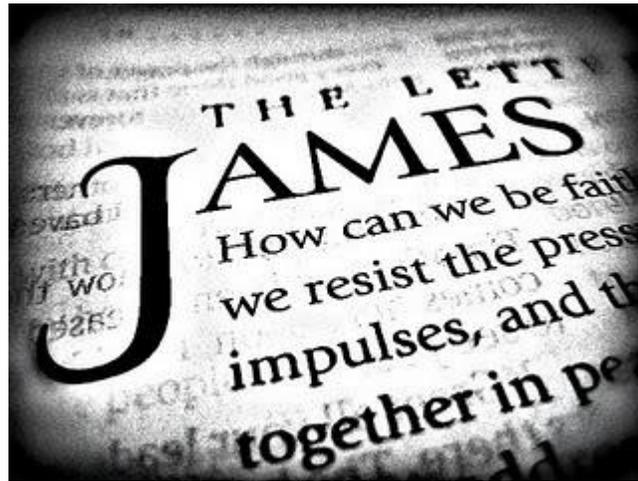
Take your time in filling in this section. If the application section of the study is not done well then the purpose of Bible Study, to be transformed by God’s word, will not happen. **Application is not simply noting what someone could apply from this passage, but rather personally applying what God has asked of you through the passage.** Below are some questions that may help in forming your applications:

- Who is God revealing Himself to be? Does my life reflect this truth? If so, what would that look like? If not, why? What am I afraid of? What do I believe instead?
- What about God’s heart is He revealing here? How does my heart reflect this? Is my mind guided by what’s on God’s heart?
- What parts of my life do not accurately reflect God’s truth in this passage? Why not? Is there something in my life that is causing this sin? How can I take this to God in prayer?
- Is there something I can do to understand this passage better?
- Is there something I can do to further my obedience to this truth?

Once you have thought through these questions, make an application that is from the passage, and is practical, and measurable. Practical applications apply to real life and real scenarios. They are helpful and realistic for living life in a way pleasing to God. Measurable simply means that you will know if you have done the application or not. Deciding to “be a better person this week,” is an example of an application that is not measurable, where “encouraging my roommate twice a day,” is measurable.



The schedule includes a slot for your weekly application to help you reflect on past applications. Move this page each week into the study that you are currently working on and review previous applications.



James Bible Study



Study 1 **Overview**

Getting Started with James:

The first Bible Study is an overview of the book of James to help us get the big picture before we start looking at each passage in detail. For these studies the numbered instructions explain how to complete the following pages. Here are the instructions for the overview:

1. Pray for God's Spirit to open your eyes to see the beauty and truth of James. Ask Him to help you to humbly approach His Word and to respond in worship to Him.
2. Read through James 3 times. The NIV, ESV, and NASB translations of James are provided in the appendix. Use these pages to highlight, underline, or make notes as you work on the overview study.
3. Use one of the translations included in the appendix and mark all the references to God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. What names are used for God? What is said about Him? You may find it helpful to use colored pencils or pens to mark various types of references. You can also use a different symbol to mark each type of reference to God, for example, a cross for Christ, a triangle for Father, and a circle for the Spirit.
4. Once you have read and marked all the references to God, fill them into the God chart on page 15 (see Sermon on the Mount/References to Nature example on page 16). It may be helpful to trace "the Father" through all 5 chapters, then move on the Christ, and then the Spirit so that your chart shows the themes horizontally. Be creative about how you organize this chart (use colors, symbols, etc). If you run out of space, use the back side of the page. A sample chart is provided on page 66.
5. Using a similar method to step 3, mark key words and themes in the book of James using the appendix (also see page 18). Make a list of 10 key words and/or themes, and put them into the key word chart. Note which verse used the word and how it was used. It may be helpful to use different colored pens or pencils to mark different words or phrases.

Some words to start with:

- Trail*
- Tempted/tempting/tempt*
- Humble/humbly*
- Do/does/doing*
- Tongue*
- Faith*
- Action/deeds*
- Fight/quarrels*
- Patience/perseverance*
- Pray/prayer/prayed*

Helpful Tips:

What are words that are repeated?
What are words that seem to be important to the message?
What are synonyms for these words found in the book?
What are theological words?
Ex. Redemption, righteousness, etc



Study 1 **Overview**

6. Fill in the Key Word Chart on page 17. If you run out of space, use the back of the page.
7. On page 19 make an outline of the book of James using what you have learned so far. The idea of a book outline is to split the book into sections, title each section, and list the supporting ideas and verse for each section. This is only your initial outline and will probably change as we study the book in more detail. You will have a chance to revise it in the summary study.
8. Answer the questions on page 16.

<p>Chapter 5</p>	
<p>Chapter 4</p>	
<p>Chapter 3</p>	<p><i>3:9 With it we bless our Lord and Father</i></p>
<p>Chapter 2</p>	<p><i>2:19 You believe that God is one</i></p>
<p>Chapter 1</p>	<p><i>1:1 James a bondservant of God</i></p>

Chapter 1	Chapter 2	Chapter 3	Chapter 4	Chapter 5
<p>1:2 – Matthew 5:10-12 1:4 – Matthew 5:48 1:5;5:15 – Matthew 7:7-12 1:9 – Matthew 5:3 1:20 – Matthew 5:22 Nature: 1:6 – waves of the sea 1:6 – tossed by the wind 1:10 – wild flower 1:11 – sun . . . with scorching heat 1:11 – the plant . . . blossom falls 1:17 – the heavenly lights 1:17 – shifting shadows 1:18 – first fruits</p>	<p>2:13 – Matthew 5:7; 6:14-15 2:14-16 – Matthew 5:9</p>	<p>3:17-18 – Matthew 5:9 3:3 – bits into the mouths of horses 3:4 – ships . . . driven by strong winds 3:5 – a great forest is set on fire by a small spark 3:6 – a fire 3:7 – animals, birds, reptiles, and creatures of the sea 3:8 – deadly poison 3:11 – fresh water and salt water 3:12 – can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? 3:18 – sow in peace [and] raise a harvest of righteousness</p>	<p>4:4 – Matthew 6:24 4:10 – Matthew 5:3-5 4:11 – Matthew 7:1-2 4:14 – you are a mist</p>	<p>5:2 – Matthew 6:19 5:10 – Matthew 5:12 5:12 – Matthew 5:33-37 5:2 – mobs have eaten your clothes 5:3 – gold and silver are corroded 5:4 – workmen who mowed your fields 5:4 – the cries of the harvesters 5:5 – fattened yourselves in the day of slaughter 5:7 – the farmer waits for the . . . crop 5:7 – how patient he is for the fall and spring rains 5:14 – “anoint him with oil 5:17 – prayed . . . that it would not rain 5:17 – it did not rain on the land 5:18 – the heavens gave rain 5:18 – the earth produced its crops</p>

Key Word/ Theme Chart

Overview

<i>Chapter 5</i>	
<i>Chapter 4</i>	
<i>Chapter 3</i>	
<i>Chapter 2</i>	
<i>Chapter 1</i>	

James Book Outline:

(a sample outline is provided on page 63)



Study 1 **Overview**

Reflection and Summary:

Summary:

What are 3 things that you learned from the God Chart? What themes arose?

What are 3 things that you learned from the Key Word Chart? What themes arose?

What is your initial impression of why James wrote this letter?



Study 1 **Overview**

To help with understanding the context of James, use the space below to write a summary statement of the message of James in light of the entire Bible. This is not easy so take your time. Is there a key verse that goes with this?

How would you title the book of James?

What do you think are 3-4 key verses to the book of James? (central to the book's meaning)

Write 3-5 sentences summarizing the book of James in your own words. Take your time and be thorough.

What is something that you have learned personally from James so far? How can you apply it to your life?



Study 2 **James 1:1-18**

Pray for God to give you understanding into His Word!

Before beginning, review the *How to do this Bible Study* Section on Pages 7-11

1 Observation (30-45 min):

Use the space below to **Make 30-60 Observations** from James 1:1-18. Ask the question, “what does it say.”

V1 – James “a bond-servant” of both the Father and Son

V1 – twelve tribes

Dispersed abroad

V2 – “Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials

Tests faith

Produces endurance

Perfect result = perfect, complete, lacking in nothing

Helpful Tips...

1. **Ask:** Who? What? Where? When? Why? How?
2. **Look** for things that are:
 - **Repeated**
What are words or thoughts that are repeated throughout this section?
 - **Related**
How are thoughts related? How are they tied together?
 - **Alike**
What are similarities? Metaphors? Synonyms?
 - **Unlike**
What are thoughts that are contrasted? Opposite?
 - **True to Life**
What are things that refer to real life situations?
3. Note Connectors that identify the flow of thought (therefore, for this reason, for, because)



Study 2
James 1:1-18

② Interpretation (30-45 min):

Questions: Ask 5-10 questions about the passage using your observations as a starting point.

Ex: *What are "various trials"? What do trials produce? How has the audience experienced trials?*

Context: Why is this here?

How does this passage fit with James 1:19-27?

How does this passage fit into the entire book of James?

How does this passage fit into the message of the entire Bible?

How does this context help in understanding the passage?



Study 2 **James 1:1-18**

Correlate: What other passages in the Bible specifically relate to this one? List and study 5-10 parallel passages that help in understanding James 1:1-18. How does each help you interpret?

Romans 5:3-5
2 Tim 4:8 (crowns)

Christ: List and study any passages where the words or actions of Jesus relate to this passage.

Luke 4:1-12

Key Words: Study the meaning and importance of the following word or other words of interest. How does this help you understand this passage?

Trials/Temptations



Study 2
James 1:1-18



Study 2 **James 1:1-18**

③ Application (20-30 min):

Take a few minutes to reflect on what you have studied in this passage. In your own words, summarize the passage. What is the key verse for this passage? How would you title this passage?

Summary Statement:

Key Verse(s):

Title for this section:

Who is God revealing Himself to be? What does it mean to believe this? Do I believe this?

What about God's heart is He revealing here? How does my heart reflect this?

What parts of my life do not accurately reflect God's truth in this passage? Why not?

What areas in my life need to be brought into the light? What do I need to confess to God?

How will you apply this passage to your life in a personal, practical, and measurable way?



Study 2 **James 1:1-18**

Close in prayer. Thank God for what you have learned from this study. Ask Him to help you apply His word to your life. Pray over your application from the study



Study 3

James 1:19-27

Pray for God to give you understanding into His Word!

1 Observation:

Use the space below to **Make 30-60 Observations** from James 1:19-27. Ask the question, “what does it say?”

Helpful Tips...

1. **Ask:** Who? What? Where? When? Why? How?
2. **Look** for things that are:
 - **Repeated**
What are words or thoughts that are repeated throughout this section?
 - **Related**
How are thoughts related? How are they tied together?
 - **Alike**
What are similarities? Metaphors? Synonyms?
 - **Unlike**
What are thoughts that are contrasted? Opposite?
 - **True to Life**
What are things that refer to real life situations?
3. Note Connectors that identify the flow of thought (therefore, for this reason, for, because)



Study 3 **James 1:19-27**

② Interpretation:

Questions: Ask 5-10 questions about the passage using your observations as a starting point.

Context: Why is this here?

How does this passage fit with James 1:19-27 and the rest of chapter 1?

How does this passage fit into the entire book of James?

How does this passage fit into the message of the entire Bible?

How does this context help in understanding the passage?



Study 3

James 1:19-27

Correlate: What other passages in the Bible specifically relate to this one? List and study 5-10 parallel passages that help in understanding James 1:19-27. How does each help you interpret?

Proverbs 14:17, 14:29, 15:1, 15:18, 16:32, 19:11, 22:24-25, 29:22

Christ: List and study any passages where the words or actions of Jesus relate to this passage.

Matt. 5:22

Key Words: Study the meaning and importance of the following word or other words of interest. How does this help you understand this passage?

Anger



Study 3 **James 1:19-27**

③ Application:

Take a few minutes to reflect on what you have studied in this passage. In your own words, summarize the passage. What is the key verse for this passage? How would you title this passage?

Summary Statement:

Key Verse(s):

Title for this section:

Who is God revealing Himself to be? What does it mean to believe this? Do I believe this?

What about God's heart is He revealing here? How does my heart reflect this?

What parts of my life do not accurately reflect God's truth in this passage? Why not?

How do I love my brothers and sisters in Christ? How do I not?

How will you apply this passage to your life in a personal, practical, and measurable way?



Study 3 **James 1:19-27**

Close in prayer. Thank God for what you have learned from this study. Ask Him to help you apply His word to your life. Pray over your application from the study.



Study 4 **James 2:1-13**

Pray for God to give you understanding into His Word!

1 Observation:

Use the space below to **Make 30-60 Observations** from James 2:1-13. Ask the question, “what does it say?”

Helpful Tips...

1. **Ask:** Who? What? Where? When? Why? How?
2. **Look** for things that are:
 - **Repeated**
What are words or thoughts that are repeated throughout this section?
 - **Related**
How are thoughts related? How are they tied together?
 - **Alike**
What are similarities? Metaphors? Synonyms?
 - **Unlike**
What are thoughts that are contrasted? Opposite?
 - **True to Life**
What are things that refer to real life situations?
3. Note Connectors that identify the flow of thought (therefore, for this reason, for, because)



Study 4 **James 2:1-13**

② Interpretation:

Questions: Ask 5-10 questions about the passage using your observations as a starting point.

Context: Why is this here?

How does this passage fit with James 1 and chapter 2:14-26?

How does this passage fit into the entire book of James?

How does this passage fit into the message of the entire Bible?

How does this context help in understanding the passage?



Study 4 **James 2:1-13**

Correlate: What other passages in the Bible specifically relate to this one? List and study 5-10 parallel passages that help in understanding James 2:1-13. How does each help you interpret?

Deut 6:4-8

Christ: List and study any passages where the words or actions of Jesus relate to this passage.

Matthew 27:37-39

Key Words: Study the meaning and importance of the following word or other words of interest. How does this help you understand this passage?

Judgment

Mercy



Study 4 **James 2:1-13**

③ Application:

Take a few minutes to reflect on what you have studied in this passage. In your own words, summarize the passage. What is the key verse for this passage? How would you title this passage?

Summary Statement:

Key Verse(s):

Title for this section:

Who is God revealing Himself to be? What does it mean to believe this? Do I believe this?

What about God's heart is He revealing here? How does my heart reflect this?

What parts of my life do not accurately reflect God's truth in this passage? Why not?

In what areas of my life is love of the world preventing me from doing the will of God? Does something need to change?

How will you apply this passage to your life in a personal, practical, and measurable way?



Study 4 **James 2:1-13**

Close in prayer. Thank God for what you have learned from this study. Ask Him to help you apply His word to your life. Pray over your application from the study



Study 5

James 2:14-26

Pray for God to give you understanding into His Word!

1 Observation

Use the space below to **Make 30-60 Observations** from James 2:14-26. Ask the question, “what does it say?”

Helpful Tips...

1. **Ask:** Who? What? Where? When? Why? How?
2. **Look** for things that are:
 - **Repeated**
What are words or thoughts that are repeated throughout this section?
 - **Related**
How are thoughts related? How are they tied together?
 - **Alike**
What are similarities? Metaphors? Synonyms?
 - **Unlike**
What are thoughts that are contrasted? Opposite?
 - **True to Life**
What are things that refer to real life situations?
3. Note Connectors that identify the flow of thought (therefore, for this reason, for, because)



Study 5 **James 2:14-26**

② Interpretation:

Questions: Ask 5-10 questions about the passage using your observations as a starting point.

Context: Why is this here?

How does this passage fit with the beginning of chapter 2 and the rest of chapter 3?

How does this passage fit into the entire book of James?

How does this passage fit into the message of the entire Bible?

How does this context help in understanding the passage?



Study 5 **James 2:14-26**

Correlate: What other passages in the Bible specifically relate to this one? List and study 5-10 parallel passages that help in understanding James 2:14-26. How does each help you interpret?

Deut 6

Ephesians 2:8-9

Heb 11:6

Rom 10:17

1 John 3:17-22

Christ: List and study any passages where the words or actions of Jesus relate to this passage.

Luke 7:37-50

Luke 16:19-31

Key Words: Study the meaning and importance of the following word or other words of interest. How does this help you understand this passage?

Works

Faith



Study 5 **James 2:14-26**

③ Application:

Take a few minutes to reflect on what you have studied in this passage. In your own words, summarize the passage. What is the key verse for this passage? How would you title this passage?

Summary Statement:

Key Verse(s):

Title for this section:

Who is God revealing Himself to be? What does it mean to believe this? Do I believe this?

What about God's heart is He revealing here? How does my heart reflect this?

What parts of my life do not accurately reflect God's truth in this passage? Why not?

How does my identity in Christ relate to my obedience?

How will you apply this passage to your life in a personal, practical, and measurable way?



Study 5 **James 2:14-26**

Close in prayer. Thank God for what you have learned from this study. Ask Him to help you apply His word to your life. Pray over your application from the study



Study 6

James 3:1-18

Pray for God to give you understanding into His Word!

1 Observation:

Use the space below to **Make 30-60 Observations** from James 3:1-18. Ask the question, “what does it say?”

Helpful Tips...

1. **Ask:** Who? What? Where? When? Why? How?
2. **Look** for things that are:
 - **Repeated**
What are words or thoughts that are repeated throughout this section?
 - **Related**
How are thoughts related? How are they tied together?
 - **Alike**
What are similarities? Metaphors? Synonyms?
 - **Unlike**
What are thoughts that are contrasted? Opposite?
 - **True to Life**
What are things that refer to real life situations?
3. Note Connectors that identify the flow of thought (therefore, for this reason, for, because)



Study 6 **James 3:1-18**

② Interpretation:

Questions: Ask 5-10 questions about the passage using your observations as a starting point.

Context: Why is this here?

How does this passage fit with chapter 2 and chapter 4?

How does this passage fit into the entire book of James?

How does this passage fit into the message of the entire Bible?

How does this context help in understanding the passage?



Study 6 **James 3:1-18**

Correlate: What other passages in the Bible specifically relate to this one? List and study 5-10 parallel passages that help in understanding James 3:1-18. How does each help you interpret?

Psa. 50:23

Prov. 13:3, 18:21, 18:7-8

Eph. 4:29, 31-32

1 Pet. 3:10

Christ: List and study any passages where the words or actions of Jesus relate to this passage.

Luke 6:45, Matt. 12:36

Key Words: Study the meaning and importance of the following word or other words of interest. How does this help you understand this passage?

The Tongue



Study 6 **James 3:1-18**

③ Application:

Take a few minutes to reflect on what you have studied in this passage. In your own words, summarize the passage. What is the key verse for this passage? How would you title this passage?

Summary Statement:

Key Verse(s):

Title for this section:

Who is God revealing Himself to be? What does it mean to believe this? Do I believe this?

What about God's heart is He revealing here? How does my heart reflect this?

What parts of my life do not accurately reflect God's truth in this passage? Why not?

What does it mean to love one another? What does it mean for me to do this well?

How will you apply this passage to your life in a personal, practical, and measurable way?



Study 6
James 3:1-18

Close in prayer. Thank God for what you have learned from this study. Ask Him to help you apply His word to your life. Pray over your application from the study



Study 7

James 4:1-17

Pray for God to give you understanding into His Word!

1 Observation:

Use the space below to **Make 30-60 Observations** from James 4:1-17. Ask the question, “what does it say?”

Helpful Tips...

1. **Ask:** Who? What? Where? When? Why? How?
2. **Look** for things that are:
 - **Repeated**
What are words or thoughts that are repeated throughout this section?
 - **Related**
How are thoughts related? How are they tied together?
 - **Alike**
What are similarities? Metaphors? Synonyms?
 - **Unlike**
What are thoughts that are contrasted? Opposite?
 - **True to Life**
What are things that refer to real life situations?
3. Note Connectors that identify the flow of thought (therefore, for this reason, for, because)



Study 7 **James 4:1-17**

② Interpretation:

Questions: Ask 5-10 questions about the passage using your observations as a starting point.

Context: Why is this here?

How does this passage fit with the end of chapter 3 and the beginning of chapter 5?

How does this passage fit into the entire book of James?

How does this passage fit into the message of the entire Bible?

How does this context help in understanding the passage?



Study 7 **James 4:1-17**

Correlate: What other passages in the Bible specifically relate to this one? List and study 5-10 parallel passages that help in understanding James 4:1-17. How does each help you interpret?

1 John 2:15-17

Christ: List and study any passages where the words or actions of Jesus relate to this passage.

Key Words: Study the meaning and importance of the following word or other words of interest. How does this help you understand this passage?

Pride

Humble/humility



Study 7 **James 4:1-17**

③ Application:

Take a few minutes to reflect on what you have studied in this passage. In your own words, summarize the passage. What is the key verse for this passage? How would you title this passage?

Summary Statement:

Key Verse(s):

Title for this section:

Who is God revealing Himself to be? What does it mean to believe this? Do I believe this?

What about God's heart is He revealing here? How does my heart reflect this?

What parts of my life do not accurately reflect God's truth in this passage? Why not?

How can I avoid the danger of false teaching? What would it look like for me to do this?

How will you apply this passage to your life in a personal, practical, and measurable way?



Study 7
James 4:1-17

Close in prayer. Thank God for what you have learned from this study. Ask Him to help you apply His word to your life. Pray over your application from the study



Study 8

James 5:1-19

Pray for God to give you understanding into His Word!

1 Observation

Use the space below to **Make 30-60 Observations** from 1 John 5:1-19. Ask the question, “what does it say?”

Helpful Tips...

1. **Ask:** Who? What? Where? When? Why? How?
2. **Look** for things that are:
 - **Repeated**
What are words or thoughts that are repeated throughout this section?
 - **Related**
How are thoughts related? How are they tied together?
 - **Alike**
What are similarities? Metaphors? Synonyms?
 - **Unlike**
What are thoughts that are contrasted? Opposite?
 - **True to Life**
What are things that refer to real life situations?
3. Note Connectors that identify the flow of thought (therefore, for this reason, for, because)



Study 8 **James 5:1-19**

② Interpretation:

Questions: Ask 5-10 questions about the passage using your observations as a starting point.

Context: Why is this here?

How does this passage fit with chapter 4?

How does this passage fit into the entire book of James?

How does this passage fit into the message of the entire Bible?

How does this context help in understanding the passage?



Study 8 **James 5:1-19**

Correlate: What other passages in the Bible specifically relate to this one? List and study 5-10 parallel passages that help in understanding James 5:1-19. How does each help you interpret?

1 John 1:9
1 John 5:16-17

Christ: List and study any passages where the words or actions of Jesus relate to this passage.

Matthew 5:2-18

Matthew 6:1-33

Key Words: Study the meaning and importance of the following word or other words of interest. How does this help you understand this passage?

the theme of "the material"

forgiveness



Study 8 **James 5:1-19**

③ Application:

Take a few minutes to reflect on what you have studied in this passage. In your own words, summarize the passage. What is the key verse for this passage? How would you title this passage?

Summary Statement:

Key Verse(s):

Title for this section:

Who is God revealing Himself to be? What does it mean to believe this? Do I believe this?

What about God's heart is He revealing here? How does my heart reflect this?

What parts of my life do not accurately reflect God's truth in this passage? Why not?

What does it cost me to love someone else? Am I paying the price to love others?

How will you apply this passage to your life in a personal, practical, and measurable way?



Study 8
James 5:1-19

Close in prayer. Thank God for what you have learned from this study. Ask Him to help you apply His word to your life. Pray over your application from the study



Study 9 **Book Summary**

Review your study

Reread James and reread the study notes that you've made along the way. What stands out?

What are 3 truths that stand out to you from the book of James? Why?

Which theme from James stands out to you most? Why?

Summarize James

Give a title for the book in 5 words or less. Try to encapsulate what you sense God's main theme of the book is. Identify a key verse that helps capture the main theme of the book.

Title for James: _____

Key verse of James: _____ **Why?**

Summary Statement of James: God told James to tell us...



Study 9 **Book Summary**

Outline of Book: Review and refine your original outline of James from page 19.



Study 9 **Book Summary**

Reflection

Take time to reflect, pray, and journal on what you've learned from your time in 1 John. Look at the following questions as you meditate on 1 John. Think through how you might proclaim it to others. Remember, we must listen to God's voice that we might obey Him and be transformed by Him.

1. What has God taught me about Himself from 1 John?
2. Do I believe He is who He says He is?
3. What does 1 John teach me about how to live for God?
4. What areas of my life do I need God to move in so that I might become more like the person God wants me to be?
5. What principles have I learned from 1 John about relating with people?
6. How can I apply these principles to my life? Are there specific things that I can do that will allow God to use me in others lives?



Study 9 **Book Summary**

Application

Review the applications you have made this study. Summarize how God's word has been teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training you during this study. How has it worked out?

What is different about your thoughts and actions since the beginning of the study?

How will you continue to apply James to your life?

Proclamation

Write a summary of how you would explain James to someone else.



Study 9 **Book Summary**

Pray

Pray and thank God for speaking in the book of James. Ask him to continue using it to change your life. Pray through passages of James that God has used to teach you during this study.



Appendix: Sample Outline

Outline of Philippians:

- 1) Opening (1:1-11)
 - a) Greeting (1:1-2)
 - b) Thanksgiving for the Philippians' Participation in the Gospel (1:3-8)
 - c) Prayer for the Philippians' Discerning Love to Increase until the Day of Christ (1:9-11)
 - i) Paul prays for: love, knowledge, discernment, purity, blamelessness, fruitfulness
 - ii) All this to the Glory of God (v 11)
- 2) Paul's Current Circumstances and the advance of the gospel(1:12-26)
 - a) Paul is in prison (1:12-13)
 - i) Gospel is advancing in spite of imprisonment
 - ii) Imprisonment is "For Christ"
 - b) The Brothers' Response to Paul's circumstances (1:14-17)
 - i) Some preach out of envy and rivalry – trying to afflict Paul
 - ii) Some preach out of love – serving alongside Paul
 - iii) Either way, the gospel advances
 - c) Paul's Attitude (1:18-26)
 - i) Paul rejoices in his current circumstances
 - ii) For Paul to live is Christ and to die is gain – torn between the two
 - iii) Paul desires most to do what is best for the Philippians (25-26)
- 3) Instructions for life and sanctification (1:27–2:30)
 - a) Living Boldly as Citizens of Heaven (1:27–2:30)
 - b) Living Humbly as Servants of Christ (2:1-11)
 1. The Motivation to Live Humbly (2:1-4)
 2. The Model of Living Humbly – Christ (2:5-11)
 - a. Christ's Humility (2:5-8)
 - b. Christ's Exaltation (2:9-11)
 - c) Obedient living (2:12-18)
 - i) Work out your salvation (2:12)
 - ii) God works with in you (2:12-13)
 - iii) Paul's Labor – Rejoice (2:14-18)
 - d) Examples of Humble Servants (2:19-30)
 - i) The Example of Timothy (2:19-24)
 - ii) The Example of Epaphroditus (2:25-30)
- 4) Finish Strong, Don't be distracted (3:1–4:1)
 - a) The truth about circumcision and the flesh (3:1-6)
 - b) Paul's Goal: The Resurrection (3:7-11)
 - c) Perfection and Humility – striving toward the goal (3:12-16)
 - d) Paul's example of conduct (3:17–4:1)
- 5) Ending (4:2-23)
 - a) Final Instructions (4:2-9)
 - i) Being United (4:2-3)
 - ii) Rejoicing without Anxiety (4:4-7)
 - iii) Thinking and Acting Purely (4:8-9)
 - b) Thanksgiving (4:10-20)
 - i) Paul's Contentment (4:10-13)
 - ii) The Philippians' Gift (4:14-18)
 - iii) God's Provision (4:19-20)
 - iv) Final Greetings (4:21-23)



Appendix: Sample Chart

Chapter 1	Chapter 2	Chapter 3	Chapter 4
<p>v1: Jesus has servants v2 There are saints 'in Christ Jesus; v2: God gives Grace and peace, God is called Father † v2: Jesus is called Lord * Jesus gives peace v3: Paul thanks God, God is responsible for faith and partnership v4: God is thanked through prayer v6: God/ Jesus began a good work the good work will be completed ☼ There is a coming day of Jesus Christ v8: God bears witness to Paul Jesus has affection for people ☼ v9: there is a day of Jesus, a future event ☼ v10: Fruit and righteousness come through Christ – this glorifies God</p> <p>☉ v11: Christ brings Glory to God God is glorified – praised v13: Paul's imprisonment is for Christ † v14: Christ is proclaimed (2 ways) ☺ v18: Christ is proclaimed – this makes Paul rejoice v19: Spirit- Jesus Christ helps in spirit ☉ v20: Christ is honored in Paul's body v21: Paul says "to live is Christ." v23: to depart is to be with Christ – in one sense, Christ is not here but somewhere else This is the best – to depart ☉ v24: Christ can be glorified in and Paul desires for people to do this ☉ v27: The gospel is Christ's Gospel ▲ v28: God provides salvation v29: Christ can be believed in for his own sake – Christ can be suffered for ▲ v29: God has granted this to the audience</p>	<p>v1: There is encouragement found in Christ v2: The spirit can be participated in ▲ v5: There is a mind that comes from Christ – the mind of Christ can be had ▲ v6: Jesus was already equal with God Jesus did not need to be equal with God ▲ v7: Jesus made himself nothing Jesus became a servant, a man ▲ v8: Jesus became (was not always) obedient to death. ☉ v9: God exalted Christ Christ given highest place and name At Christ's name all bow down and confess ☉ v10: Jesus is called Lord ☉ v11: God is glorified by this ☉ v13: God is working within the audience ☺ He does this for his pleasure God is pleased by people and his work in them v14: we may be children of God, some people are ☼ v16: again, Day of Christ † v19: Paul hopes in Christ There is hope found in Christ v20: Christ's interests can be sought by people some seek them, some do not † v24: The Lord (God) may be trusted in ▲ v27: God is merciful, he demonstrates mercy † v29: someone can be received 'in the Lord' There is a way of relating with people that is the Lord's way v30: There is work that is for Christ, some people (Ephphraditas) do it</p>	<p>☺ v1: The Lord is to be rejoiced in there is something joyful about the Lord v3: spirit – people worship by the spirit people glory in Christ Jesus ▲ v7: Nothing compares to Christ – he is beyond or greater than all things ▲ v18: Knowing Jesus is of great worth – he can be known v9: we may gain Christ Gain relationship? Presence? Paul is found in Christ – by losing all things This is accomplished through Faith in Christ ▲ v9: God has a righteousness This is given to men v10: Jesus rose from the dead with power He suffered, died, and rose ▲ God/ Christ holds power over death v11: Christ made Paul his own ▲ 14: God called Paul – upward ▲ v15: God reveals more to us – his knowledge is above ours v18: Christ has enemies His cross has enemies v20: God gives citizenship in heaven † Christ is the Senior He is awaited – he is coming (future)</p>	<p>† v1: Christ is a foundation for mankind – can be stood upon † v2: agree in the Lord ▲ v6: God hears our requests through prayer and petition – God is thanked by men ▲ * v7: God has peace – it surpasses human understanding, it is given to people * v9: God is the God of Peace God is present with people ☺ v10: Rejoice in the Lord! ▲ v13: God/ Christ gives strength to do all things v17: Credit – to God/ of God, earned by giving? There is credit with God? ▲ v19: God can/ will meet human needs he does this through Christ ▲ -God knows our needs, and is able to meet them ☉ There are glorious riches in Christ – God's riches in Christ ☉ v20: God is Father – his name is glorified forever † v21: Greeting in Christ Jesus † v23: Jesus has grace – can be with people in Spirit</p>

Philippians God Chart

Themes: Peace: * Joy: ☺ Glory: ☉ Lord: † Day of Christ: ☼ Character or Nature of God: ▲



Appendix: Translations

James (New American Standard Bible®)

"Scripture quotations taken from the New American Standard Bible®,
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James 1 (NASB)

¹ James, a bond-servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes who are dispersed abroad: Greetings.

² Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, ³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. ⁴ And let endurance have *its* perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

⁵ But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. ⁶ But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. ⁷ For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, ⁸ *being* a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

⁹ But the brother of humble circumstances is to glory in his high position; ¹⁰ and the rich man *is to glory* in his humiliation, because like flowering grass he will pass away. ¹¹ For the sun rises with a scorching wind and withers the grass; and its flower falls off and the beauty of its appearance is destroyed; so too the rich man in the midst of his pursuits will fade away.

¹² Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which *the Lord* has promised to those who love Him. ¹³ Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone. ¹⁴ But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. ¹⁵ Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death. ¹⁶ Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren. ¹⁷ Every good thing given and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow. ¹⁸ In the exercise of His will He brought us forth by the word of truth, so that we would be a kind of first fruits among His creatures.

¹⁹ *This* you know, my beloved brethren. But everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak *and* slow to anger; ²⁰ for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God. ²¹ Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and *all* that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls. ²² But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; ²⁴ for *once* he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. ²⁵ But one who looks intently at the perfect law,



Appendix: Translations

the *law* of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does.

²⁶ If anyone thinks himself to be religious, and yet does not bridle his tongue but deceives his *own* heart, this man's religion is worthless. ²⁷ Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of *our* God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, *and* to keep oneself unstained by the world.



Appendix: Translations

James 2 (NASB)

¹ My brethren, do not hold your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with *an attitude of* personal favoritism. ² For if a man comes into your assembly with a gold ring and dressed in fine clothes, and there also comes in a poor man in dirty clothes, ³ and you pay special attention to the one who is wearing the fine clothes, and say, “You sit here in a good place,” and you say to the poor man, “You stand over there, or sit down by my footstool,” ⁴ have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil motives? ⁵ Listen, my beloved brethren: did not God choose the poor of this world *to be* rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him? ⁶ But you have dishonored the poor man. Is it not the rich who oppress you and personally drag you into court? ⁷ Do they not blaspheme the fair name by which you have been called?

⁸ If, however, you are fulfilling the royal law according to the Scripture, “YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF,” you are doing well. ⁹ But if you show partiality, you are committing sin *and* are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles in one *point*, he has become guilty of all. ¹¹ For He who said, “DO NOT COMMIT ADULTERY,” also said, “DO NOT COMMIT MURDER.” Now if you do not commit adultery, but do commit murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹² So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by *the* law of liberty. ¹³ For judgment *will be* merciless to one who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

¹⁴ What use is it, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but he has no works? Can that faith save him? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is without clothing and in need of daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and be filled,” and yet you do not give them what is necessary for *their* body, what use is that? ¹⁷ Even so faith, if it has no works, is dead, *being* by itself.

¹⁸ But someone may *well* say, “You have faith and I have works; show me your faith without the works, and I will show you my faith by my works.” ¹⁹ You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder. ²⁰ But are you willing to recognize, you foolish fellow, that faith without works is useless? ²¹ Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up Isaac his son on the altar? ²² You see that faith was working with his works, and as a result of the works, faith was perfected; ²³ and the Scripture was fulfilled which says, “AND ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS RECKONED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS,” and he was called the friend of God. ²⁴ You see that a man is justified by works and not by faith alone. ²⁵ In the same way, was not Rahab the harlot also justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way? ²⁶ For just as the body without *the* spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.



Appendix: Translations

James 3 (NASB)

¹ Let not many *of you* become teachers, my brethren, knowing that as such we will incur a stricter judgment. ² For we all stumble in many *ways*. If anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to bridle the whole body as well. ³ Now if we put the bits into the horses' mouths so that they will obey us, we direct their entire body as well. ⁴ Look at the ships also, though they are so great and are driven by strong winds, are still directed by a very small rudder wherever the inclination of the pilot desires. ⁵ So also the tongue is a small part of the body, and *yet* it boasts of great things.

See how great a forest is set aflame by such a small fire! ⁶ And the tongue is a fire, the *very* world of iniquity; the tongue is set among our members as that which defiles the entire body, and sets on fire the course of *our* life, and is set on fire by hell. ⁷ For every species of beasts and birds, of reptiles and creatures of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by the human race. ⁸ But no one can tame the tongue; *it is* a restless evil *and* full of deadly poison. ⁹ With it we bless *our* Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the likeness of God; ¹⁰ from the same mouth come *both* blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be this way. ¹¹ Does a fountain send out from the same opening *both* fresh and bitter *water*? ¹² Can a fig tree, my brethren, produce olives, or a vine produce figs? Nor *can* salt water produce fresh.

¹³ Who among you is wise and understanding? Let him show by his good behavior his deeds in the gentleness of wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and *so* lie against the truth. ¹⁵ This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic. ¹⁶ For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing. ¹⁷ But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy. ¹⁸ And the seed whose fruit is righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.



Appendix: Translations

James 4 (NASB)

¹ What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members? ² You lust and do not have; *so* you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; *so* you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask. ³ You ask and do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend *it* on your pleasures. ⁴ You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. ⁵ Or do you think that the Scripture speaks to no purpose: “He jealously desires the Spirit which He has made to dwell in us”? ⁶ But He gives a greater grace. Therefore *it* says, “GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE.” ⁷ Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. ⁸ Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹ Be miserable and mourn and weep; let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves in the presence of the Lord, and He will exalt you.

¹¹ Do not speak against one another, brethren. He who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks against the law and judges the law; but if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge *of it*. ¹² There is *only* one Lawgiver and Judge, the One who is able to save and to destroy; but who are you who judge your neighbor?

¹³ Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit.” ¹⁴ Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are *just* a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away. ¹⁵ Instead, *you ought* to say, “If the Lord wills, we will live and also do this or that.” ¹⁶ But as it is, you boast in your arrogance; all such boasting is evil. ¹⁷ Therefore, to one who knows *the* right thing to do and does not do it, to him it is sin.



Appendix: Translations

James 5 (NASB)

¹ Come now, you rich, weep and howl for your miseries which are coming upon you. ² Your riches have rotted and your garments have become moth-eaten. ³ Your gold and your silver have rusted; and their rust will be a witness against you and will consume your flesh like fire. It is in the last days that you have stored up your treasure! ⁴ Behold, the pay of the laborers who mowed your fields, *and* which has been withheld by you, cries out *against you*; and the outcry of those who did the harvesting has reached the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth. ⁵ You have lived luxuriously on the earth and led a life of wanton pleasure; you have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. ⁶ You have condemned and put to death the righteous *man*; he does not resist you.

⁷ Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious produce of the soil, being patient about it, until it gets the early and late rains. ⁸ You too be patient; strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹ Do not complain, brethren, against one another, so that you yourselves may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing right at the door. ¹⁰ As an example, brethren, of suffering and patience, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹ We count those blessed who endured. You have heard of the endurance of Job and have seen the outcome of the Lord's dealings, that the Lord is full of compassion and *is* merciful.

¹² But above all, my brethren, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or with any other oath; but your yes is to be yes, and your no, no, so that you may not fall under judgment.

¹³ Is anyone among you suffering? *Then* he must pray. Is anyone cheerful? He is to sing praises. ¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? *Then* he must call for the elders of the church and they are to pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord; ¹⁵ and the prayer offered in faith will restore the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up, and if he has committed sins, they will be forgiven him. ¹⁶ Therefore, confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another so that you may be healed. The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much. 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. ¹⁸ Then he prayed again, and the sky poured rain and the earth produced its fruit.

¹⁹ My brethren, if any among you strays from the truth and one turns him back, ²⁰ let him know that he who turns a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.



Appendix: Translations

1 John (New International Version®)

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James 1 (NIV)

¹ James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,

To the twelve tribes scattered among the nations:

Greetings.

² Consider it pure joy, my brothers, whenever you face trials of many kinds, ³ because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance. ⁴ Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. ⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. ⁶ But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. ⁷ That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸ he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.

⁹ The brother in humble circumstances ought to take pride in his high position. ¹⁰ But the one who is rich should take pride in his low position, because he will pass away like a wild flower. ¹¹ For the sun rises with scorching heat and withers the plant; its blossom falls and its beauty is destroyed. In the same way, the rich man will fade away even while he goes about his business.

¹² Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him.

¹³ When tempted, no one should say, “God is tempting me.” For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; ¹⁴ but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. ¹⁵ Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

¹⁶ Don’t be deceived, my dear brothers. ¹⁷ Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. ¹⁸ He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

¹⁹ My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, ²⁰ for man’s anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires. ²¹ Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.



Appendix: Translations

²² Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. ²³ Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror ²⁴ and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. ²⁵ But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it—he will be blessed in what he does.

²⁶ If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless. ²⁷ Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.



Appendix: Translations

James 2 (NIV)

¹ My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favoritism. ² Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in shabby clothes also comes in. ³ If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," ⁴ have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

⁵ Listen, my dear brothers: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? ⁶ But you have insulted the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? ⁷ Are they not the ones who are slandering the noble name of him to whom you belong?

⁸ If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, "Love your neighbor as yourself," you are doing right. ⁹ But if you show favoritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as lawbreakers. ¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. ¹¹ For he who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.

¹² Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, ¹³ because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment!

¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers, if a man claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save him? ¹⁵ Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. ¹⁶ If one of you says to him, "Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed," but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? ¹⁷ In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

¹⁸ But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds."

Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do. ¹⁹ You believe that there is one God. Good! Even the demons believe that—and shudder.

²⁰ You foolish man, do you want evidence that faith without deeds is useless? ²¹ Was not our ancestor Abraham considered righteous for what he did when he offered his son Isaac on the altar? ²² You see that his faith and his actions were working together, and his faith was made complete by what he did. ²³ And the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness," and he was called God's friend. ²⁴ You see that a person is justified by what he does and not by faith alone.

²⁵ In the same way, was not even Rahab the prostitute considered righteous for what she did when she gave lodging to the spies and sent them off in a different direction? ²⁶ As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead.



Appendix: Translations

James 3 (NIV)

¹ Not many of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. ² We all stumble in many ways. If anyone is never at fault in what he says, he is a perfect man, able to keep his whole body in check.

³ When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. ⁴ Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go. ⁵ Likewise the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. ⁶ The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

⁷ All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and creatures of the sea are being tamed and have been tamed by man, ⁸ but no man can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

⁹ With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in God's likeness. ¹⁰ Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be. ¹¹ Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring? ¹² My brothers, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.

¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. ¹⁵ Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil. ¹⁶ For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

¹⁷ But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. ¹⁸ Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness.



Appendix: Translations

James 4 (NIV)

¹ What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? ² You want something but don't get it. You kill and covet, but you cannot have what you want. You quarrel and fight. You do not have, because you do not ask God. ³ When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.

⁴ You adulterous people, don't you know that friendship with the world is hatred toward God? Anyone who chooses to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. ⁵ Or do you think Scripture says without reason that the spirit he caused to live in us envies intensely? ⁶ But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says:

“God opposes the proud
but gives grace to the humble.”

⁷ Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹ Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

¹¹ Brothers, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against his brother or judges him speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it. ¹² There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the one who is able to save and destroy. But you—who are you to judge your neighbor?

¹³ Now listen, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.” ¹⁴ Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. ¹⁵ Instead, you ought to say, “If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that.” ¹⁶ As it is, you boast and brag. All such boasting is evil. ¹⁷ Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins.



Appendix: Translations

James 5 (NIV)

¹ Now listen, you rich people, weep and wail because of the misery that is coming upon you. ² Your wealth has rotted, and moths have eaten your clothes. ³ Your gold and silver are corroded. Their corrosion will testify against you and eat your flesh like fire. You have hoarded wealth in the last days. ⁴ Look! The wages you failed to pay the workmen who mowed your fields are crying out against you. The cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord Almighty. ⁵ You have lived on earth in luxury and self-indulgence. You have fattened yourselves in the day of slaughter. ⁶ You have condemned and murdered innocent men, who were not opposing you.

⁷ Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains. ⁸ You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. ⁹ Don't grumble against each other, brothers, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!

¹⁰ Brothers, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹ As you know, we consider blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

¹² Above all, my brothers, do not swear—not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. Let your "Yes" be yes, and your "No," no, or you will be condemned.

¹³ Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise. ¹⁴ Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.

¹⁷ Elijah was a man just like us. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. ¹⁸ Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.

¹⁹ My brothers, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring him back, ²⁰ remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of his way will save him from death and cover over a multitude of sins.



Appendix: Translations

James (English Standard Version®)

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James 1 (ESV)

¹ James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes in the Dispersion: Greetings.

² Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, ³ for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. ⁴ And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him. ⁶ But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. ⁷ For that person must not suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸ he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

⁹ Let the lowly brother boast in his exaltation, ¹⁰ and the rich in his humiliation, because like a flower of the grass he will pass away. ¹¹ For the sun rises with its scorching heat and withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beauty perishes. So also will the rich man fade away in the midst of his pursuits.

¹² Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. ¹³ Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. ¹⁴ But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. ¹⁵ Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

¹⁶ Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷ Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸ Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

¹⁹ Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰ for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. ²¹ Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

²² But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. ²⁴ For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. ²⁵ But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.



Appendix: Translations

²⁶ If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless. ²⁷ Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.



Appendix: Translations

James 2 (ESV)

¹ My brothers, show no partiality as you hold the faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. ² For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, ³ and if you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, “You sit here in a good place,” while you say to the poor man, “You stand over there,” or, “Sit down at my feet,” ⁴ have you not then made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵ Listen, my beloved brothers, has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom, which he has promised to those who love him? ⁶ But you have dishonored the poor man. Are not the rich the ones who oppress you, and the ones who drag you into court? ⁷ Are they not the ones who blaspheme the honorable name by which you were called?

⁸ If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing well. ⁹ But if you show partiality, you are committing sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰ For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. ¹¹ For he who said, “Do not commit adultery,” also said, “Do not murder.” If you do not commit adultery but do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹² So speak and so act as those who are to be judged under the law of liberty. ¹³ For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? ¹⁷ So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

¹⁸ But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. ¹⁹ You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder! ²⁰ Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless? ²¹ Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? ²² You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; ²³ and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”—and he was called a friend of God. ²⁴ You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. ²⁵ And in the same way was not also Rahab the prostitute justified by works when she received the messengers and sent them out by another way? ²⁶ For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead.



Appendix: Translations

James 3 (ESV)

¹ Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ² For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. ³ If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. ⁴ Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵ So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things.

How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! ⁶ And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. ⁷ For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, ⁸ but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹ With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰ From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. ¹¹ Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? ¹² Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. ¹⁵ This is not the wisdom that comes down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. ¹⁷ But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. ¹⁸ And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.



Appendix: Translations

James 4 (ESV)

¹ What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? ² You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³ You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. ⁴ You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. ⁵ Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, “He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us”? ⁶ But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, “God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” ⁷ Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹ Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

¹¹ Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. ¹² There is only one lawgiver and judge, he who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor?

¹³ Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit”— ¹⁴ yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. ¹⁵ Instead you ought to say, “If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.” ¹⁶ As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. ¹⁷ So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin.



Appendix: Translations

James 5 (ESV)

¹ Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. ² Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. ³ Your gold and silver have corroded, and their corrosion will be evidence against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure in the last days. ⁴ Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. ⁵ You have lived on the earth in luxury and in self-indulgence. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. ⁶ You have condemned and murdered the righteous person. He does not resist you.

⁷ Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸ You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹ Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰ As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹ Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

¹² But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your “yes” be yes and your “no” be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

¹³ Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. ¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. ¹⁷ Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸ Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.

¹⁹ My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, ²⁰ let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.