

James 1

I. Salutation. Vs. 1

A. James, a servant of God and Jesus. Vs. 1

B. To the twelve tribes scattered abroad. Vs. 1,
Acts 2:5-42

C. Greeting. Vs. 1

II. Rejoice in your afflictions of faith. Vs. 2-4

A. Count it all joy. Vs. 2

1 Peter 1:6-8 “Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness through manifold temptations:

7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

8 Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory:”

B. The trying of your faith produces patience. Vs. 3

Romans 5:3-4 “And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;

4 And patience, experience; and experience, hope:”

C. Patience produces maturity lacking nothing. Vs. 4

1 Peter 5:10 “But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.”

III. Obtain wisdom by prayer with faith. Vs. 5-8

Job 28:28 “And unto man he said, Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding.”

James 3:17 “But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.”

A. You can pray for wisdom. Vs. 5

John 14:13 "And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son."

John 16:23-24 "And in that day ye shall ask me nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the Father in my name, he will give it you.

24 Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full."

B. God will give wisdom to all men liberally. Vs. 5

Proverbs 2:6 "For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding."

C. You must ask in faith. Vs. 6

Matthew 21:22 "And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive."

Mark 11:24 "Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them."

D. Do not doubt. Vs. 6

1. If you doubt, you will be like a wave of sea driven and tossed. Vs. 6

2. If you doubt, you will not receive anything of the Lord. Vs. 7

3. "A double minded man is unstable in all his ways." Vs. 8

Matthew 6:24 "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."

IV. Put your trust in God, not in your riches or ability. Vs. 9-11

1 Timothy 6:17 "Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;"

A. Rejoice when God will exalt you. Vs. 9

Matthew 23:12 "And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted."

1 Peter 5:6 "Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:"

B. Your riches are like the flower of the grass. Vs. 10.

1. When the heat comes, the flower will wither and perish. Vs. 11

2. You riches will not last. Vs. 11

V. "Blessed is the man that endureth temptation." Vs. 12

A. You can receive five crowns.

1. The crown of life. Vs. 12
2. The crown of glory.
 - 1 Peter 5:2-4
 - "Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;
 - 3 Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.
 - 4 And when the chief Shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away."
3. The incorruptible crown.
 - 1 Corinthians 9:24-25
 - "Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.
 - 25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible."
4. The crown of rejoicing.
 - 1 Thessalonians 2:19-20
 - "For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?
 - 20 For ye are our glory and joy."
5. The crown of righteousness.
 - 2 Timothy 4:7-8
 - "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith:
 - 8 Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."

VI. We are tempted by our own lust. Vs. 13-16

A. God does not tempt others. Vs. 13

B. The steps of temptation and its results. Vs. 14-16

1, You are drawn away and enticed by your own lust. Vs. 14

Mark 7:21-22 "For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders,

22 Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness:"

2. Lust will bring forth sin. Vs. 15

3. Sin will bring forth death. Vs. 15

Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

4. Do not err. Vs. 16

VII. God is the only giver of all good things. Vs. 17

VIII. We are born again by truth. Vs. 18

John 3:3 "Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

John 14:6 "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

A. That we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures. Vs. 18

IX. The wrath of man is not of God. Vs. 19-20

A. "Be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath:" vs. 19

Proverbs 14:29 "He that is slow to wrath is of great understanding: but he that is hasty of spirit exalteth folly."

Proverbs 15:18 "A wrathful man stirreth up strife: but he that is slow to anger appeaseth strife."

Proverbs 16:32 "He that is slow to anger is better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city."

B. The righteousness of God cannot come by the wrath of man. Vs. 20

X. "Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only." Vs. 21-25

A. Repent and receive the word as part of you. Vs. 21

Ephesians 4:22-24 "That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;

23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;

24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness."

1 Peter 2:1-3 "Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,

2 As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:

3 If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious."

- B. You will deceive yourself if you just hear the word and not obey it.
Vs. 22
- C. When you hear and do not obey, it is like looking into a mirror. Vs. 23
 - 1. You will forget the word. Vs. 24
- D. When you hear and obey, then you will not forget the word. Vs. 25
 - 1. You will be blessed in what you do. Vs. 25
- XI. You must control your tongue. Vs. 26
 - A. If you do not control your tongue, then your religion is vain. Vs. 26
- XII. Essential duties of true religion. Vs. 27
 - A. "Visit the Fatherless and widows in their affliction." Vs. 27
 - B. "Keep himself unspotted from the world." Vs. 27
 - 1 John 2:15-17 "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.
16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.
17 And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever."