



JAMES

Chapter 1

1 ¶ James, ^aa bondservant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes who are in the Dispersion: Greetings.

Trials and Perseverance

2 ¶ My brethren, ^bcount it all joy ^cwhen you fall into various trials,

3 ^dknowing that the trying of your faith produces patience.

4 But let patience have *its* perfect work so that you may be perfect and entire, lacking nothing.

5 ^eIf any of you lacks wisdom, ^flet him ask of God who gives to all liberally and without reproach. And ^git will be given to him.

6 But ^hlet him ask in faith without doubting. For he who doubts is like a wave 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 ⁱA double-minded man *is* unstable in all his ways.

9 ¶ Let the brother of humble circumstances rejoice in that he is exalted,

10 and the rich in his humiliation, because ^jas the flower of the grass, he will pass away.

11 For the sun rises with a burning heat and withers the grass. And its

flower falls and the beauty of its appearance perishes. So also will the rich man fade away in his ways.

12 ¶ ^kBlessed *is* the man who endures temptation, for when he is tried, he will receive ^lthe crown of life ^mthat the Lord has promised to those who love Him.

13 Let no man say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God." For God cannot be tempted with evil, neither does He tempt any man.

14 But every man is tempted when he is drawn away by his own lust and enticed.

15 Then ⁿwhen lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin. And sin, when it is full-grown, ^obrings forth death.

16 ¶ Do not be deceived my beloved brethren.

17 ^pEvery good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, ^qwith whom there is no variation nor shadow of turning.

18 ^rOf His own will He brought us forth by the ^sword of truth, so ^tthat we would be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.

19 ¶ Therefore, my beloved brethren, let everyone be swift to hear, ^uslow to speak, ^vslow to wrath.

20 For the wrath of man does not work the righteousness of God.

21 ¶ Therefore, ^wlay aside all filthi-

Chapter 1: a At 12:17 b At 5:41 c 1 Pt 1:6 d Rm 5:3-5 e 1 Kg 3:9 f Mt 7:7 g Jr 29:12 h Mk 11:23,24 i Js 4:8 j Jb 14:2 k Js 5:11 l 1 Co 9:25 m Mt 10:22 n Jb 15:35 o Rm 5:12; 6:23 p Jn 3:27 q Nm 23:19 r Jn 1:13 s 1 Pt 1:3,23 t Ep 1:12,13 u Pv 10:19; 17:27 v Pv 14:17; 16:32 w Cl 3:8

ness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word ^xthat is able to save your souls.

22 ¶ But ^ybe doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

23 For ^zif anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror,

24 for he observes himself and goes his way, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was.

25 But ^ahe who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues to abide *in it*, not being a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, ^bthis man will be blessed in his deed.

26 ¶ If any man among you seems to be religious, and ^cdoes not bridle his tongue, but deceives his own heart, this man's religion *is* useless.

27 ^dPure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this, ^eto take care of the orphans and widows in their affliction, *and* ^fto keep oneself unspotted from the world.

Chapter 2

Avoid Respect of Persons

1 ¶ My brethren, ^ado not show favoritism and hold the faith of our ^bglorious Lord Jesus Christ.

2 For if there should come into your assembly a man with a gold ring in fine clothing, and there come in also a poor man in filthy clothes,

3 and you show respect to the one who wears the fine clothing, and you say to him, "You sit here in a good place," and say to the poor, "You stand there, or sit here at my footstool,"

4 have you not made distinctions among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

5 ¶ Listen, my beloved brethren, ^chas not God chosen the poor of this world *to be* ^drich in faith and heirs of the kingdom ^ethat He has promised to those who love Him?

6 But ^fyou have despised the poor. Do not the rich oppress you ^gand drag you into courts?

7 Do they not blaspheme that noble name by which you are ^bcalled?

8 ¶ If you fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, ⁱ"*You will love your neighbor as yourself*," you do well.

9 But if you show favoritism, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as ^jtransgressors.

10 For whoever will keep the whole law, and yet ^kstumble in one *point*, ^lhe has become guilty of all.

11 For he who said, ^m"*Do not commit adultery*," also said, ⁿ"*Do not kill*." Now if you do not commit adultery, but do commit murder, you have become a transgressor of the law.

12 So speak and so do as those who will be judged by ^othe law of liberty.

13 For ^pjudgment *will be* without mercy to the one who has shown ^qno

x At 13:26 y Mt 7:21-28 z Lk 6:47 a Js 2:12 b Jn 13:17 c Ps 34:13 d Mt 25:34-36 e Is 1:17 f Rm 12:2
Chapter 2: a Lv 10:15 b 1 Co 2:8 c 1 Co 1:27 d Lk 12:21 e Ex 20:6 f 1 Co 11:22 g At 13:50 h 1 Pt 4:16
 i Lv 19:18 j Dt 1:17 k Gl 3:10 l Dt 27:26 m Ex 20:14; Dt 5:18 n Ex 20:13; Dt 5:17 o Js 1:25 p Jb 22:6
 q Pv 21:13

^rmercy. And ^smercy rejoices over judgment.

The Living Faith

14 ¶ ^tWhat *does it* profit, my brethren, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can faith save him?

15 ^uIf a brother or sister is naked and destitute of daily food,

16 and ^vone of you says to them, “Depart in peace, be warmed and filled,” but you do not give them those things that are needful to the body, what *does it* profit?

17 Even so faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

18 ¶ But someone may say, “You have faith and I have works.” ^wShow me your faith without your works, ^xand I will show you my faith by my works.

19 You believe that there is one God. You do well. The demons also believe and tremble.

20 But are you willing to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?

21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works ^ywhen he offered Isaac his son on the altar?

22 You see ^zthat faith was working with his works, and by ^aworks was faith made perfect.

23 And the scripture was fulfilled that says, ^b“*Abraham believed God and it was credited to him for righteousness.*” And he was called “the

friend of God.

24 You see then that a man is justified by works and not by faith only.

25 ¶ Likewise, ^dwas not Rahab the harlot justified by works when she received the messengers and sent *them* out another way?

26 ¶ For as the body without the spirit is dead, so also faith without works is dead.

Chapter 3

The Tongue

1 ¶ My brethren, ^alet not many of you become teachers, ^bknowing that we will receive the stricter judgment.

2 For in many things ^cwe all stumble.

^dIf anyone does not stumble in word, ^ethe same *is* a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body.

3 Indeed, ^fwe put bits in the horses’ mouths so that they may obey us, and we turn about their whole body.

4 Behold also the ships, though they are so great and are driven by fierce winds, yet they are turned about with a very small rudder wherever the pilot desires.

5 Even so, ^gthe tongue is a little member and ^hboasts great things. See how great a forest is set aflame by a small fire!

6 And ⁱthe tongue *is* a fire, a world of iniquity. So is the tongue among our members, that it ^jdefiles the whole body and sets on fire the course of nature. And it is set on fire by hell.

r Mc 7:18 s Rm 12:8 t Mt 7:21-23,26; 21:28-32 u Lk 3:11 v 1 Jn 3:17,18 w Hb 6:10 x Js 3:13 y Gn 22:9,10,12,16-18 z Hb 11:17 a Jn 8:39 b Gn 15:6 c 2 Co 20:7 d Hb 11:31 **Chapter 3:** a Mt 23:8 b Lk 6:37 c 1 Kg 8:46 d Ps 34:13 e Mt 12:34-37 f Ps 32:9 g Pv 12:18; 15:2 h Ps 12:3; 73:8 i Pv 16:27 j Mt 12:36; 15:11,18

7 For every kind of beasts and birds, of reptiles and creatures of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind.

8 But no one can tame the tongue. *It is an unruly evil* ^kfull of deadly poison.

9 With it we bless *our* God and Father. And with it we curse men, who have been made ^lafter the likeness of God.

10 Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so.

11 Does a fountain send forth at the same place *both* sweet and bitter *water*?

12 Can the ^mfig tree, my brethren, produce olives, or a vine produce figs? Nor *can* a salt water *spring* produce fresh *water*.

Wisdom of God

13 ¶ ⁿWho *is* a wise and understanding man among you? Let him show by good behavior his works in meekness of wisdom.

14 But if you have ^obitter envy and strife in your hearts, ^pdo not boast and lie against the truth.

15 ^qThis wisdom does not descend from above, but *is* earthly, sensual, demonic.

16 For ^rwhere envy and strife exist, there *is* confusion and every evil work.

17 But ^sthe wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and

good fruits, ^twithout partiality and ^uwithout hypocrisy.

18 And ^vthe fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

Chapter 4

Submission

1 ¶ From where *come* wars and fights among you? Do they not come from your pleasures ^athat war in your members?

2 You lust and have not. You kill and desire to have and cannot obtain. You fight and war, yet you do not have because you do not ask.

3 ^bYou ask and do not receive ^cbecause you ask with wrong motives so that you may consume *it* upon your pleasures.

4 You adulteresses, do you not know that ^dfriendship with the world is enmity with God? ^eTherefore, whoever wishes to be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

5 Or do you think that the Scripture says in vain, ^f“The spirit that dwells in us envies intensely?”

6 ¶ But He gives more grace. Therefore He says, ^g“*God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.*”

7 ¶ Therefore, submit yourselves to God. ^hResist the devil and he will flee from you.

8 ⁱDraw near to God and He will draw near to you. ^jCleanse *your* hands, *you* sinners. And ^kpurify *your* hearts, *you* double-minded.

k Ps 140:3 l Gn 1:26; 5:1; 9:6 m Mt 7:16-20 n Gl 6:4 o Rm 13:13 p Rm 2:17 q Ph 3:19 r 1 Co 3:3 s 1 Co 2:6; 7 t Js 2:1 u Rm 12:9 v Pv 11:18 Chapter 4: a Rm 7:23 b Jb 27:8,9 c Ps 66:18 d 1 Jn 2:15 e Gl 1:4 f Gn 6:5 g Pv 3:24 h Ep 4:27; 6:11 i 2 Co 15:2 j Is 1:16 k 1 Pt 1:22

9 ¹Be distressed and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and *your* joy to gloom.

10 ^mHumble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.

11 ¶ ⁿDo not speak evil one of another, brethren. He who speaks evil of *his* brother and ^ojudges his brother, speaks evil of 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 one lawgiver ^pwho is able to save and to destroy. ^qWho are you to judge another?

Brevity of Life

13 ¶ Come now you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go into such a city and continue there a year. And we will buy and sell and make profit.”

14 You do not know what *will happen* tomorrow. For what *is* your life? ^rIt is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.

15 Instead, you *ought* to say, ^s“If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that.”

16 But now you boast in your arrogance. ^tAll such boasting is evil.

17 ¶ Therefore, ^uto him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin.

Chapter 5

Warning to the Rich

1 ¶ Come now you ^vrich, weep and howl for your miseries that are coming upon you.

2 Your ^wriches are corrupted and

^xyour garments are moth-eaten.

3 Your gold and silver are corroded. And their corrosion will be a witness against you and will eat your flesh like fire. ^yYou have heaped treasure together for the last days.

4 Behold, ^zthe wages of the laborers who have mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out *against you*. And ^{aa}the cries of those who have harvested have entered into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth.

5 You have lived in pleasure on the earth and lived a self-indulgent life. You have nourished your hearts as in a day of slaughter.

6 You have condemned *and* killed the just. He does not resist you.

7 ¶ Therefore, be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth. And he has long patience for it, until he receives the early and latter rain.

8 You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near.

9 ¶ Do not complain one against another, brethren, lest you be condemned. Behold, the judge stands at the door.

10 ^{ab}As an example of suffering and patience, my brethren, ^{ac}take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

11 Behold, ^{ad}we count them blessed who ^{ae}endure. You have heard of ^{af}the patience of Job and have seen ^{ag}the outcome of the Lord’s *work*, that ^{ah}the

I Mt 5:4 m Jb 22:29 n 1 Pt 2:1-3 o Mt 7:1-5 p Mt 10:28 q Rm 14:4 r Jb 7:7 s At 18:21 t 1 Co 5:6 u Lk 12:47 Chapter 5: a Lk 6:24 b Mt 6:19 c Jb 13:28 d Rm 2:5 e Lv 19:13 f Dt 24:15 g Hb 10:36 h Mt 5:12 i Ps 94:12 j Js 1:12 k Jb 1:21,22; 2:10 l Jb 42:10 m Nm 14:18

Lord is full of compassion and mercy.
12 ¶ But above all things, my brethren, ⁿdo not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath. But let your yes be yes and *your* no, no, so that you may not fall under judgment.

Prayer of Faith

13 ¶ Is anyone among you afflicted? Let him ^opray. Is anyone cheerful? ^pLet him sing psalms.

14 Is anyone sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, ^qanointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.

15 And the prayer of faith will restore the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And ^rif he has committed

sins, they will be forgiven him.

16 Confess *your* sins to one another and pray for one another so that you may be healed. ^sThe prayer of a righteous man accomplishes much.

17 Elijah was a man ^twith a nature like ours. And ^uhe prayed earnestly that it might not rain. And it did not rain on the earth for three years and six months.

18 And he prayed ^vagain and the heavens gave rain and the earth produced its fruit.

19 ¶ Brethren, if any of you strays from the truth, and one ^wbrings him back,

20 let him know that he who converts the sinner from the error of his way ^xwill save a soul from death and will ^ycover a multitude of sins.

n Mt 5:34-47 o Ps 50:14,15 p Ep 5:19 q Mk 6:13; 16:18 r Is 33:24 s Nm 11:2 t At 14:15 u 1 Kg 17:1; 18:1 v 1 Kg 18:1,42 w Gl 6:1 x Rm 11:14 y 1 Pt 4:8