

Living Faith

Introduction to the epistle of James Chris Mueller 8-22-2021

INTRODUCTION:

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

#1 The A

James 1:1a *James, a bond-servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,*

Matthew 13:55-57 *"Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not His mother called Mary, and His brothers, JAMES and Joseph and Simon and Judas? "And His sisters, are they not all with us? Where then did this man get all these things?" And they took offense at Him. But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his hometown and in his own household."*

John 7:5 *Not even his brothers were believing in Him.*

Mark 3:21 ESV *And when his family heard it, they went out to seize him, for they were saying, "He is out of his mind."*

John 19:25

Acts 1:14 *These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His BROTHERS.*

1 Corinthians 15:7 *He appeared to JAMES, then to all the apostles.*

1 Corinthians 9:5 *Do we not have a right to take along a believing wife, even as the rest of the apostles and the BROTHERS of the Lord and Cephas?*

Acts 12:17 *But PETER ...described to them how the Lord had led him out of the prison. And he said, "Report these things to JAMES and the brethren."*

Acts 15:12-21

Acts 21:17-20 *After we arrived in Jerusalem, the brethren received us gladly. And the following day Paul went in with us to JAMES, and all the elders were present. After he had greeted them, he began to relate one by one the things which God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry. And when they heard it they began glorifying God.*

Galatians 1:18-19, 2:9 *Then three years later I went up to Jerusalem to become acquainted with Cephas, and stayed with him fifteen days. But I did not see any other of the apostles except JAMES, the Lord's brother... 2:9 and recognizing the grace that had been given to me, JAMES and Cephas and John, who were reputed to be pillars, gave to me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, so that we might go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised.*

Jude 1 *Jude, a bond-servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of JAMES.*

James 1:1 *JAMES, a bond-servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

Kent Hughes *James the Just, from the sacred womb of Mary, congenital sibling of Christ his brother, confidant of the Messiah.*

Eusebius: *After Paul, in consequence of his appeal to Caesar, had been sent to Rome by Festus, the Jews, being frustrated in their hope of entrapping him by the snares which they had laid for him, turned against James, the brother of the Lord...Leading him in their midst they demanded of James that he should renounce faith in Christ in the presence of the people. But, contrary to the opinion of all, with a clear voice, and with greater boldness than they had anticipated, he spoke out before the whole multitude and confessed that our Savior and Lord Jesus is the Son of God.*

Kent Hughes: *James was a "late bloomer," but he flowered well! James knew Christ as only a few could. For years he had eaten at the same table, shared the same house, played in the same places, and watched the development of his amazing older brother. And when he truly came to know Christ, his boyhood privilege was not wasted, for he became known as James the Just, a man of immense piety.*

#2 The A

James 1:1b *To the twelve tribes who are dispersed abroad:*

Charles Swindoll: *Roman emperor Claudius had driven the Jews out of the Roman world. Their businesses were shut down and boycotted. Jewish children were mocked and tossed out of schools.*

James 1:1c *Greetings*

Acts 15:23 *They sent this letter by them, "The apostles and the brethren who are elders, to the brethren in Antioch and Syria and Cilicia who are from the Gentiles, GREETINGS.*

Scott Ardavanis: James uses illustrations from horses, to springs of water, wind, withering sun, boats, fire, pregnancy, labor and delivery, mirrors, grapes, figs, flowers, moths, rust, rain, mist, and OT heroes! He addresses demons, the rich, corroding metals, trials, temptations and humiliation.

Kistemaker: *A superficial glance at this epistle may easily leave the impression that every attempt to outline it must fail.*

LIVING FAITH

1. **Faith is to LIVE** when facing **Trials** (1:2-12).
2. **Faith is to LIVE** when dealing with **Temptations** (1:13-18)
3. **Faith is to LIVE** in **Hearing, Responding and Obeying** the **Word of God** (1:19-27)
4. **Faith is to LIVE** by show **Impartiality** (2:1-13)
5. **Faith is to LIVE** by its **Activity and Fruit**. (2:14-26)
6. **Faith is to LIVE** by **Self-control** of the **tongue** (3:1-18)
7. **Faith is to LIVE** by its **Reaction to Worldliness** (4:1-17)
8. **Faith is to LIVE** by its **Reaction to the Rich and Life's Injustices**. (5:1-12)
9. **Faith is to LIVE** by demonstrating **Obedience to Prayer**. (5:13-18)
10. **Faith is to LIVE** by its **Resolve to Confront Sinning Believers**. (5:19-20)

TAKE HOME:

A - James in 45, then Galatians in 49, are the _____ New Testament letters

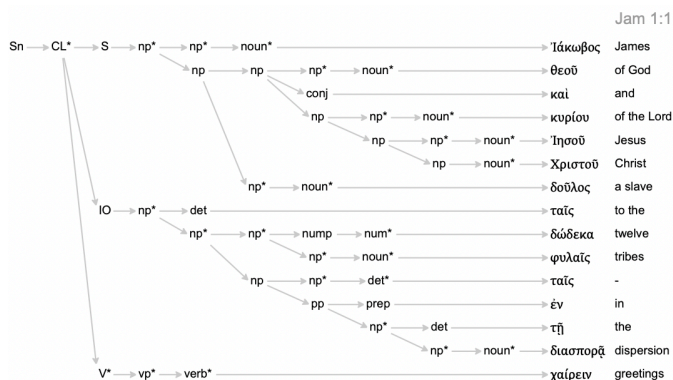
B - James is calling for _____ the Word, not merely learning the Word

Luke 6:46 "Why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?"

C - James was known for being a righteous man. What are you _____ for?

D - James emphasizes the need for your salvation to be _____

Matthew 7:22-23 "Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.'"



Jas 1:1	Ἰάκωβος	θεοῦ	καὶ	κυρίου	Ἰησοῦ	Χριστοῦ	δούλος	ταῖς
	Ἰάκωβος	θεός	καί	κύριος	Ἰησοῦς	Χριστός	δούλος	ὁ
	Jacob	of God	and	Master	Jesus	Christ	slave	to the
	NMSN	NMSG	CCK	NMSG	NMSG	NMSG	NMSN	AFPD
	δῶδεκα	φυλαῖς	ταῖς	ἐν	τῇ	διασπορᾷ	χαίρειν .	
	δῶδεκα	φυλή	ὁ	ἐν	ὁ	διασπορά	χαίρω	
	twelve	tribes	the ones	in	the	dispersion	to rejoice	
	JFPDX	NFPD	AFPD	PD	AFSD	NFSD	VPAN	SJ

QUESTIONS FOR GROWTH IN CHRIST

1. How do you imagine it was like growing up in a home where Jesus was the oldest half-brother? What were the blessings and blisters of living in that home?
2. As far as you can determine at this point, what were the reasons for James to write this practical letter? List as many as you can come up with.
3. James primarily ministered to Jewish Christians, yet why do we find his letter so practical for everyone, Jew *and* Gentile?
4. What kind of reputation do you have? What kind of reputation do you want, and what steps will you take to get there?
5. From what you remember, what were the Jews who were spread all over the empire facing which made life so difficult; and how does the letter of James specifically minister to their situation?
6. When it comes to the application of scripture, what are the best steps to follow in order to live out the truth of God's Word?
7. In what way do you want your faith to live through this study of James?



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